

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

7949--A

I N S E N A T E

May 27, 2016

Introduced by Sen. ROBACH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, the general municipal law, the state finance law, and the criminal procedure law, in relation to the adjudication of traffic infractions

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 155 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by
2 section 1 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015, is amended to
3 read as follows:
4 S 155. Traffic infraction. The violation of any provision of this
5 chapter, except articles forty-seven and forty-eight, or of any law,
6 ordinance, order, rule or regulation regulating traffic which is not
7 declared by this chapter or other law of this state to be a misdemeanor
8 or a felony. A traffic infraction is not a crime and the punishment
9 imposed therefor shall not be deemed for any purpose a penal or criminal
10 punishment and shall not affect or impair the credibility as a witness
11 or otherwise of any person convicted thereof. This definition shall be
12 retroactive and shall apply to all acts and violations heretofore
13 committed where such acts and violations would, if committed subsequent
14 to the taking effect of this section, be included within the meaning of
15 the term "traffic infraction" as herein defined. Except in those
16 portions of Suffolk county for which a district court has been estab-
17 lished, [outside of cities having a population in excess of two hundred
18 thousand but less than two hundred twenty thousand in which administra-
19 tive tribunals have heretofore been established and] outside of cities
20 having a population in excess of one million in which administrative
21 tribunals have heretofore been established, courts and judicial officers
22 heretofore having jurisdiction over such violations shall continue to do
23 so and for such purpose such violations shall be deemed misdemeanors and
24 all provisions of law relating to misdemeanors except as provided in
25 section eighteen hundred five of this chapter and except as herein

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 otherwise expressly provided shall apply except that no jury trial shall
2 be allowed for traffic infractions. In those portions of Suffolk county
3 for which a district court has been established[, and in cities having a
4 population in excess of two hundred thousand but less than two hundred
5 twenty thousand in which administrative tribunals have heretofore been
6 established] and in cities having a population in excess of one million
7 in which administrative tribunals have heretofore been established, the
8 criminal courts of such cities or portions of Suffolk county in which a
9 district court has been established shall have jurisdiction to hear and
10 determine any complaint alleging a violation constituting a traffic
11 infraction, except that administrative tribunals heretofore established
12 in such cities or portions of Suffolk county in which a district court
13 has been established shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any
14 charge of an offense which is a traffic infraction, except parking,
15 standing or stopping. In cities having a population in excess of two
16 hundred thousand in which administrative tribunals have heretofore been
17 established, and any such administrative tribunal established by the
18 city of Yonkers, the city of Peekskill, or the city of Syracuse, such
19 tribunals shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any charge of an
20 offense which is a parking, standing or stopping violation. Any fine
21 imposed by an administrative tribunal shall be a civil penalty. For
22 purposes of arrest without a warrant, pursuant to article one hundred
23 forty of the criminal procedure law, a traffic infraction shall be
24 deemed an offense.

25 S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 225 of the vehicle and traffic law, as
26 amended by section 2 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015, is
27 amended to read as follows:

28 1. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, all violations
29 of this chapter or of a law, ordinance, order, rule or regulation relat-
30 ing to traffic, except parking, standing, stopping or pedestrian
31 offenses, which occur [within a city having a population of two hundred
32 thousand or more but less than two hundred twenty thousand in which
33 administrative tribunals have heretofore been established, or] within a
34 city having a population of one million or more in which administrative
35 tribunals have heretofore, been established, and which are classified as
36 traffic infractions, may be heard and determined pursuant to the regu-
37 lations of the commissioner as provided in this article. Whenever a
38 crime and a traffic infraction arise out of the same transaction or
39 occurrence, a charge alleging both offenses may be made returnable
40 before the court having jurisdiction over the crime. Nothing herein
41 provided shall be construed to prevent a court, having jurisdiction over
42 a criminal charge relating to traffic or a traffic infraction, from
43 lawfully entering a judgment of conviction, whether or not based on a
44 plea of guilty, for any offense classified as a traffic infraction.

45 S 3. Subdivision 5 of section 227 of the vehicle and traffic law, as
46 amended by section 3 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015, is
47 amended to read as follows:

48 5. All penalties and forfeited security collected pursuant to the
49 provisions of this article shall be paid to the department of audit and
50 control to the credit of the justice court fund and shall be subject to
51 the applicable provisions of section eighteen hundred three of this
52 chapter. After such audit as shall reasonably be required by the comp-
53 troller, such penalties and forfeited security shall be paid quarterly
54 or, in the discretion of the comptroller, monthly, to the appropriate
55 jurisdiction in which the violation occurred in accordance with the
56 provisions of section ninety-nine-a of the state finance law, except

1 that the sum of four dollars for each violation occurring in such juris-
2 diction for which a complaint has been filed with the administrative
3 tribunal established pursuant to this article shall be retained by the
4 state. [The amount distributed during the first three quarters to the
5 city of Rochester in any given fiscal year shall not exceed seventy
6 percent of the amount which will be otherwise payable.] Provided, howev-
7 er, that if the full costs of administering this article shall exceed
8 the amounts received and retained by the state for any period specified
9 by the commissioner, then such additional sums as shall be required to
10 offset such costs shall be retained by the state out of the penalties
11 and forfeited security collected pursuant to this article.

12 S 4. Section 370 of the general municipal law is amended by adding a
13 new subdivision 5 to read as follows:

14 5. THERE SHALL BE AN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE ROCHESTER CITY
15 GOVERNMENT KNOWN AS THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY, WHICH SHALL
16 OPERATE UNDER THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF THE MAYOR.

17 S 5. Section 370-a of the general municipal law is amended by adding
18 two new subdivisions 1-b and 2-a to read as follows:

19 1-B. "TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY" SHALL MEAN AN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF
20 THE CITY OF ROCHESTER ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION FIVE OF
21 SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY OF THIS ARTICLE TO ADMINISTER AND DISPOSE
22 OF TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS AS AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE.

23 2-A. "TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR" SHALL ALSO MEAN AN ATTORNEY DULY ADMITTED TO
24 PRACTICE LAW IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK WHO, HAVING BEEN APPOINTED AND
25 EITHER HIRED OR RETAINED PURSUANT TO SECTION THREE HUNDRED
26 SEVENTY-FOUR-B OF THIS ARTICLE, HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROSECUTING
27 ANY TRAFFIC AND PARKING INFRACTIONS RETURNABLE BEFORE THE ROCHESTER CITY
28 COURT PURSUANT TO THE JURISDICTIONAL LIMITATIONS OF SECTION THREE
29 HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE OF THIS ARTICLE.

30 S 6. Section 371 of the general municipal law is amended by adding a
31 new subdivision 2-b to read as follows:

32 2-B. THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY, AS ESTABLISHED IN SUBDI-
33 VISION FIVE OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY OF THIS ARTICLE, MAY BE
34 AUTHORIZED TO ASSIST THE ROCHESTER CITY COURT IN THE DISPOSITION AND
35 ADMINISTRATION OF INFRACTIONS OF TRAFFIC LAWS, ORDINANCES, RULES AND
36 REGULATIONS EXCEPT THAT SUCH AGENCY SHALL NOT HAVE JURISDICTION OVER (A)
37 THE TRAFFIC INFRACTION DEFINED UNDER SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION ELEVEN
38 HUNDRED NINETY-TWO OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW; (B) THE TRAFFIC
39 INFRACTION DEFINED UNDER SUBDIVISION FIVE OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED
40 NINETY-TWO OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW; (C) THE VIOLATION DEFINED
41 UNDER PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION FOURTEEN-F OF THE
42 TRANSPORTATION LAW AND THE VIOLATION DEFINED UNDER CLAUSE (B) OF SUBPAR-
43 AGRAPH (III) OF PARAGRAPH C OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED
44 FORTY OF THE TRANSPORTATION LAW; (D) THE TRAFFIC INFRACTION DEFINED
45 UNDER SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN-A OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC
46 LAW AND THE TRAFFIC INFRACTION DEFINED UNDER SUBDIVISION (G) OF SECTION
47 ELEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW; (E) TRAFFIC
48 INFRACTIONS CONSTITUTING PARKING, STANDING, STOPPING OR PEDESTRIAN
49 OFFENSES; (F) ANY MISDEMEANOR OR FELONY; OR (G) ANY OFFENSE THAT IS PART
50 OF THE SAME CRIMINAL TRANSACTION, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION
51 TWO OF SECTION 40.10 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW, AS A VIOLATION OF
52 SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-TWO OF THE VEHICLE AND
53 TRAFFIC LAW, A VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION FIVE OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED
54 NINETY-TWO OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW, A VIOLATION OF PARAGRAPH (B)
55 OF SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION FOURTEEN-F OF THE TRANSPORTATION LAW, A
56 VIOLATION OF CLAUSE (B) OF SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF PARAGRAPH C OF SUBDIVI-

SION TWO OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED FORTY OF THE TRANSPORTATION LAW, A VIOLATION OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN-A OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW, A VIOLATION CONSTITUTING A PARKING, STOPPING, STANDING OR PEDESTRIAN OFFENSE, A VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION (G) OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW OR ANY MISDEMEANOR OR FELONY.

S 7. Section 371 of the general municipal law is amended by adding two new subdivisions 3-b and 4-b to read as follows:

3-B. A PERSON CHARGED WITH AN INFRACTION WHICH SHALL BE DISPOSED OF BY THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY MAY BE PERMITTED TO ANSWER, WITHIN A SPECIFIED TIME, AT THE TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY EITHER IN PERSON OR BY WRITTEN POWER OF ATTORNEY IN SUCH FORM AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED IN THE ORDINANCE OR LOCAL LAW CREATING THE AGENCY, BY PAYING A PRESCRIBED FINE AND, IN WRITING, WAIVING A HEARING IN COURT, PLEADING GUILTY TO THE CHARGE OR A LESSER CHARGE AGREEABLE TO THE TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR AND THE PERSON CHARGED WITH AN INFRACTION, AND AUTHORIZING THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE AGENCY TO ENTER SUCH A PLEA AND ACCEPT PAYMENT OF SAID FINE. ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRESCRIBED FINE AND POWER OF ATTORNEY BY THE AGENCY SHALL BE DEEMED COMPLETE SATISFACTION FOR THE VIOLATION, AND THE VIOLATOR SHALL BE GIVEN A RECEIPT WHICH SO STATES. IF A PERSON CHARGED WITH A TRAFFIC VIOLATION DOES NOT ANSWER AS HEREINBEFORE PRESCRIBED, WITHIN A DESIGNATED TIME, THE AGENCY MAY CAUSE A COMPLAINT TO BE ENTERED AGAINST HIM FORTHWITH AND A WARRANT TO BE ISSUED FOR HIS ARREST AND APPEARANCE BEFORE THE COURT, SUCH SUMMONS TO BE PREDICATED UPON THE PERSONAL SERVICE OF SAID SUMMONS UPON THE PERSON CHARGED WITH THE INFRACTION. ANY PERSON WHO SHALL HAVE BEEN, WITHIN THE PRECEDING TWELVE MONTHS, GUILTY OF THREE OR MORE VIOLATIONS, SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED TO APPEAR AND ANSWER TO A SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION AT THE AGENCY, BUT MUST APPEAR IN COURT AT A TIME SPECIFIED BY THE AGENCY. SUCH AGENCY SHALL NOT BE AUTHORIZED TO DEPRIVE A PERSON OF HIS RIGHT TO COUNSEL OR TO PREVENT HIM FROM EXERCISING HIS RIGHT TO APPEAR IN COURT TO ANSWER TO, EXPLAIN, OR DEFEND ANY CHARGE OF A VIOLATION OF ANY TRAFFIC LAW, ORDINANCE, RULE OR REGULATION.

4-B. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY INCONSISTENT PROVISION OF LAW, FINES, PENALTIES AND FORFEITURES COLLECTED BY THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AS PROVIDED IN SECTION EIGHTEEN HUNDRED THREE OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW. ALL FINES, PENALTIES AND FORFEITURES FOR VIOLATIONS ADJUDICATED BY THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION TWO-A OF THIS SECTION EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION NINETY-NINE-A OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW, SHALL BE PAID BY SUCH AGENCY TO THE STATE COMPTROLLER WITHIN THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF THE MONTH FOLLOWING COLLECTION. EACH SUCH PAYMENT SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A TRUE AND COMPLETE REPORT IN SUCH FORM AND DETAIL AS THE COMPTROLLER SHALL PRESCRIBE.

S 8. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 374-b to read as follows:

S 374-B. TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR SELECTION AND OVERSIGHT. (A) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY, APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION (B) OF THIS SECTION, SHALL SELECT AND MAY CONTRACT WITH OR HIRE ONE OR MORE PERSONS WHO ARE ATTORNEYS, DULY ADMITTED TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW IN NEW YORK STATE FOR THE PROSECUTION OF ANY TRAFFIC INFRACTION, EXCEPT THOSE DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) AND (G) OF SUBDIVISION TWO-B OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE OF THIS ARTICLE, TO BE HEARD, TRIED OR OTHERWISE DISPOSED OF BY THE ROCHESTER CITY COURT. SUCH PERSONS SHALL BE KNOWN AS "TRAFFIC PROSECUTORS", AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-A OF

1 THIS ARTICLE. TRAFFIC PROSECUTORS SHALL HAVE THE SAME POWER AS A
2 DISTRICT ATTORNEY WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE IN THE PROSECUTION OF ANY TRAFFIC
3 INFRACTION WHICH MAY, PURSUANT TO THE JURISDICTIONAL PROVISIONS OF
4 SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE OF THIS ARTICLE, BE PROSECUTED BEFORE
5 THE ROCHESTER CITY COURT IF THE TRAFFIC VIOLATION OCCURRED IN THE CITY
6 OF ROCHESTER. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL GIVE ACTIVE CONSIDERATION TO
7 REQUIRING THAT SUCH TRAFFIC PROSECUTORS SERVE ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.
8 TRAFFIC PROSECUTORS ARE PROHIBITED FROM APPEARING IN ANY CAPACITY OTHER
9 THAN AS A TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR IN ANY PART OF THE ROCHESTER CITY COURT ON
10 ANY MATTER RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AND ARE FURTHER PROHIBITED
11 FROM APPEARING IN ANY CAPACITY OTHER THAN AS A TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR IN ANY
12 OTHER COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ON ANY MATTER RELATING TO TRAFFIC
13 VIOLATIONS.

14 (B) THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SHALL APPOINT A PERSON TO SERVE
15 AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY
16 SUBJECT TO THE CONFIRMATION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.
17 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERSIGHT AND
18 ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGENCY. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS PROHIBITED FROM
19 APPEARING IN ANY CAPACITY IN ANY PART OF THE ROCHESTER CITY COURT ON ANY
20 MATTER RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AND IS FURTHER PROHIBITED FROM
21 APPEARING IN ANY CAPACITY IN ANY OTHER COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
22 ON ANY MATTER RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

23 (C) IT SHALL BE A MISDEMEANOR FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANY TRAFFIC
24 PROSECUTOR OR ANY JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICER ASSIGNED TO HEAR TRAFFIC
25 VIOLATIONS CASES PURSUANT TO SECTION SIXTEEN HUNDRED NINETY OF THE VEHICLE
26 AND TRAFFIC LAW TO ESTABLISH ANY QUOTA OF TRAFFIC VIOLATION
27 CONVICTIONS WHICH MUST BE OBTAINED BY ANY TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR OR JUDICIAL
28 HEARING OFFICER. NOTHING CONTAINED HEREIN SHALL PROHIBIT THE TAKING OF
29 ANY JOB ACTION AGAINST A TRAFFIC PROSECUTOR OR JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICER
30 FOR FAILURE TO SATISFACTORILY PERFORM SUCH PROSECUTOR'S OR OFFICER'S JOB
31 ASSIGNMENT EXCEPT THAT THE EMPLOYMENT PRODUCTIVITY OF SUCH PROSECUTOR OR
32 OFFICER SHALL NOT BE MEASURED BY THE ATTAINMENT OR NONATTAINMENT OF ANY
33 CONVICTION QUOTA. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION A CONVICTION QUOTA
34 SHALL MEAN A SPECIFIC NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS WHICH MUST BE OBTAINED WITH-
35 IN A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD.

36 (D) PURSUANT TO SECTION 3-9 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER,
37 THE CITY OF ROCHESTER MAY APPROPRIATE THOSE MONIES WHICH, IN ITS SOLE
38 DISCRETION, ARE NECESSARY FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THOSE PERSONS SELECTED
39 TO SERVE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND TRAFFIC PROSECUTORS AND TO COVER ALL
40 OTHER EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC
41 VIOLATIONS AGENCY.

42 S 9. Subdivision 3 of section 99-a of the state finance law, as
43 amended by section 10 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015, is
44 amended to read as follows:

45 3. The comptroller is hereby authorized to implement alternative
46 procedures, including guidelines in conjunction therewith, relating to
47 the remittance of fines, penalties, forfeitures and other moneys by town
48 and village justice courts, and by the Nassau and Suffolk counties traffic
49 and parking violations agencies, and by the city of Buffalo traffic
50 violations agency, AND BY THE CITY OF ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY
51 to the justice court fund and for the distribution of such moneys by
52 the justice court fund. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the
53 alternative procedures utilized may include:

54 a. electronic funds transfer;

55 b. remittance of funds by the justice court to the chief fiscal office
56 of the town or village, or, in the case of the Nassau and Suffolk coun-

ties traffic and parking violations agencies, to the county treasurer, or, in the case of the Buffalo traffic violations agency, to the city of Buffalo comptroller, OR IN THE CASE OF THE ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY, TO THE CITY OF ROCHESTER COMPTROLLER, for distribution in accordance with instructions by the comptroller; and/or

c. monthly, rather than quarterly, distribution of funds.

The comptroller may require such reporting and record keeping as he or she deems necessary to ensure the proper distribution of moneys in accordance with applicable laws. A justice court or the Nassau and Suffolk counties traffic and parking violations agencies or the city of Buffalo traffic violations agency OR THE CITY OF ROCHESTER TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AGENCY may utilize these procedures only when permitted by the comptroller, and such permission, once given, may subsequently be withdrawn by the comptroller on due notice.

S 10. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 4-a of section 510 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 11 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Upon receipt of notification from a traffic and parking violations agency or a traffic violations agency of the failure of a person to appear within sixty days of the return date or new subsequent adjourned date, pursuant to an appearance ticket charging said person with a violation of:

(i) any of the provisions of this chapter except one for parking, stopping or standing and except those violations described in paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e) and (f) of subdivision two and in paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of subdivision two-a AND IN PARAGRAPHS (A), (B), (D), (E), (F) AND (G) OF SUBDIVISION TWO-B of section three hundred seventy-one of the general municipal law;

(ii) section five hundred two or subdivision (a) of section eighteen hundred fifteen of the tax law;

(iii) section fourteen-f (except paragraph (b) of subdivision four of section fourteen-f), two hundred eleven or two hundred twelve of the transportation law; or

(iv) any lawful ordinance or regulation made by a local or public authority relating to traffic (except one for parking, stopping or standing) or the failure to pay a fine imposed for such a violation by a traffic and parking violations agency or a traffic violations agency, the commissioner or his or her agent may suspend the driver's license or privileges of such person pending receipt of notice from the agency that such person has appeared in response to such appearance ticket or has paid such fine. Such suspension shall take effect no less than thirty days from the day upon which notice thereof is sent by the commissioner to the person whose driver's license or privileges are to be suspended. Any suspension issued pursuant to this paragraph shall be subject to the provisions of paragraph (j-1) of subdivision two of section five hundred three of this chapter.

S 11. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of section 514 of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by section 12 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Upon the failure of a person to appear or answer, within sixty days of the return date or any subsequent adjourned date, or the failure to pay a fine imposed by a traffic and parking violations agency or a traffic violations agency pursuant to a summons charging him or her with a violation of:

(1) any of the provisions of this chapter except one for parking, stopping or standing and except those violations described in paragraphs

1 (a), (b), (d), (e) and (f) of subdivision two and in paragraphs (a),
2 (b), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of subdivision two-a AND IN PARAGRAPHS (A),
3 (B), (D), (E), (F) AND (G) OF SUBDIVISION TWO-B of section three hundred
4 seventy-one of the general municipal law;

5 (2) section five hundred two or subdivision (a) of section eighteen
6 hundred fifteen of the tax law;

7 (3) section fourteen-f (except paragraph (b) of subdivision four of
8 section fourteen-f), two hundred eleven or two hundred twelve of the
9 transportation law; or

10 (4) any lawful ordinance or regulation made by a local or public
11 authority relating to traffic (except one for parking, stopping or
12 standing);

13 the clerk thereof shall within ten days certify that fact to the commis-
14 sioner, in the manner and form prescribed by the commissioner, who shall
15 record the same in his or her office. Thereafter and upon the appearance
16 of any such person in response to such summons or the receipt of the
17 fine by the agency, the traffic and parking violations agency, the traf-
18 fic violations agency or the clerk thereof shall forthwith certify that
19 fact to the commissioner, in the manner and form prescribed by the
20 commissioner; provided, however, no such certification shall be made
21 unless the traffic and parking violations agency or the traffic
22 violations agency has collected the termination of suspension fee
23 required to be paid pursuant to paragraph (j-1) of subdivision two of
24 section five hundred three of this chapter.

25 S 12. The article heading of article 44-A of the vehicle and traffic
26 law, as amended by section 13 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of
27 2015, is amended to read as follows:

28 AUTHORITY OF THE NASSAU AND SUFFOLK
29 COUNTY DISTRICT COURT AND BUFFALO CITY COURT AND
30 ROCHESTER CITY COURT
31 JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICERS

32 S 13. The section heading of section 1690 of the vehicle and traffic
33 law, as amended by section 14 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of
34 2015, is amended to read as follows:

35 Authority of the Nassau county and Suffolk county district court judi-
36 cial hearing officers and the city of Buffalo judicial hearing officers
37 AND THE CITY OF ROCHESTER JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICERS.

38 S 14. Section 1690 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding
39 two new subdivisions 1-b and 4-b to read as follows:

40 1-B. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, WHERE THE TRIAL OF A
41 TRAFFIC INFRACTION IS AUTHORIZED OR REQUIRED TO BE TRIED BEFORE THE
42 ROCHESTER CITY COURT, AND SUCH TRAFFIC INFRACTION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A
43 MISDEMEANOR, FELONY, VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION ELEVEN
44 HUNDRED NINETY-TWO, SUBDIVISION FIVE OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED
45 NINETY-TWO, SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN-A, OR SUBDIVISION (G) OF
46 SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY OF THIS CHAPTER, OR A VIOLATION OF PARA-
47 GRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION FOURTEEN-F OR CLAUSE (B) OF
48 SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF PARAGRAPH C OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION ONE
49 HUNDRED FORTY OF THE TRANSPORTATION LAW, OR ANY PARKING, STOPPING,
50 STANDING OR PEDESTRIAN OFFENSE, OR ANY OFFENSE THAT IS PART OF THE SAME
51 CRIMINAL TRANSACTION, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION TWO OF
52 SECTION 40.10 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW, AS SUCH A MISDEMEANOR,
53 FELONY, VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED
54 NINETY-TWO, SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-TWO,
55 SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN-A OR SUBDIVISION (G) OF SECTION ELEV-
56 EN HUNDRED EIGHTY OF THIS CHAPTER, OR A VIOLATION OF PARAGRAPH (B) OF

1 SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION FOURTEEN-F OR CLAUSE (B) OF SUBPARAGRAPH
2 (III) OF PARAGRAPH D OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED FORTY OF
3 THE TRANSPORTATION LAW, OR ANY PARKING, STOPPING, STANDING OR PEDESTRIAN
4 OFFENSE, THE ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT MAY
5 ASSIGN JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICERS TO CONDUCT SUCH A TRIAL. SUCH JUDICIAL
6 HEARING OFFICERS SHALL: (I) BE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER; AND
7 (II) BE VILLAGE OR TOWN COURT JUSTICES, CITY COURT JUDGES OR RETIRED
8 JUDGES OR JUSTICES ALL OF WHICH SHALL HAVE AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF EXPERI-
9 ENCE CONDUCTING TRIALS OF TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS CASES; AND (III) BE ADMIT-
10 TED TO PRACTICE LAW IN THIS STATE; AND (IV) BE SELECTED FROM A LIST OF
11 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER PROVIDED THAT THE
12 MAYOR SHALL GIVE AT LEAST THREE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EACH JUDICIAL HEAR-
13 ING OFFICER ASSIGNMENT. WHERE SUCH ASSIGNMENT IS MADE, THE JUDICIAL
14 HEARING OFFICER SHALL ENTERTAIN THE CASE IN THE SAME MANNER AS A COURT
15 AND SHALL:

- 16 (A) DETERMINE ALL QUESTIONS OF LAW;
- 17 (B) ACT AS THE EXCLUSIVE TRIER OF ALL ISSUES OF FACT;
- 18 (C) RENDER A VERDICT;
- 19 (D) IMPOSE SENTENCE; OR
- 20 (E) DISPOSE OF THE CASE IN ANY MANNER PROVIDED BY LAW.

21 4-B. JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICERS ARE PROHIBITED FROM APPEARING IN ANY
22 CAPACITY OTHER THAN AS A JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICER IN ANY PART OF ROCHESTER
23 CITY COURT ON ANY MATTER RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AND ARE
24 FURTHER PROHIBITED FROM APPEARING IN ANY CAPACITY OTHER THAN AS A JUDI-
25 CIAL HEARING OFFICER IN ANY OTHER COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ON
26 ANY MATTER RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

27 S 15. Subdivision 5 of section 350.20 of the criminal procedure law,
28 as amended by section 16 of part CC of chapter 58 of the laws of 2015,
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision one of this section,
31 for all proceedings before the district court of Nassau county the
32 administrative judge of Nassau county may, and for all proceedings
33 before the district court of Suffolk county, the administrative judge of
34 Suffolk county may, without the consent of the parties, assign matters
35 involving traffic and parking infractions except those described in
36 paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of subdivision two of section
37 three hundred seventy-one of the general municipal law to a judicial
38 hearing officer in accordance with the provisions of section sixteen
39 hundred ninety of the vehicle and traffic law and for all proceedings
40 before the Buffalo city court the administrative judge of the eighth
41 judicial district may, without the consent of the parties, assign
42 matters involving traffic infractions except those described in para-
43 graphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of subdivision two-a of
44 section three hundred seventy-one of the general municipal law to a
45 judicial hearing officer in accordance with the provisions of section
46 sixteen hundred ninety of the vehicle and traffic law AND FOR ALL
47 PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE ROCHESTER CITY COURT THE ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE OF
48 THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT MAY, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE PARTIES,
49 ASSIGN MATTERS INVOLVING TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS EXCEPT THOSE DESCRIBED IN
50 PARAGRAPHS (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) AND (G) OF SUBDIVISION TWO-B OF
51 SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW TO A
52 JUDICIAL HEARING OFFICER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION
53 SIXTEEN HUNDRED NINETY OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW.

54 S 16. Pending actions and proceedings. (a) No proceeding involving a
55 charge of a traffic infraction pending at such time when an existing
56 administrative tribunal shall cease to exist shall be affected or abated

1 by the passage of this act or by anything herein contained or by the
2 cessation of the existence of any administrative tribunal. All such
3 proceedings are hereby transferred to the court of appropriate jurisdic-
4 tion in the city where such traffic infractions allegedly occurred.

5 (b)(i) The agency, department, office, or person charged with the
6 custody of the records of an existing administrative tribunal which is
7 about to cease existing under, or in connection with, this act shall
8 arrange for the transfer of the records of pending proceedings to the
9 court of appropriate jurisdiction to which the proceedings shall be
10 transferred. The presiding judge of such court shall enter an order
11 providing for adequate notice consistent with due process of law to
12 respondents in such pending proceedings regarding the transfer of such
13 proceedings.

14 (ii) In no event shall any difficulty or delay resulting from the
15 transfer process, not caused by the respondent, increase the penalty
16 required of the respondent appearing before the court due to a transfer
17 of the traffic infraction proceeding or otherwise prejudice such
18 respondent. Respondents before the court due to a transfer of the traf-
19 fic infraction proceeding from an administrative tribunal to the court
20 that fail to appear shall be permitted at least one adjournment before
21 the penalties and procedures pursuant to subdivision 3 of section 226 of
22 the vehicle and traffic law shall be available. The presiding judge of
23 such court shall enter an order providing for adequate notice consistent
24 with due process of law to respondents, including notice of the penal-
25 ties and procedures available pursuant to subdivision 3 of section 226
26 of the vehicle and traffic law.

27 S 17. The executive director of the Rochester traffic violations agen-
28 cy shall issue on an annual basis, beginning eighteen months following
29 the creation of the Rochester traffic violations agency pursuant to city
30 of Rochester local law, a report detailing the progress, development and
31 operations of the traffic violations agency. The report shall be
32 provided to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the
33 speaker of the assembly, the mayor of Rochester, the common council of
34 Rochester, the presiding judge of the Rochester city court and the
35 Monroe county district attorney.

36 S 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017; provided, however, that
37 effective immediately the city of Rochester is authorized to enact a
38 local law establishing a traffic violations agency in the city of
39 Rochester; provided, however, that the provisions of sections four and
40 five of this act shall take effect on the same date as the enactment of
41 such local law, herein authorized, establishing a traffic violations
42 agency; provided, further, that if established, such agency and the city
43 of Rochester shall comply with all the provisions of law set forth in
44 this act; provided, however, that the amendments to section 371 of the
45 general municipal law, made by sections six and seven of this act, shall
46 not affect the expiration of such section and shall be deemed to expire
47 therewith; and provided, further, that the city of Rochester shall noti-
48 fy the legislative bill drafting commission upon the occurrence of the
49 enactment of the local law provided for in this section in order that
50 the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data base
51 of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furtherance
52 of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and
53 section 70-b of the public officers law.