



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF AMADOR**

INFRACTION AMNESTY PROGRAM 2012

Effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012

GUIDELINES

Program Authority

In October 2010, Senate Bill 857 (Stats. 2010, ch. 720) added section 42008.7 to the Vehicle Code. This authorizes a one-time mandatory Infraction Amnesty Program in each county for bail and fines meeting the eligibility requirements.

Purpose of Amnesty Program

The purpose of the one-time Infraction Amnesty Program is to provide relief to individuals who have found themselves in violation of a court-ordered obligation because they have been unable to pay a bail or fine amount due.

Amnesty Period

The one-time Infraction Amnesty Program will operate from January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012. No extensions will be granted.

Eligibility:

All adult and juvenile Vehicle and non-Vehicle Code infraction violations where bail or a fine was due on or before **January 1, 2009**, are eligible for Infraction Amnesty Program. Under Vehicle Code section 42008.7, the terms "bail" and "fine" refer to the total bail amount or fine balance due in connection with a specific Vehicle Code or non-Vehicle Code infraction.

Violations are eligible for amnesty only if each of the following requirements is met:

- The violation is an infraction filed with the court. At this time, no other misdemeanor cases/charges are eligible, with the following exceptions: If a Failure to Appear misdemeanor warrant charge of Vehicle Code Section 40508(a) or Penal Code Section 853.7 or a Failure to Pay misdemeanor warrant charge of Vehicle Code Section 40508(b) was added to the underlying charge, the case is eligible. If a civil assessment was added after 01/01/09, the case is not eligible.

- Includes juvenile traffic cases.
- The due date for payment of the bail or fine was on or before January 1, 2009.
 - ✓ A Failure to Appear case is eligible for amnesty if the case is currently on Failure to appear status and the appearance date and/or last appearance on the case was on or before January 1, 2009.
 - ✓ An Failure to Pay case is eligible for amnesty if the fine due date and last payment made were on or before January 1, 2009 (if defendant was on a payment arrangement and defaulted per these guidelines, case is eligible.)
- The defendant does not owe restitution to a victim on any case within the county of Amador (per Penal Code section 1202.4(f)).
- The defendant has no outstanding misdemeanor or felony warrants within the county.
- To qualify, the defendant must pay 50 percent of the delinquent bail amount of fine balance due, in full satisfaction of the debt.
- Cases referred to collection or failures to appear occurring **AFTER 1/1/09 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE** for the program.

A defendant is not required to apply in writing or request amnesty in order for the case to be eligible. Amnesty is granted at the time all eligibility criteria are verified and the defendant makes a payment. If the court is unable to determine eligibility, an Eligibility Affidavit may be submitted by the defendant. If it is later determined the defendant is ineligible for amnesty, the defendant will be notified in writing of ineligibility and the due date for the remaining balance, which may be subject to further collection activity.

Payments

Payment can be by check, cash, and money order. Payment arrangements or multiple payments are not available on Amnesty cases.

For further information, please contact Amador Superior Court at (209) 257-2605.

Related Links:

[California Courts Amnesty Program-YouTube](#)

[California Court's website](#)

[California Court's Public Amnesty FAQs](#)

[California DMV Vehicle Code Section 42008.5 Amnesty Program](#)