



RED LIGHT CAMERAS

Q: *What are Red Light Cameras?*

A: A red light camera system is connected to the traffic signal and to sensors buried in the pavement at the crosswalk or stop line. The system continuously monitors the traffic signal; the camera is triggered by any vehicle passing over the sensors after the signal has turned red. A second photograph is taken that shows the red light violator in the intersection. The camera records the date, time of day, time elapsed since the beginning of the red signal and the speed of the vehicle.

Q: *When do I get any warning that a camera is in operation?*

A: There are signs posted on all major streets at the city limits, and prior to each camera-enforced intersection.

Q: *What is red light running?*

A: A violation occurs when a motorist enters an intersection after the signal light has turned red. Going through a yellow light in the State of Oregon is a violation if you can stop in time. Motorists inadvertently in an intersection when the signal changes to red -- when waiting to turn, for example -- aren't red light runners.

Q: *What do I do if I get a ticket?*

A: A Red Light Camera ticket is not different from any other red light ticket. You can pay the fine or appear in court. Your options are listed in the letter you receive with your red light camera citation, and are also listed on the back of your citation.

Q: *Is it legal to go through a red light because a large vehicle like a semi-truck or bus blocked my view of the traffic light?*

A: No. You must stay at enough distance behind a large vehicle for you to be able to see the traffic light, and for you to be able to come to a complete stop at the appropriate stopping point of the intersection.

Q: *What if I was not driving my car?*

A: If you are the registered owner of the car, and someone else was driving your car, you are required to complete the *Certificate of Innocence* and mail it along with a legible photocopy of the front and back of your driver's license in the envelope provided. The ticket will be dismissed if all required information is provided on the *Certificate of Innocence*. However, if driver's license photo matches the violation photo, citation will be re-issued.

Q: *What if the citation is issued to my business or public agency?*

A: Oregon Law authorizes the citation issued to your business or public agency to be dismissed if you complete the *Affidavit of Non-Liability* identifying the driver.

Q: *Is this just another way for the Government to make money?*

A: No. All of the money the City of Portland receives from the tickets is used to pay for the Red Light Camera Program.

Q: *If I have a question about Red Light cameras or Traffic complaints, who do I call?*

A: Photo Enforcement questions will be answered by calling 503-221-0415 or 1-800-799-7082.

Q: *What if I have questions about a court date, fines or payments after reading the citation?*

A: Call the Multnomah County Circuit Court at: Portland 503-988-3235
Gresham 503-988-3199
Then dial zero (0) for operator.

Q: *What do I do if the photo is not clear?*

A: The photos in the violation letter are reproductions of the digital color photos taken of the vehicle. To see larger photos – as well as a video of the violation – go to the website <http://www.public.cite-web.com> and enter the citation number and PIN provided in the letter.

Help us make Portland's streets and neighborhoods safe for everyone.

Please Drive Safely!