

House Appropriations



E- Summons Briefing

Bob Smith & Bob Palmer
Office of the Executive Secretary
Supreme Court of Virginia

January 29, 2018

E-Summons Background

- Project piloted in 2009.
- Third party software prints standard (8.5" x 11") summons form or smaller 4" x 11" summons form for the court and defendant.
- Used for traffic infractions, traffic misdemeanors, toll violations and certain criminal misdemeanors.
- Electronic data stored and transmitted by law enforcement to the appropriate General District or Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

E-Summons Process

- Law enforcement officer scans bar code on driver's license.
- Summons data captured on computer device and copies printed for the court and defendant.
- The court copy of the summons is signed by the defendant and sent to the court.
- At the end of officer's shift, data are uploaded from device for transmittal to court.
- E-summons data transmitted electronically to appropriate General District or Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.
- Summons data automatically entered into case management system and available to the court the next morning.

E-Summons Status

- 27 law enforcement agencies and 3 toll authorities are currently submitting summons data electronically to 26 courts.
- Six vendors have been approved to provide this capability.
- Over 240,000 electronic summonses were processed in 2017.
- Currently in a testing phase with 4 more police departments.
- Working with four new vendors that are seeking approval.

E-Summons Benefits

- An electronically printed summons is more legible than a handwritten summons.
- Reduced data entry for court deputy clerks into case management system.
- Reduction in data capture errors.
- Cases available in case management system and for online payment more quickly.
- Allows court to redeploy some data entry clerks to other needed services.
- Reduced data entry for law enforcement.
- Allows law enforcement officer to spend less time on the side of road.