



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Superior Court of Humboldt County together with Humboldt County Revenue Recovery announce their participation in the 2012 Statewide Court Fine Amnesty Program authorized by the State of California. This program will allow people the opportunity to settle their qualifying court fines for 50% of their balance between January 3, 2012 and June 29, 2012.

The intent of the one-time amnesty program is to assist individuals who have found themselves in violation of a court ordered obligation due to a lack of ability to pay for a specified misdemeanor fine or infraction.

Individuals who qualify for the 50% discount must meet all of the following criteria:

- Currently have an outstanding traffic violation that was due on or before January 1, 2009
- The last payment was made on or before January 1, 2009
- Don't owe victim restitution on any case within the County
- No outstanding misdemeanor or felony warrants within the County

"This is the first time since 1996 the State has authorized the trial courts to offer an amnesty program. It is a great opportunity for people to clear up outstanding fines and fees at a reduced rate," said Judge W. Bruce Watson, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt. "Since the last amnesty program was fifteen years ago, who knows when this will come around again? The Court and the County are encouraging people who have old citations to participate in this amnesty program to get rid of old debts."

In addition to the State mandated amnesty program the County of Humboldt and the Superior Court of Humboldt County are participating in the optional amnesty program which includes some misdemeanor violations. The amnesty program does not apply to parking violations and violations of California Vehicle Code pertaining to reckless driving or driving under the influence.

The amnesty program provides a win-win opportunity for State and local governments to generate much needed revenue while granting individuals the opportunity to clear their record of long standing debt at a reduced rate.