



# ***GENERAL ORDER***

**DURHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT  
DURHAM, NC**

**NUMBER:**

**4042 R-2**

## **WARNING TICKETS**

Effective Date: 12/15/1995

Revision Dates: R-1 09/01/2002; **R-2 01/10/2005**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Durham Police Department recognizes the written warning as an instrument of traffic law enforcement, and encourages its use on minor violations in lieu of a citation.

When properly utilized, the warning ticket:

- Formalizes the enforcement process involving minor violations along with adding an air of importance to the violation.
- Accounts for the officer's efforts in total activity.
- Provides statistical data on minor violations.

### **PROCEDURE**

Officers are encouraged to use the warning ticket<sup>1</sup>:

- in lieu of a verbal warning;
- in lieu of a citation for minor violations of motor vehicle law;
- for those specific offenses listed on the warning ticket.

The written warning consists of an original and two copies, to be distributed as follows:

- Original – will be sent to the Records Unit;
- 1<sup>st</sup> copy - retained by the issuing officers for their records;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> copy - given to violator.


Some violations that may be written on a warning ticket require that the violator correct an equipment defect. The violator must then present the warning ticket to any North Carolina law enforcement officer, who shall verify that the necessary repairs have been made to the vehicle. The officer will then sign the warning ticket, and give it back to the violator, who will then mail it back to the Durham Police Department. When the Durham Police Department receives a warning ticket in the mail, it shall be routed to the issuing officer.

If the violator does not return the warning ticket when so required, the issuing officer has the following options:

- Take no action;

<sup>1</sup> 1.2.6  
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- Contact the violator to inquire as to their noncompliance;
- Charge the violator on a citation, warrant or criminal summons for the offense. Prior to charging the violator, the officer must first attempt to contact the violator as outlined in above Step 2.



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**Steven W. Chalmers**  
Chief of Police