

GARFIELD HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL COURT
5555 Turney Road, Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125 (216) 475-1900
Judge Deborah J. Nicastro and Judge Sergio I. DiGeronimo

STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

Case Nos.: _____

Defendant Name: _____

I hereby state that I understand the nature of the charges against me.

I understand that:

- A plea of guilty is a complete admission of the truth of the facts alleged in the complaint;
- A plea of no contest is not an admission of guilt as charged, but is an admission of the truth of the facts alleged in the complaint and that such plea cannot be used against me in any future civil or criminal proceedings;
- A plea of not guilty is a complete denial of the facts alleged in the complaint and will require a trial thereon.

I understand the possible penalties if I enter a plea of guilty or no contest and am found guilty.

I understand I have the following rights:

- The right to reasonable bail;
- The right to retain counsel prior to entering a plea and of my right to a reasonable continuance to obtain counsel;
- The right to have counsel assigned to me without cost if I cannot afford to employ counsel prior to entering a plea and of my right to a reasonable continuance to obtain assigned counsel;
- The right to a trial by judge, or jury in the event I am charged with an offense greater than a minor misdemeanor. I have been advised that if I want a trial by jury I must make a written demand for the same at least 10 days before the trial date or within 3 days after receiving notice of the same.
- I further understand I have the following rights:
 - To confront and cross-examine the witnesses who testify against me at trial;
 - I may compel by subpoena witnesses to appear at trial on my behalf;
 - I have the right to remain silent and my silence cannot be used against me;
 - The State must prove my guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

I further understand, that, by entering a plea of guilty or no contest, I waive all the rights stated above and understand that the Court shall impose sentence according to law without unnecessary delay.

I further understand, that, if I am found guilty of any traffic offense, a record of my conviction will be filed with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles and placed on my driving record and points may be assessed according to law.

By signing below, I hereby acknowledge that:

- I have listened to the audio recording provided by the Court in advance with regards to the statement of rights (found at (216) 475-1900 option 2) and
- I have read and I understand the foregoing rights.

Dated: _____

X _____
Defendant's Signature

Dated: _____

X _____
Attorney's Signature (if represented)

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL COURT
PLEA FORM**

_____ ORIGINAL PLEA or _____ CHANGE OF PLEA

WAIVER OF COUNSEL AND/OR ASSIGNMENT OF COUNSEL

I hereby waive my right to counsel and/or the assignment of counsel if I cannot afford to employ counsel.

(A) YES (B) NO

If you circled "NO" above, meaning you are not waiving the right to counsel, please select one below:

- ☐ I am hiring my own attorney, OR
☐ I would like a court appointed attorney

ENTRY OF PLEA

I hereby acknowledge that I have received a copy of the complaint(s) and with knowledge of my rights as explained to me by the Court, I hereby knowingly, voluntarily and intelligently enter a plea of :

(A) GUILTY (B) NO CONTEST (C) NOT GUILTY

WAIVER OF SPEEDY TRIAL

I have been informed by the Court that I have a constitutional right to a speedy trial, but, I hereby, in open Court, waive this right and consent to this case being continued, even if it has to be continued indefinitely.

(A) YES (B) NO

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

I hereby demand a trial by a jury.

(A) YES (B) NO

WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL

I have been informed by the Court that I have constitutional right to a trial by jury, but, I hereby, in open Court, waive this right.

(A) YES (B) NO

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and I understand the foregoing and indicated my choices by circling the answer of my choice.

Dated: _____ X _____
Defendant's **Signature**

Witness: _____
Defendant's **Printed Name**