

Scofflaw Program

- **Scofflaw definition: a vehicle owner who has an outstanding warrant for failure to appear or failure to pay a fine on a complaint that involves the violation of a traffic law**
- **Transportation Code Section 702.003. Refusal to Register Vehicle**

Scofflaw Program

- **Sec. 702.003 (a). A county assessor-collector or the department may refuse to register a motor vehicle...**
- **Sec. 702.003(b). A municipality may contract with a county in which the municipality is located or the department...**

Scofflaw Program

- **Sec. 702.001(1) “Department” means the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.**
- **Sec. 702.003(e). A contract under Subsection (b) must be entered into in accordance with Chapter 791, Government Code... (Interlocal Cooperation Contracts)**

Scofflaw Program

- **Purpose of the Program is enforcement of Certain Arrest Warrants**
- **Only applies to registered owners of a motor vehicle with outstanding warrants for violation of a traffic law**

Scofflaw Program

- **Approximately 10,600 outstanding warrants**
- **~6400 Capias Pro Fines totaling \$3.1M**
- **~4200 Warrants of arrest totaling \$2.1M**
- **As of May 17, 2024 – there were 5,171 cases eligible to be sent for probing**

Scofflaw Program

- **Partnership with our collection vendor**
- **In August 2023, the City entered into a contract with McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen PC (MVBA) for the collection of delinquent fines and fees**
- **Scofflaw Program is another tool used to collect**

Scofflaw Program

- **MVBA will absorb all costs as a part of their enhanced services to utilize this tool**
- **The Contract with the Department requires a deposit to cover costs (paid for by MVBA)**
- **MVBA administers Scofflaw program on behalf of the City (requires MOU)**

Scofflaw Program

- **Once case is flagged with the Department, the registration *may* be refused (soft stop)**
- **Hard stop for online renewal**
- **Notice to the registered owner that money is owed or they failed to appear**

Scofflaw Program

- **When case is resolved, MVBA will send notice to the Department to no longer deny the registration**
- **Benefit to this enforcement tool is that vehicle registration is every year**

Scofflaw Program

- **City must submit Scofflaw contract to the DMV (5 year contract)**
- **City must enter into MOU with MVBA**
- **MVBA will conduct the program on behalf of the City**
- **MVBA pays for all costs (NO cost to the City or additional costs to defendant)**