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CLERK DOROTHY BROWN LAUNCHES MAJOR ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC TICKET SYSTEM IN FOUR COOK COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

Electronic ticketing reduces traffic stop time for officers and speeds up data dissemination to justice agencies



Clerk Dorothy Brown, (seated, second from left), along with Mayor of Bellwood Dr. Frank Pasquale (seated, second from right) launches “eTickets” with participating municipalities and partners of the program during a demonstration at a press conference at the Village of Bellwood Municipal Building on Monday, September 26, 2011.

The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, along with Advanced Public Safety (APS); Clarity Partners; and Police Chiefs of four pilot agencies launched the electronic ticket, also known as, “Quick Ticket” or “eTicket” during a press conference held at the Village of Bellwood Municipal Building located at 3200 Washington Blvd, Bellwood, IL.

Clerk Brown announced during the live demonstration of the new technology that eTickets will expedite routine traffic stops and cut costs, as the handling and processing of traffic citations will be entirely electronic. Once fully implemented, the Clerk’s Office will save \$195,000 in the

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printing of traffic tickets, and approximately \$438,000 in data entry costs, for a total savings of

about \$633,000, annually. The cost of the eTickets system is \$900,000, therefore, once fully implemented, the system will would pay for itself in about 18 months.

The four Cook County municipalities that partnered with the Clerk's Office in the initial launch phase of this project, include: Bellwood, Crestwood, Matteson, and South Barrington, Illinois, with 16 additional agencies signed on to begin before the end of 2011. As part of the Clerk's Office Integrated Justice Initiative, the Clerk's Office purchased an enterprise application license to implement a county-wide, electronic citation capture, delivery and storage system for Cook County. The municipalities do not have to pay for the use of the license.

"I am excited by the launch of etickets, and grateful to our municipal partners, who worked closely with us to successfully initiate the eTickets system for law enforcement agencies in Cook County. With APS and Clarity Partners, we are setting a new standard for effectively and efficiently using technology to electronically integrate justice across the county one system, one agency at a time." said Clerk Brown.

eTickets have several benefits for police agencies, including:

- increased public safety due to decreased traffic stop time;
- increased electronic integration across justice agencies throughout Cook County;
- reduction in costs of paper handling and processing;
- increase in data entry accuracy of traffic tickets for the Clerk of the Circuit Court;
- Maintains image in PDF format, which allows immediate access

ETickets effectively automate the creation, capture, transmission, and storage of a traffic-stop citation from the squad car directly to electronic storage facilities at the Clerk's Office.

The system, using a graphic user interface in the squad car for ease of use by the police officer, includes all functionality required to complete all eTicket fields, and provides other required functionality to facilitate convenience and speed of completing the eTickets such as: unique numbering, court scheduling and court transmittals.

The success of this initial pilot has generated tremendous support for Phase II of the E-Tickets project. Municipalities signed on for Phase II include; The villages of Barrington Hills, Calumet City, East Hazelcrest, Forest Park, Glenview, Harwood Heights, Hillside, Hodgkins, Lansing, Lyons, Niles, Norridge, Orland Park, Rosemont, South Holland and Wilmette.

In addition to being a part of Cook County's Integrated Justice Initiative, eTickets supports the Clerk's Office use of 21st Century Technology. For more information on eTickets and other technology based services, go to our website at www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org.

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An officer inputs information in the eTickets system during the demonstration at the press conference in the Village of Bellwood on Monday, October 3, 2011.

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