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Maine Judicial Branch Announces e-filing for Violations Bureau Cases

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The Maine Judicial Branch announces that the first phase of the Maine court system's new case management and e-filing system, Odyssey, will be rolled out for traffic violation cases statewide on October 29. With the advent of e-filing, parties will be able to look their cases up online and pay or take other action on their tickets 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Odyssey will provide parties in traffic cases with new e-filing options. Currently, contesting a ticket or asking for a continuance (postponement) must be done by mail or in person at the Violations Bureau's customer service window. Using Odyssey, parties will be able to electronically request a trial, file motions, and upload insurance certificates and vehicle registrations or other documentation.

The new e-filing option known as "Guide and File" will allow these to be done online. The system will guide the user through a series of questions and produce the necessary paperwork. Parties may still file answers, motions, and documents by mail and in person at the Lewiston District Court.

A new online payment service to pay traffic fines using a debit or credit card will also be available. Currently, individuals can pay traffic fines online or by phone through "PayTixx." PayTixx will be discontinued on October 17. Online payments will be accepted beginning October 29.

The Violations Bureau will be closed from Wednesday, October 17th at noon through Sunday, October 28 during the conversion to Odyssey. Telephone calls will be received only during limited hours, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., during the closure. Scheduled court dates will proceed with no interruption.

From October 17 to October 28, fines may be paid in person only, with cash, certified, or cashiers' checks between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Violations Bureau window of the Lewiston District Court. Credit or debit card payments will not be allowed. Parties whose licenses have been suspended and who have completed payment, will receive documentation to provide to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Reinstatement must be completed by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, as usual.

For more information on Odyssey, e-filing and fine payment options, please visit: www.courts.maine.gov/ecourts.

