

Frequently Asked Questions: **Village of Rockdale** Automated Red Light Enforcement Program

What do I do if I receive a Notice of Violation?

How much is the fine?

The fine is \$100.00 for each violation.

How much time do I have to pay my Red Light Violation Notice?

You must pay the civil penalty on or before the due date on your Violation Notice. The due date for payment is located on the top and bottom right of your Notice of Violation.

What are my Options?

Two Options are available: **PAY THE FINE OR CONTEST THE VIOLATION**

OPTION I. Pay the Fine

- **Pay Online:** Logon to www.RedLightViolations.com by entering the Violation Notice Number and License Plate Number noted on the top and bottom right of your Notice of Violation. There is a \$3.50 convenience fee for paying on-line, assessed at the time of payment.

RedLightViolations.com



RedLightViolations.com

Violation Details | Privacy Policy | Terms and Conditions | Security | Información en Español

Payment Information

Violation Number: 1700500059621834
Amount Due: \$100.00
e-Payment Convenience Fee: \$3.50
Total Amount: \$103.50

Enter card information

* Card Type:  

* Card Number:

* Expiration Date: -

* Security Code: [Card Identification Numbers](#) (a new window will open)

Enter account holder information exactly as it appears on the credit card

* First Name:
Middle Initial:
* Last Name:
* Address:
* City:
* State:
* Zip:
* E-mail address:

RedLightViolations.com

Violation Details | Privacy Policy | Terms and Conditions | Security

* Notice Number: [You can click here to see a sample of how numbers will appear](#)

* License Plate Number:

Verification Characters:

* Enter the above Verification Characters:


VERISIGN CERTIFIED

- **Pay By Mail:** Mail your check or money order (payable to the Village Rockdale Photo Enforcement Program) in the return envelope provided. Be sure to include the payment stub from the bottom of the notice you received along with your payment. Please do not send cash.
- **Pay By Credit Card:** A Toll Free number has been established for the Village and is noted on the violation. Payments will be accepted between the hours of 9am – 4pm. We accept VISA and MasterCard and there is a \$3.50 convenience fee for the service. A transaction confirmation number will be provided as well as an email confirmation for your permanent records if you wish.

- **In-Person Payments are not available.**

OPTION II. Contest the Notice of Violation:

Please make sure that the basis for your contest is one of the following four options (these are also listed on the back of the notice of violation)

- a. Police officer already issued you a uniform traffic citation for the same violation (the citation issued by the police officer takes precedence over the Violation Notice).
- b. Vehicle or license plates were stolen and not recovered at the time of the violation
- c. Vehicle was leased or rented to another party, and a written affidavit of the lessee of the vehicle and a lease agreement were submitted
- d. Vehicle was an emergency vehicle or lawfully participating in a funeral procession

Contest By Mail:

- Fill in the **CONTEST BY MAIL** circle on the notice stub and on the self-addressed return envelope.
- Enclose a letter signed by the registered owner of the vehicle setting forth facts that establish a defense.

- Enclose any supporting evidence, such as affidavits, photos, state vehicle registration, official police vehicle theft/or recovery reports with the Violation Notice Number indicated.
- Be certain these documents are legible and complete. Send copies, original documents will not be returned.
- Enclose all evidence to support your defense as the Hearing officer's decision is final.
- All Contest By Mail materials must be submitted using the enclosed return envelope and must be received by the Pay or Contest By Date.

Requests to Contest Received **AFTER** the Pay or Contest By Date:

- The Registered Owner (no one else) must send a document to the Police Department and
 - (1) Explain why a reply was not sent prior to the Pay or Contest by Date and
 - (2) State why the request to contest should be heard.

**ROCKDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
79 MOEN AVENUE
ROCKDALE, IL 60436**

Request An In-Person Hearing:

- Fill in the **IN PERSON HEARING** circle on the return stub and on the return envelope. Mail the stub in the return envelope.
- Requests will only be honored if received by the Pay or Contest By Date (within the first 21 days of the initial violation notice).

Why has the Village of Rockdale decided to implement an Automated Red Light Photo Enforcement Program?

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, a recent nationwide study of deadly crashes at traffic signals indicates that 22 percent failed to obey the signal. In 2006, the fatality rate approached 900 and 144,000 injuries were recorded, all a result of red-light running. It is the Village's belief that implementation of an Automated Red Light Photo Enforcement Program will reduce the number of red light collisions and injuries associated with such crashes. The goal of this program is to increase traffic safety in Rockdale by reducing red light running violations, red light crashes and red light injury crashes without impacting Village funds.

What is a Red Light Violation?

There are Two Types of Red Light Violations:

- **Right Turn on Red without coming to a complete stop.**

You may be cited with a Red Light Violation if you fail to bring your vehicle to a complete stop before turning right when the light is red. Turning right on red, after bringing your vehicle to a complete stop, is only allowed at intersections that do not have signs prohibiting such turns. For exact wording, please check Illinois' Rules of the Road, or visit the Secretary of State's website, www.cyberdriveillinois.com

- **Entering an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red.**

If I am in the intersection when the light is yellow and the light changes to red, will I receive a Notice of Violation?

No. The automated system only becomes active once the red light is showing. It will not capture a vehicle that enters the intersection prior to the light changing to red. If you entered the intersection on yellow, it is legal to clear the intersection if the light turned red while you were still in the intersection. In the violation notice, the first photo shows your car at the white line when the stoplight was red. In the second photo the stoplight was still red when the car proceeded into the intersection.

Will the red light cameras take a picture of the driver of the vehicle?

No. A violation of the Rockdale Ordinance is a civil violation assessed against the owner of the vehicle; it is not a criminal violation. Similar to a parking ticket, there is no need to identify the driver and therefore, no need to capture the image of the driver. This violation will not affect your driving privileges or insurance rates.

Where can I go to view my video and images?

To view your violation video clip and images, log on to www.redlightviolations.com. To log on to the site you must enter your 16 digit Notice Number and License Plate information located at the top right of your Violation Notice. If you do not have Internet access, you may visit any public library for Internet access to view your video.

What if I was not the operator of the car at the time the violation took place...am I still liable?

Under Illinois State Law, HB 4835 effective May, 2006, the registered owner of a vehicle is liable for any automated traffic law violations that occur to the vehicle. It does not matter who was driving the car, the law clearly states that the registered owner is liable.

The car was a rental, why did I receive the Violation Notice?

Under the law, the person(s) designated on the rental or lease agreement of a vehicle as the driver(s) of that vehicle is responsible for any assigned violations during the rental period. Your name and address were provided to us by the rental car agency.

What happens if I ignore the Violation Notice?

Failure to pay the civil penalty or to contest liability prior to the Pay or Contest Date on the Notice will result in a Determination of Liability being entered against you. You will be given another 14 days to pay, at which time, if payment has still not been received, a Final Determination of Liability will be issued. If the Final Determination of Liability is not paid, a late payment fee will be imposed and the fine increased. If this Second Notice remains unpaid, collections and an entry of a judgment against you may proceed.

Failure to pay Five (5) Violations may result in the *Owner's Drivers License Being Suspended.*

My payment has already been sent; will I still be charged late fees?

Payment must be received on or before the Pay or Contest by Date indicated on the violation notice. Postmarked dates are not considered as payment received, and payment extensions are not granted.

I paid the violation; why did I receive another Violation Notice?

The Notice you just received could be for additional violations or it may just be a second notice which crossed your payment in the mail. Payments are posted the same day they are received, but you may call the toll free number on the notice for assistance and to confirm receipt.

If I pay the fine, can I then contest it or ask for a hearing?

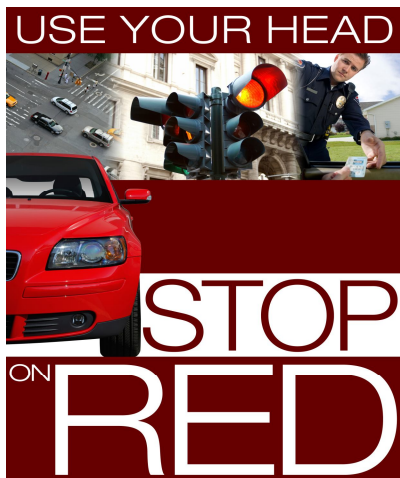
No. Once you have paid a fine it is considered an admission of liability and requests to contest or schedule a hearing will not be granted.

How do I know these violations are valid?

Images of your vehicle were captured and recorded by an Automated Red Light Photo Enforcement System. Your images and an actual video of the occurrence are available online for your review at:

www.redlightviolations.com

The images and video passed a two part review process by qualified technicians before being submitted to the Rockdale Police Department for final review and approval. The alleged civil infraction notice was then mailed to you as the registered owner or identified driver. Confirmation of your name, address and vehicle registration information was provided to the Rockdale Police Department by the Illinois Secretary of State's Office.



**The Red Light Camera
is located at:**

**IL Route 7 (Larkin Ave.)
&
Moen Avenue
*Southbound***

Why does Rockdale need Red Light Cameras?

Traffic studies show that Red Light Running is a problem at several intersections within the Village. The goal of the camera program is to change driver behavior by encouraging compliance with traffic signal laws through around-the-clock enforcement.

Why aren't Police Officers monitoring these intersections?

The Rockdale Police Department is committed to the safety of their residents, but no community can afford to police every red light intersection 24 hours a day. Traditional enforcement also creates a safety hazard for the violator, other drivers, pedestrians and the officer when police chase a violator through a red light. This technology frees up officers to assist and protect residents in other ways.

Is this simply a way for the Village to make money?

The objective of this program is to deter drivers from disobeying the law, not catch them. There is no cost to the Village for installing, operating or maintaining the system. The program is completely violator funded.

Red Light Photo Enforcement

Deaths caused by red light running are increasing at more than three times the rate of increase for all other fatal crashes. Sadly, the victims are often occupants of other vehicles or pedestrians who happen to be in the intersection. *Source: Federal Highway Administration Safety Website. Safety.fhwa.dot.gov*

The Village is asking the residents of Rockdale to respect the rules of the road and to consider not only their safety but the safety of others.

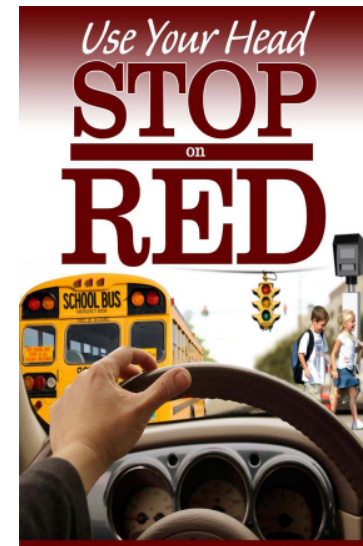
The Red Light Camera System is designed to encourage everyone to adopt safer driving habits and eliminate unnecessary injuries and deaths.

The Village of Rockdale's
Red Light Camera
is located at

IL Route 7 (Larkin) & Moen Avenue Southbound

For more information please
visit
www.rockdalepolice.com

Red Light Photo Enforcement



*Changing Driver Behavior
One Intersection at a Time*

Is Red Light Running really a problem?

Each year in the United States, Red Light Running results in nearly 200,000 crashes, more than 800 deaths and 180,000 injuries.

Four in five crashes happened within 150 feet of an intersection.

Someone runs a red light *every 5 minutes* in rush hour.

Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

Red Light Photo Enforcement

What is a Red Light Violation?

There are Two Types of Red Light Violations:

- **Right Turn on Red without coming to a complete stop.**

You may be cited if you fail to bring your vehicle to a complete stop before turning right when the light is red. Turning right on red, after bringing your vehicle to a complete stop, is only allowed at intersections that do not have signs prohibiting such turns.

- **Entering an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red.**

Motorists already in the intersection (waiting to make a turn for example) when the signal changes to red will not be cited.

What do I do if I receive a Notice?

The fine is \$100.00 for each violation.

How much time do I have to pay my Red Light Violation Notice?

You must pay the civil penalty on or before the due date on your Violation Notice. The due date is located on the top and bottom right of your Notice of Violation.

Violators may view their digital images and video clip by logging onto:

www.redlightviolations.com

I've received a Violation, what are my Options?

Individuals receiving a Violation Notice have Two Options available: Pay the Fine or Contest the Violation. Payments may be made via mail, thru a Village specific toll-free number or on-line. Individuals wishing to contest may do so either by mail or by requesting an in person hearing.

The following are the only valid reasons for a contest:

- Police officer already issued you a uniform citation for the same violation (the citation issued by the police officer takes precedence over the Violation Notice).
- Vehicle or license plates were stolen and not recovered at the time of the violation,
- Vehicle was leased or rented to another party, and a written affidavit of the lessee of the vehicle and a lease agreement were submitted,
- Vehicle was an emergency vehicle or lawfully participating in a funeral procession.

What happens if I ignore the Violation Notice?

Failure to pay the civil penalty or to contest liability prior to the Pay or Contest Date will result in a Determination of Liability being entered against you. You will be given additional time to pay, at which time, if payment has still not been received, a Final Determination of Liability will be issued. If this notice goes unpaid, a late payment fee will be imposed and the fine increased. If this Second Notice remains unpaid, collections and an entry of a judgment against you may proceed.

Failure to pay Five (5) Violations may result in the Owner's Drivers License Being Suspended.

Common Misconceptions

"The red light cameras take a picture of the driver of the vehicle".

Not true. A violation of the Red light Camera Ordinance is a Civil Violation assessed against the owner of the vehicle.

"I cannot dispute a photo enforced ticket without expensive court costs".

Not true. As of January 2011, Illinois law prohibits any community from charging additional fees to individuals wishing to contest a photo enforced violation.

"Photo Enforced Violations do not allow for due process".

Not True. Photo Enforced Violations provide more due process than Officer issued violations. Individuals contesting the citation may do so either in person or via the mail, and the digital images presented provided a far more accurate account of the circumstances.

The camera flashes and automatically sends out a ticket".

Not true. Seeing a flash does not mean a ticket is generated. The camera does not automatically send out tickets. All digital evidence (including video) is reviewed by a trained Rockdale Police Officer. No Citations are issued without Police Officer approval and authorization.

"Photo enforcement is BIG BROTHER".

Not True. Photo enforcement technology has been applied all over the Chicago and collar county area for several years. To date, there is not a single instance of alleged abuse of this technology that would support any "Big Brother Watching" claims.