

26th Judicial District Trial Court Administrator's Office FINE COLLECTION PROGRAM



Mecklenburg County Courthouse
832 East 4th Street, Suite 4420
Charlotte, NC 28202
704-686-0240



ABOUT US

The 26th Judicial District established the Fine Collection Program in 1993. The specific objectives of the Fine Collection Program are to:

- Hold accountable convicted defendants who have been assessed monetary sanctions and **placed on unsupervised probation**;
- Improve the credibility of the judiciary through the collection of monetary sanctions in unsupervised probation cases;
- Remove from the courtroom the unseemly and time-consuming bartering over payment terms;
- Provide defendants an alternative to incarceration;
- Ameliorate overcrowding of the jails due to noncompliance;
- Proactively pursue the collection of monetary sanctions for the target population; and,
- Improve the monetary collection rate for the target population.

OUR SERVICES AND BENEFITS

- Affordable monthly payment plans for court-levied fines, costs, and / or restitution.
- Payment reminders and ongoing case management.
- No interest fees.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Who is eligible?

Fine Collection is generally available in misdemeanor and low-level felony cases. The target population includes offenders **placed on unsupervised probation** convicted of the following offenses:

- Assault
- Concealment
- DWI
- Property offenses
- DWLR
- Drug offenses
- Fraud
- Worthless checks



Additionally, defendants must owe a total of **\$200 or more** in court-levied fines, costs, and / or restitution to be admitted to the program.

What is the referral process?

1. The judge makes a referral to the Fine Collection Program if a defendant needs more than 40 days to pay the total amount due to the court.
2. A one-time **\$20.00 installment fee** is added to the defendant's court costs when referred to the Fine Collection Program.
3. A post-judgment data form is provided to the defendant for the Operations Coordinators to process in Suite 4420.
4. Operations Coordinators process the referral within 48 hours and contact the defendant to provide a summary overview of the program along with a monthly payment plan.

NOTE: This program is **not** for defendants who wish to pay in full within 40 days; it is for those in need of a payment plan to successfully pay the total amount due as ordered by the court.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: My probation term expires in 12 months. Are monthly payments necessary?

A: Yes, monthly payments are required when enrolled in the Fine Collection Program. You must make monthly payments to avoid violations being issued against you.

Q: Where and how do I make payments towards my balance?

A: Payments may be made in person at the Cashier's Office, Suite 1579, with cash, credit debit card (photo ID required), cashier's check, or money order. Also, payments may be mailed or made Online.

IN PERSON:

1. Make a payment at the Cashier's Office, Suite 1579.
2. Drop off a copy of your receipt in the "Receipt Box," located in Suite 4420.

MAIL:

1. Make money order or cashier's check payable to:
Mecklenburg County Clerk of Superior Court

***Be sure to include your case number:
i.e. 24CR123456-590***

2. Mail payment to:
**Clerk of Superior Court
Mecklenburg County Courthouse
PO Box 37971
Charlotte, NC 28237-7971**
3. Notify the Operations Coordinators of the mailed payment via phone or email.

ONLINE

1. Make Online payments via the eCourts Portal (<https://portal-nc.tylertech.cloud/Portal/>).

Enter your case number using the following format: i.e. 24CR123456-590

2. Notify the Operations Coordinators of the Online payment via phone or email.

Q: What if the balance on the notice I received is incorrect?

A: Contact the Operations Coordinators and provide any documentation you have indicating a payment has been made.

NOTE: If you made a payment and did not provide the Fine Collection Program with a copy of your receipt, no updates have been made on your account.

Q: What happens if I don't pay?

A: A Notice of Hearing on Violation of Unsupervised Probation will be filed with the court and a court date will be set.

At each court violation hearing, the judge has several options, such as activating a portion of or the entire suspended sentence of jail time, issuing an Order for Arrest for a defendant who fails to appear at the hearing, or issuing any other decision deemed necessary based on the facts of the case.



CONTACT US

Hours of Operation:
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Phone: 704-686-0240

Operations Coordinators:
704-686-0241 / 704-686-0242

Email:
D26.FineCollectionDept@nccourts.org



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