



CITY OF  
KANSAS CITY,  
MISSOURI

**MUNICIPAL COURT**

# KCMO Municipal Court Overview

- Largest Municipal Court in Missouri
- 9 Judges: 8 full-time, 1 part-time
- 330,934 Pending Cases
- 141,452 Warrants issued in 2018
- 15,051 Placed on probation in last 12 months

## Most common cases:

### Traffic

Speeding, Driving Under the Influence, Parking Tickets

### General Ordinance

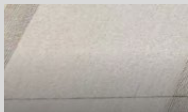
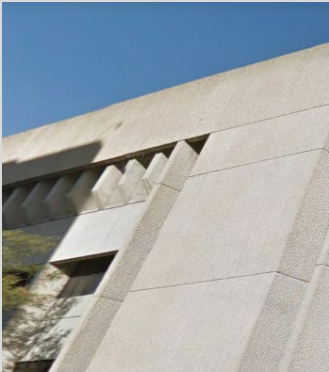
Trespass, Assault\Domestic Violence Assault, Disorderly Conduct

### Building Codes and Nuisance

Insufficient Property Maintenance, Weeds, Trash

### Animal Health and Public Safety

Animal License, Animal Abuse, Neglect, Animal attacks



# KCMO Municipal Court by the numbers

## 191,698 Cases filed in FY2018-19

Traffic



104,386

Parking



52,126

**General Ordinance  
Violations**

- Trespass
- Assault
- Domestic Violence
- Disorderly Conduct
- Etc.



17,843

Housing



13,484

Animal



3,850

# Know Your Rights in Municipal Court

**Right to know when the court is open and attend court**



- **Hours:** 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding holidays
- **Court docket times:** 9, 10 and 11 a.m. and 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.
- **All dockets are open to the public.**



# Know Your Rights in Municipal Court

## Right to release pending hearing

**You have a right to be released on your promise unless a judge finds:**

1. Your promise alone is not enough to ensure your appearance

OR

2. Your release poses a danger to the community.

**If the judge decides either, then you may have to post bond**

# Know Your Rights in Municipal Court

## Right to an attorney

- You can hire an attorney, but it's not required
- You may represent yourself
- You may hire an attorney at any time
- At your first court date, you can ask for a continuance to hire an attorney

## Right to a free attorney

- If you show you can't afford an attorney
- And you're facing jail time
- Court will provide a free attorney to you



# Did you know?

## Municipal Court has walk-in dockets

### Speak to a judge

- **To lift your warrant**
  - But it is strictly up to the judge
  - Might have to post bond
- **For a continuance**
  - Before court date
  - If don't qualify for one online or by phone
- **For more time**
  - To pay fines
  - To complete a class or community service

# Did you know?

## Municipal Court has payment plans

- No money down! First payment due in 30 days, unless there is a warrant
- Pay 25% down up front if there is a warrant
- Remainder due in equal installments

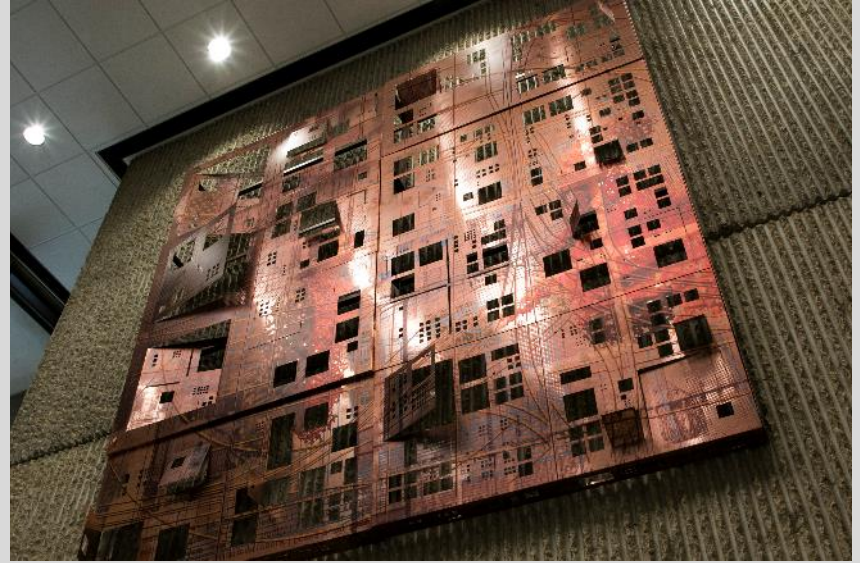




# Did you know?

## You can ask for community service instead of a fine

- You may have to show your inability to pay the fine
- You may have to fill out papers regarding your income



# Did you know?



## Municipal Court has several specialty courts

### Problem-Solving Courts

- Mental Health Court-Developed in 2002
- Drug Court-Developed in 2002
- Veterans Treatment Court-Developed in 2009

### Other Specialized Dockets

- Animal - 2012
- Truancy - 2012
- Domestic Violence Compliance Docket – 2015
- Housing - 1987 Charter Amendment
- Reinstatement Court - 2019



# Conversations with Municipal Court Partners

## Steering Committee

- Municipal Court
- City Manager's Office
- City Prosecutor's Office
- Health Department/Aim for Peace
- Legal Aid of Western Missouri
- Private Defense Bar
- Veronica's Voice
- Kansas City, Missouri Public School District
- Mid-America Regional Council (MARC)
- Ad Hoc Group Against Crime
- Guadalupe Centers
- P.O.S.S.E (Peers Organized to Support Student Excellence)
- Faith Community (Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church)

## Additional Assistance

- KCPD
- DataKC
- City Communications
- City Human Resources: Education and Development
- The Summers Advisory Group

