**AMENDMENTS TO THE OHIO TRAFFIC RULES**

 Amendments to Traffic Rule 3 and 25 were adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio and become effective January 1, 2014. The history of these amendments is as follows:

 September 16, 2013 Initial publication for comment

December 12, 2013 Final adoption by conference

 January 1, 2014 Effective date of amendment

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**Amendments to the Ohio Traffic Rules**

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**RULE 3. Complaint and Summons; Form; Use**

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**(F) Use of Electronically Produced Tickets.**

 (1) Local rules adopted pursuant to the Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio may provide for the use of a ticket that is produced by computer or other electronic means. A ticket produced by computer or other electronic means shall not require the signature of the defendant. A ticket produced by computer or other electronic means shall conform in all substantive respects, including layout and content, to the “Ohio Uniform Traffic Ticket” set forth in the Appendix of Forms. The provisions of division (B) of this rule relative to the color and weight of paper and method of binding shall not be applicable to a ticket that is produced by computer or other electronic means.

 (2) Local rules adopted pursuant to the Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio may provide for the filing of the ticket by electronic means. If a ticket is issued at the scene of an alleged offense, the local rule shall require that the issuing officer provide the defendant with a paper copy of the ticket as required by division (E) of this rule. A law enforcement officer who files a ticket electronically, and electronically affixes the officer’s signature thereto, shall be considered to have certified the ticket and shall have the same rights, responsibilities, and liabilities as with all other tickets issued pursuant to these rules.

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 **Staff Note (January 1, 2014 Amendments)**

The amendments to division (F)(1) and (2) are intended to clarify the signature requirements for the electronic filing of traffic tickets yet retain the uniform substance of the tickets. Although the amendments make it clear that the signature of the defendant is not necessary, the amendment to division (F)(2) added language setting forth the law enforcement officer's signature obligation. The phrase "electronically affixes the officer's signature thereto" may include a cursive signature, officer's unit number, or a typed name applied by computer or other electronic means.

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**RULE 25. Effective Date of Amendments**

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(S) The amendment to Traffic Rule 3, adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio on December 12, 2013 shall take effect on January 1, 2014.

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