



Road Safety Program FAQs

Why has the City of Leon Valley implemented a Red-Light Safety Camera Program?

The city of Leon Valley is dedicated to keeping its community safe. In order to do so, city implemented a red-light safety camera program. The purpose of this program is to increase traffic safety in the city of Leon Valley by reducing red-light running violations, collisions and injuries.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2015, Texas was the deadliest state in the nation for red-light running fatalities. Traffic crashes are the single most significant cause of preventable death and injury in North America. Public costs exceed \$14 billion per year, and more than half of the deaths in red-light running crashes are other motorists and pedestrians.

Red-light running is a deadly epidemic. Red-light safety camera programs have proven to reduce the number of red-light running collisions and their associated injuries and fatalities.

Are red light cameras still legal in Texas?

Yes, they are and although Gov. Abbott signed House Bill 1631 on June 1, 2019 essentially prohibiting cities from operating photographic traffic camera systems in Texas, there are several cities in the state which are legally obligated to fulfill the current contracts and Leon Valley is one of the cities that may operate the system until the current contract expires.

Are the red-light cameras effective?

Most definitely, from July 2017 to July 2018 there were 211 crashes at red-light camera-controlled intersections in Leon Valley. From July 2018 to July 2019 there were 146 crashes which is a 31% decrease. During the same time periods, injury crashes decreased from 129 to 28 which is an 80% reduction and reported injuries decreased from 216 to 36 which is an 84% decrease.

What is a red-light running violation?

A red-light running violation occurs when a motorist enters an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red. Motorists already in the intersection when the signal changes to red, waiting to turn for example, are not considered red-light violators.

Where are the Red-Light Safety Cameras located?

The intersections with camera installations are listed below. Each intersection is marked clearly with signs.

- WB HUEBNER RD @ BANDERA RD / SR 16
- NB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ HUEBNER RD
- NB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ POSS RD
- NB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ REINDEER TRAIL
- SB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ SENECA DR
- SB BANDERA RD / SR 421 @ TIMCO W
- NB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ GRISSOM RD / CR471
- SB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ WURZBACH RD
- NB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ WURZBACH RD
- NB BANDERA RD @ I-40 ACCESS RD / LOOP 410
- SB BANDERA RD / SR 16 @ GRISSOM RD / CR 471
- WB GRISSOM RD / CR 471 @ SHADOW MIST
- EB HUEBNER RD @ EVERS RD
- WB HUEBNER RD @ EVERS RD

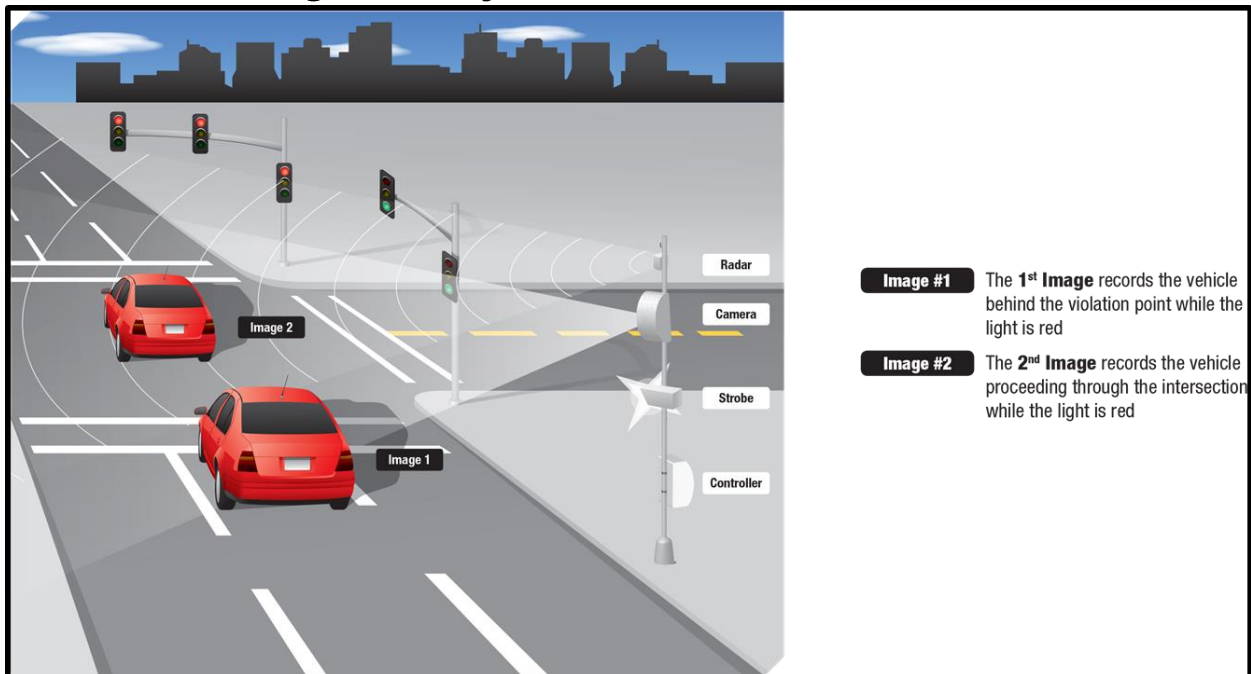
What will this program cost the city and its taxpayers?

The road safety camera program is set up to be fully funded through fines paid by red-light runners. Taxpayers are not being asked to pay for this system. As driver behavior changes and crashes diminish in number, the city and residents could see a reduction in emergency and other expenses. According to the Federal Highway Administration, by reducing crashes, red light safety cameras annually save communities \$39,000 to \$50,000 in collision-related expenses per location.

Does Leon Valley Police Department or Verra Mobility review and issue tickets?

ATS processors conduct an initial review of the images and forward potential violations to peace officers of Leon Valley Police Department for further review and a decision on whether a violation occurred. Sworn Leon Valley Police officers review and approve each violation and is the sole authority for issuing citations.

How do Red-Light Safety Cameras work?



- The system activates when motion is detected just prior to the stop bar AFTER the traffic signal has turned red. The cameras capture two images of an alleged violation, taken from the rear of the vehicle.
- The first image shows the vehicle at the white stop bar and the illuminated red light.
- The second image shows the violator in the middle of the intersection with the red light illuminated.
- The license plate image is a close-up from one of the images captured.
- Data, including the time, date, and duration of the yellow and red lights, also is recorded.
- Cameras also record a 12-second digital video of the violation, including six seconds prior to and six seconds after running the red light.

Why does the camera flash when no one actually runs the red light?

The road safety program is designed to take two rear photographs of a vehicle that may be committing a violation. The first rear image captures the vehicle prior to entering the intersection with the traffic signal red, and the second image shows the vehicle continuing through the intersection during the red signal phase.

On occasion, a vehicle approaching an intersection with a red light may come to a stop before entering the intersection yet trigger the red-light camera system, causing the flash to discharge. In addition, a vehicle approaching the intersection and making a right turn

may not come to a complete stop but only slow before continuing to turn, triggering the road safety program and causing the flash to discharge.

Police Department representatives review each violation event captured by the road safety program and makes the final decision to issue a citation. All flash incidents do not equate to a citation.

What to do if you receive a Notice of Violation

Why did I receive this Notice of Violation?

Based upon images captured by the automated system, your vehicle was determined to have committed a red-light violation. As the vehicle owner, the Notice of Violation is mailed to you.

How much is the fine?

The fine is \$75 for each offense.

This violation is a non-moving infraction and no points will be assessed. It will be processed as a parking violation.

1. How do I pay the fine?

There are multiple ways to pay your fine:

ONLINE: Please refer to your Notice for availability and/or web address for online payment. The fastest and easiest way to pay your Notice is online. Click on the Login or Pay Now button and enter your Notice number and PIN. You will also be able to retrieve a confirmation number for your payment and print a receipt.

PAYMENT BY MAIL: Your payment must be received before the due date on the front of your Notice. Mail your check or money order in the envelope enclosed with your Notice. Include the coupon from your Notice. **DO NOT MAIL CASH** (Cash payments will not be accepted). Be sure to put the Notice number from the front of your Notice on the face of your payment.

PAYMENT IN PERSON: In some instances, you may pay your fine in person. Please review the payment section of the Notice to see if you are provided the option to pay in person.

The image shows a screenshot of the ViolationInfo website. At the top, there is a logo for "ViolationInfo" with the URL "www.violationinfo.com" and a "LOGIN" button. Below the logo is a form with two input fields: "NOTICE #:" and "PIN:". There are two buttons below the form: a red "Cancel" button and a green "Login" button. Below the form is a section with the text: "You can find this information in the top right corner of your notice, inside the red square as shown below:". Below this text is a sample "NOTICE OF VIOLATION" document. The document includes a header for the "City of Lakeland Interlocktion Safety Program", a barcode, and a red box containing the text: "View your video, images and pay online at www.violationinfo.com", "NOTICE # 2511000012345", and "PIN: 1234". The document also lists the violator's name "John H Smith", address "123 Main Street, City, FL 34431", and a table with details about the violation, including the date and time "4:07:00 PM", the location "181 W Country Club Dr @ Wilton Lehman, Courtyard", and the vehicle description "Mercedes Benz 450SL 4-door Silver". A yellow arrow points to the red box in the sample notice.

When is my payment due?

The due date is listed on the front of the Notice. The payment coupon also will have the due date listed. In some instances, Late Fees will be assessed if not paid by the due date. When mailing in a payment; allow 10 days in order to be received in a timely manner.

What happens if I do not pay by the listed date or ignore the Notice of Violation?

Failure to pay the civil penalty or to contest liability prior to the 30th day after receipt of the notice is an admission of liability, and failure to appear at an administrative adjudication hearing after having requested a hearing is an admission of liability and constitutes a waiver of the right to appeal. Failure to pay the civil penalty within 30 days after receipt of this Notice of Violation shall result in the imposition of a late-payment fee of \$25. Unpaid civil penalties will be referred to a collection services company.

How do I know that these violations are valid?

Images of your vehicle were captured and recorded by a Road Safety Program. You can review your images and video of the actual occurrence online. The images and video were reviewed by several qualified technicians and finally by the City of Leon Valley Police Department before the alleged civil Violation was affirmed and mailed to you as the registered owner or identified driver.

What company provides the Red-light Safety Camera Program?

The City of Leon Valley has contracted with American Traffic Solutions Inc. (ATS) which provides nearly 200 communities across North American with red-light and speed safety camera programs. More information about ATS is available at VerraMobility.com.