

CDL ONLINE CASE RESOLUTION AND HYBRID HEARINGS CHECKLIST

Traffic cases involving a commercial driver, or a commercial motor vehicle (CMV), may be part of online traffic court options such as online case resolution or hybrid hearings. However, these unique cases require specialized attention to ensure they are processed and disposed of in accordance with federal regulations ([49 CFR § 383](#)). This checklist supplements other resources* available to assist courts in developing, modifying, or assessing their online platforms to resolve commercial driver's license (CDL) cases in traffic dockets. Other considerations address factors that are helpful or desirable, but less critical for processing.

Case Identification and Program Eligibility

- The program identifies, automatically or through manual review, defendants with a CDL or cases involving a CMV
- State and/or local eligibility criteria for CDL holders or cases are established (e.g., repeat offenders, school zone infractions excluded)

Other considerations:

- Indicators identify CDL cases so stakeholders can easily see this subset of cases
- The court and/or prosecutor has a method to verify CDL license status with the state driver license agency (SDLA) when needed

Docket Scheduling

- Drivers are made aware of online process options when they are issued a citation and can access the online platform through the court's website
- Judges/prosecutors understand the federal regulations for CDL cases**

Other considerations:

- Electronic notifications, reminders, and online self-scheduling to allow CDL holders remote access to court
- CDL cases are grouped into in a separate docket, or heard first or last to facilitate processing

Procedural Justice and Case Resolution

- CDL holders are informed of possible impacts to their CDL when entering the program
- Logic checks ensure CDL cases are not offered options that may result in Masking under [49 CFR § 384.226](#) (e.g., traffic school or plea deals)
- Court procedures relay relevant information to the SDLA (e.g., Fail-to-pay, fail-to-appear, traffic school convictions)

Other considerations:

- The online platform allows for remote hearings with multiple remote parties (e.g., lawyers, defendants, and companies)

*[Traffic ODR Checklist](#) (2020, NCSC) and [Remote Proceeding Toolkit](#) (2024, NCSC)

**[Commercial Driver Licensing Resources for Judges](#) (National Judicial College) and [National Traffic Law Center: Commercial Driver's License](#) (NDAA)