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Ferndale, HP, and MH Court Amnesty

Period Goes through April 9

(City of Hazel Park, March 29, 2021, orig. Feb. 25, 2021)

Ferndale, Hazel Park, Madison Heights, MI – Traffic or parking tickets that somehow slipped under the car seat or civil infraction fines that somehow missed the regular bill paying schedules can now be paid without penalty at Ferndale, Madison Heights and Hazel Park’s 43<sup>rd</sup> District Court – if the violator contacts the court during the Court’s “Amnesty Period” from March 1, 2021 – April 9, 2021.

Chief Judge Joseph Longo has instituted this Amnesty Program to encourage individuals to clear up any delinquent payable citations. In many cases, these delinquencies have gone long enough to cause bench



warrants or default judgments to be issued. Judge Longo has authorized that for this period of amnesty, the \$100 bench warrant fee and any late fees will be waived as an incentive to clear up these matters. In addition, the \$35 default judgment fee and 20% late fee penalty will be waived on suspended civil infractions (for those who have had their license suspended by the Michigan Department of State, the \$45.00 clearance fee must still be paid).

“Often violators have made an honest mistake, were in a difficult situation, or simply forgot to pay the ticket and, after time has passed, are embarrassed or find it financially more



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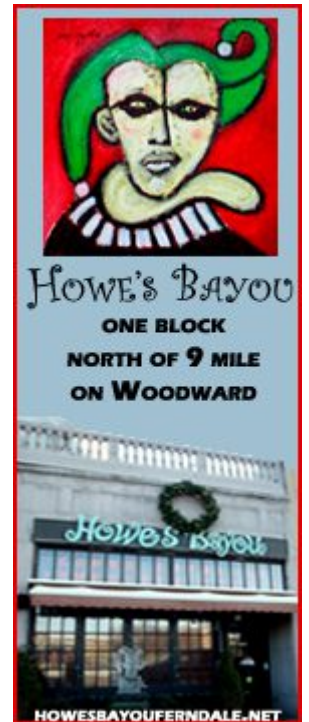
difficult to pay the added penalties and fees,” Judge Longo explained. “While the Court will ultimately pursue these delinquencies through more rigorous methods, this program gives individuals a chance to have those additional fees “forgiven” – and ultimately saves the Court and the City the additional cost of pursuing the delinquencies. This is a rare opportunity for people to achieve payment compliance and save money while also reducing the Court’s cost of pursuing delinquent violators.”

Individuals must contact the court from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, for details. Payable traffic violations, parking tickets and civil infractions are included, and tickets must be paid in full, by money order or major credit card. This will be the only opportunity to have these fees waived.

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