

TALKING TRASH IN THE CITY OF CLEVELAND

The City of Cleveland has dramatically increased the number of waste collection tickets it files. The Housing Court has no role in the issuing or filing of these tickets, nor does the Judge have the power to dismiss a properly filed case. The Court, however, takes a problem-solving approach to these tickets, just as it does in all cases. First time offender owner occupants are eligible for the Court's SIP program, and the Court may consider lowered fines for first-time offenders.

Cleveland City Ordinances

Cleveland City Council writes the City's laws. These laws require that citizens use proper containers, that containers not be placed out too early or taken in too late, and hold property owners responsible for waste improperly left out on the tree lawn or elsewhere.

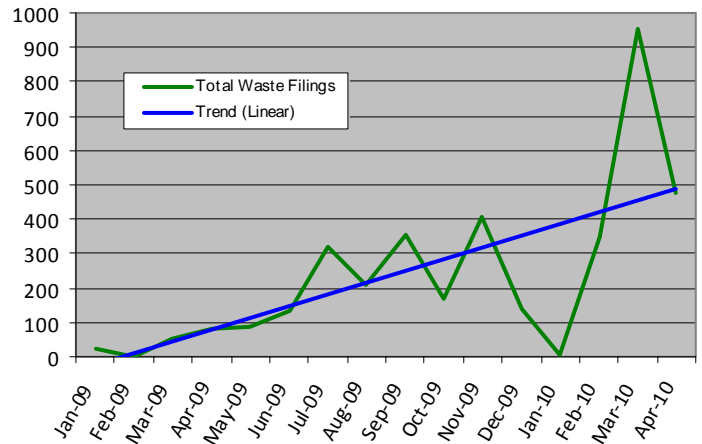
- **C.C.O. §551.02**—Failure to provide approved waste containers
- **C.C.O. §551.021**—Failure to provide proper waste containers for commercial solid waste
- **C.C.O. §551.04(d)**—Placement of solid waste or waste container out for collection prior to 12:00 noon of the day preceding regular waste collection
- **C.C.O. §551.04(e)**—Failure to remove waste container prior to 12:00 noon on the day following the date of collection
- **C.C.O. §551.04(f)**—Property owners are responsible for containers and other waste collection issues
- **C.C.O. §551.07**—Failure to properly wrap and/or store garbage
- **C.C.O. §551.08**—Failure to prevent and/or discontinue scattering of solid waste

For more detail, see the complete Waste Collection code at: http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/clevelandcodes/cco_part5_551.html

Operations and Enforcement

The Division of Waste Collection and Disposal of the City's Department of Public Service writes tickets when it observes violations of the waste collection ordinances.

Waste Collection Ticket Cases Filed in Housing Court: 2009-2010



Contact Information

Because the City—*not the Court*—issues and prosecutes waste collection tickets, you should contact the prosecutor or Division of Waste Collection with any questions you may have about a ticket you have received.

City Prosecutor: Susan Bungard at 664-2310

Division of Waste Collection: Doris Ward at 664-2864.

Housing Court

The Housing Court hears cases brought by the Division of Waste Collection. If you receive a ticket and wish to avoid coming to Court, you may plead guilty and pay the minor misdemeanor waiver amount according to the directions on the ticket. You must pay within 7 days of issuance and before the court date listed on the ticket. As of June 1, 2010, the cost of a waiver is \$95 for an individual and \$500 for an organization/corporation.

If you do not pay the waiver on time, you must appear in court at the time on the ticket. If you do not appear, a warrant may be issued for your arrest and a block may be placed on your driver's license and vehicle plates.



INFORMATION PROVIDED BY:

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CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT, HOUSING DIVISION

www.clevelandhousingcourt.org

