



## NEWS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Countryside Police Department Gives Green Light to Traffic Safety System That Protects Citizens from Dangerous Red Light Runners**

### *Red Light Cameras Increase Safety at Dangerous Intersections*

The City of Countryside announced that it has signed a contract with REDFLEX Traffic Systems to initiate a photo-based traffic safety system to monitor red light runners at dangerous intersections in Countryside. "The citizens of Countryside can expect their roads to be much safer," said Chief Swanson.

Each year, nearly 1,000 fatalities in the United States are the direct result of collisions caused by red light running. Across the nation, communities are reducing the number of deaths and injuries from red light offenses by 20 to 50 percent, simply by implementing red light cameras.

"Progressive communities across the nation are recognizing that red light running isn't just a minor traffic violation but that it has major safety and financial implications," said Karen Finley, President and CEO of REDFLEX Traffic Systems. "The bottom line is that REDFLEX photo-based traffic solutions save lives and money," said Finley.

The City of Countryside will have red light cameras at 2 intersections. REDFLEX has already begun installing the cameras at the intersections of LaGrange Road and 55<sup>th</sup> Street and also at LaGrange Road and Joliet Road. Chief Swanson said that the cameras should be fully operational by mid-May.



# Red Light Camera Program

## Countryside Police Department

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. **Can I turn right on Red?** Yes (unless otherwise posted). You must come to a complete stop at the line before making your turn.
2. **What if I am waiting in the intersection to turn left and the light turns yellow/red?** If you are already in the intersection when the light turns red, you are not in violation.
3. **Can I pay my fine at the police station?** No. You must follow the instructions on the violation notice that is mailed to you.
4. **What if I want to appeal the violation?** You can submit a request for hearing and a hearing date will be mailed to you. Before you request a hearing, we strongly encourage you to go online to view your violation video. Videos are available at [www.photonotice.com](http://www.photonotice.com) (Enter City Code: CNSDIL). The video is available online for 60 days from the date of the violation.
5. **I live out of the area. Can I request a "non-appearance" hearing?** Yes. Follow the instructions on your violation notice. After receiving your request, the Hearing Officer will make a final determination and mail the determination to you.
6. **What happens at the hearing?** You will be allowed to testify and present evidence on your behalf. At that time you will receive a final determination and be found either "not liable" or "liable". If you are found not liable, you will not be required to pay the fine or court costs.
7. **What if I am found liable for the violation?** Whether you have an "in person" hearing or a "non-appearance" hearing, a final determination will be made regarding your violation. You will be found either liable or not liable. If you are found liable, you will be required to pay the fine, court costs of \$35.00, and complete an online Red Light education program. The cost of the education program is \$40.00. If found liable for the violation, court cost payment, if assessed, is due upon completion of your hearing. You will then have 30 days to pay the violation fine and complete the online Red Light education program. If you are found liable via a "non-appearance" hearing, you will have 30 days to pay all fines, court costs, and to complete the online education program.
8. **What if I still have questions?** Any questions about the violation should be directed to the Photo Enforcement Violation Customer Service department at (877)847-2338. If you have any further questions about a hearing date, contact the Countryside Police Department Records Division at (708)352-2171.