

# Appealing In Court

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## Tips on Representation in Court:

When contesting your case in court, it is important to keep in mind that everything that you do to construct your image matters. Here are some tips for an optimal showing when talking about your case in court:

- **Make a good impression** - Avoid dressing casually. If you dress in a nice way, this gives the judge a positive outlook that you care about your case.
  - **Be Respectful** - Make sure to acknowledge and be respectful for those in the courtroom. Never interrupt or try to argue with what the judge is saying. Stay calm and explain your part of the situation with poise.
  - **Arrive Early** - Most judges like to start right on time. So be sure to give yourself enough time to check in, find the courtroom, and collect your thoughts.
  - **Come Prepared** - Plan to have an original document and at least two copies of concrete evidence and facts that you can use to support defenses such as relevant signs saying parking
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is restricted were missing (have photographs), or even a proof of concept that the cited vehicle was an authorized emergency vehicle participating in a funeral procession if this was the case. Be ready to think on the spot and understand the right times to say certain things and back it up.

- **Have presentable statistics organized-** Make certain information easy enough to read so you are able to counter some of the propositions made in court that go against the case.

## **Example of How Opening Statement Should Be Done:**

As a frame of reference, in addressing the opening statement when contesting your ticket case, it is important to keep in mind a couple things and make sure to check these off:

- State your overall theme message (politely) in one sentence
- Tell a story of the case with a sense of neutrality
- Persuasively outline the evidence you have to portray your case effectively
- Do not just flat out read the opening statement by looking at your notes. Practice it many times!

Example statements should begin with a **“Good morning “your honor.”** Then go into saying **“it is a pleasure to be provided this opportunity to plead the violation of this case.”** From there, you can go into the full on statement explaining the violation. Example of full opening statement:

**“Good morning/afternoon your honor,  
It is a pleasure to be provided his opportunity to contest this (ticket violation type).  
My vehicle was positioned from (time) to (time) at (place where violation occurred).  
The (ticket violation type) was given (at this time ticket was given).”**

## **Displaying the Reasoning and Evidence:**

After the opening statement, evidence will need to be given that relates to reasons why a chance should be provided and what makes your presence in court so relevant. Example:

**“Your honor,  
My reasons for being here to contest this ticket violation are because:**

- 1. (explanation 1 relating first defense)**
- 2. (explanation 2 relating second defense)**

**Based on these reasons, I promptly request to appeal the violation fine please. Thank you for your time and consideration.”**

Once the judge fires back with a response, it is important to know the place and timing and wait until it is the right time to answer.

## **Sample Appeal Example To Follow In Court:**

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Good morning/afternoon your honor,

It is a pleasure to be provided this opportunity to contest this (parking ticket violation).

My vehicle was positioned from (8:30 am) to (9:00 am) at (IIT General Visitor Parking Lot).

The (parking ticket violation) was given (at 8:45 am).

Your honor,

My reasons for being here to contest this ticket violation are because:

1. (The relevant signs saying that parking was restricted in this area were missing and not visibly shown)
2. (The timing at which the ticket was administered was in the 30 minute allotted time provided for loading the vehicle and a citation was still administered.)

Based on these reasons, I promptly request to appeal the violation fine please. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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