



TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER
Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives



2025
Municipal Traffic
Safety Initiatives
Awards Application



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2025 Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives Awards



Purpose

To recognize those municipal courts that made outstanding contributions to increase traffic safety in 2024.



Eligibility

Any municipal court in Texas. An active judge from the submitting court must sign the Application Form (last page of this application).



Winners

Results will be announced by February 21, 2025. Award winners will be formally recognized at the Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives Conference held April 2-4, 2025 in Waco. Trophies and plaques will be awarded. Attendance at the conference is not required to receive an award. Honorees will also be showcased in TMCEC's 2025 *Best Practices* publication.

Twelve winners are anticipated:

- Two high-volume courts serving a population of 150,000 or more
- Three medium-volume courts serving populations between 30,001 and 149,999
- Four low-volume courts serving a population of 30,000 or fewer
- One "Trailblazer" award for the city with the most innovative traffic safety initiatives
- Two "new applicant" courts of any volume that have never applied or whose most recent application was in 2019 or earlier

Any application that is reviewed and deemed outstanding and innovative may receive honorable mention.



How Entries Are Judged

Applicants will be judged based on their city's traffic safety outreach for **calendar year 2024**. A panel of scorers and/or TMCEC staff will review and score each application. A maximum of 100 points may be awarded:

Section I (50 points)

What Did Your Court Do in 2024 to Promote Traffic Safety? Please provide a written report that is **no longer than four pages in length (double spaced, 12 point font)**. This may include details related to mock traffic trials, community outreach, social media, distribution of written materials and pamphlets, creative sentencing, endorsements of national traffic safety programs, webpages addressing traffic safety, presentations (in-person or virtual) to local civic groups and organizations, interaction with youth, and community partnerships.

Section II (35 points)

Samples. Provide visual support for your application. This may include photos, news articles, press releases, screenshots of your website, flyers, and letters of support. Include **no more than 25 pages of samples**. **Please only include photos of your samples.**

Section III (15 points)

Neatness, Organization, and Following Submission Guidelines. Because many applicant cities conduct exemplary traffic safety outreach programs, the neatness and organization of an application can be a deciding factor for whether an award is received.



Entry Requirements **(NEW! Read Carefully!)**

- Entries may be emailed to ned@tmcec.com or sent through the mail as hard copies. Digital applications must be received **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 30, 2024**. Hard copies must be postmarked **no later than December 30, 2024**. Send hard copy applications to: TMCEC – Traffic Safety Awards, Attn: Ned Minevitz, 2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, TX 78756. There is no advantage in scoring based on a court's decision to submit a digital versus hard copy application.
- **Hard Copy Submissions:** **Three printed copies** of Sections I and II must be submitted if you are sending hard copies of your application. Only one copy of the signed Application Form is needed.
- **Digital Submissions:** **One PDF of no more than 30 pages** must be emailed (Up to four pages for Section 1, up to 25 pages for Section II, and one page for the Application Form)
- **All Applicants:** Must submit **digital JPG files to be used in the awards video or other TMCEC publications**. TMCEC will not consider the *content* of these files when evaluating your application, but failure to submit them may result in lost Section III points. **Please include at least one JPG photo of the members of your court.** The rest of the photos should showcase your traffic safety activities. They may be the same photos that are provided in Section II, but must be submitted separately in JPG format. Do not embed photos into PowerPoint, Publisher, etc. If you are submitting your application electronically, files may be attached to the email. If submitting hard copies, please include a thumb drive with the files or email them to ned@tmcec.com by the submission deadline above.
- No part of your application packet will be returned to you.



Questions?

Contact Ned Minevitz at ned@tmcec.com or (512) 320-8274. For the latest news and information on the 2025 awards, please visit <https://www.tmcec.com/mtsi/mtsi-awards/>.



Traffic Safety Outreach Examples

- Speak to local groups on the importance of traffic safety
- Build community partnerships to promote safety
- Add traffic safety content to your website
- Invite students to your court or visit schools to promote safety
- Host traffic safety exhibits at community events
- Create meaningful conditions of deferred disposition for traffic defendants, especially juveniles and minors
- Remind jurors and court observers of the importance of compliance with traffic laws
- Participate in Municipal Court Week and National Night Out
- Display a TxDOT traffic safety poster
- Promote traffic safety through social media



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Traffic Safety Award Application Form

Submission Deadline: December 30, 2024

Please print all information as you would like it to appear on the award.

Important application information will be emailed to the email address below.

Name & Position of Person Submitting: _____

Court Nominated: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone number: (____) _____ - _____ Email address: _____

Category (check one*):

- High-Volume Court:** serving a population of 150,000 or more
- Medium-Volume Court:** serving populations from 30,001-149,999
- Low-Volume Court:** serving a population of 30,000 or fewer
- New Applicant Court:** courts that have never applied or whose most recent application was 2019 or earlier

**The Trailblazer Award, if awarded, will be given to up to one applicant regardless of which category they select above.*

Judge's Signature: _____ Date: _____