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Contact: Susan Waidner, 513.946.5621

swaidner@cms.hamilton-co.org

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Electronic Parking Tickets Now In Use

E-tickets Improve Efficiency, Strengthen Enforcement And Increase Collections

CINCINNATI --- Parking tickets in the City of Cincinnati have been given a twenty-first century makeover. The Hamilton County Clerk of Courts and the City of Cincinnati have partnered to enable parking enforcement officers to issue electronic parking citations.

Like handwritten tickets, the paper e-ticket lists all required citation information, but the ticket is printed from a handheld device that eliminates data entry inefficiencies and handwriting errors. E-ticket devices will also help strengthen parking enforcement and increase collections.

"E-tickets are an efficiency solution that save the valuable time of our parking officers and Clerk's office employees. By utilizing technology, e-tickets eliminate the step of manual data entry, prevent handwriting errors and speed up ticket processing," said Greg Hartmann, Hamilton County Clerk of Courts.

The Clerk of Courts processes and collects all fines for parking citations issued in the City of Cincinnati. Parking officers are still permitted to write handwritten citations, but they will become less frequent.

"This kind of collaboration between the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is yet another step towards providing effective, efficient law enforcement service for our citizens," said Cincinnati City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr.

The city purchased 20 handheld devices, which are now used daily by parking officers along 10 routes that include the city's 5,000 parking meters. The handheld devices have a keyboard, touch screen, built-in printer and a video camera. Data from each e-ticket is captured and stored in the handheld device. At the end of their shift, parking officers plug each device into a network rack that recharges the battery and uploads tickets issued for the day to the Clerk's Court Management System (CMS). In addition, the devices download current information on outstanding parking citations from CMS as well as software updates.

The downloaded CMS information in each handheld also enables the device to identify vehicles on site with multiple unanswered parking citations. The result of strengthened parking enforcement will mean that more parking tickets are paid in a timely manner and that multiple outstanding tickets are paid in full.