

## Proposed Simplified Procedure in the Traffic Court

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8 ATENEO L.J. 304 (1959)

*SUBJECT(S): RULES OF COURT*

*KEYWORD(S): TRAFFIC COURT, FALSIFICATION OF A PUBLIC DOCUMENT*

A clerk of court in the City of Manila arraigned a traffic violator on the basis of an information unsigned by the fiscal and in the absence of the presiding judge. The clerk himself prepared the decision, which the judge signed. Subsequently, the municipal judge, fiscal and the clerk of court were all charged with falsification of a public document. This incident highlighted the outdated and inefficient procedure followed by the Traffic Court in the City of Manila.

This incident, coupled with the numerous traffic violations a year yielding traffic tickets reaching 200,000 in number, draw attention to the need to review the rules of procedure in the Traffic Court. Hence, this Article would examine relevant laws and the inadequacies of such laws. In conclusion, the Author presents five changes to be made, namely, the institution of a new traffic ticket, the creation of a Violations Office, the organization of a night court, the flexibility in the organization and functions of the different *salas* and finally, the mechanization of the records of the Traffic Court.