

DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER 10-05

OFFICE of the CHIEF OF POLICE
REPLACES: General Order 07-62

DATE: July 29, 2010

MUNICIPAL FAILURE TO APPEAR WARRANTS

I. PURPOSE.

To provide guidelines in regard to the processing of municipal “Failure to Appear” warrants and related bond monies.

II. PROCEDURES.

Repeat “Failure to Appear” offenders have been a consistent problem for this agency. In an attempt to mitigate the problem, the following procedures have been adopted.

- The bond on all future warrants will be set at \$300.00. Officers must review each warrant when they make an arrest to verify the bond amount is correct.
- When a person is arrested on a “Failure to Appear” charge and the person is unable to post the bond, the individual should be released on their own recognizance, and issued a summons for “Failure to Appear”.
- When a person is arrested a third time on a “Failure to Appear” charge and the person is unable to post the bond, they should be lodged at the St. Louis County Justice Center until the next municipal court date. However, in the event extenuating circumstances exist, the officer may, after consultation with their supervisor or commander, release the subject on their own recognizance a third time with a summons.
- Generally, the city prosecutor will ask that charges on someone who is held for court be dismissed for time served rather than putting them through the system again.

- If two FTA warrants have been issued against a person for the same case, the court will consider the surrounding circumstances before issuing a third warrant. If the defendant or another individual have posted bond and the subject of the warrant subsequently fails to show up for their court date, the posted bond amount will be forfeited.

III. DOCUMENTATION.

Warrant, bond forms, investigative reports, etc. will be completed as required.

BY ORDER OF:

THOMAS J. BYRNE
Chief of Police

TJB: mj