



TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER
Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives



2027
Municipal Traffic
Safety Initiatives
Awards Application



TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER

Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives



2027 Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives Awards



Purpose

To recognize those municipal courts that made outstanding contributions to increase traffic safety in calendar year 2026.



Eligibility

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



Applicant Categories & *Trailblazer Award*

Each applicant court must choose ONE category to enter:

- High-volume courts serving a population of 150,000 or more
- Medium-volume courts serving populations between 30,001 and 149,999
- Low-volume courts serving a population of 30,000 or fewer
- “New applicant” courts of any volume that have never applied or whose most recent application was in 2021 or earlier

The *Trailblazer Award* will be given to the applicant court with the most innovative traffic safety initiatives.



Results Notification & Awards Ceremony

Results will be announced by February 19, 2027. Award winners and any honorable mention recipients will be formally recognized in-person at the Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives (MTSI) Conference held March 31-April 2, 2027 in Austin at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Austin Central. Attendance at the conference is not required to receive an award. Honorees will also be showcased in TMCEC’s 2027 *Best Practices* publication.



Prizes

Winning courts and the *Trailblazer Award* recipient will receive:

- Free registration, housing, CLE reporting, and travel reimbursement for the 2027 MTSI Conference for **TWO** court representatives
- Trophy and plaque

Any Honorable Mention recipients will receive:

- Free registration, housing, and CLE reporting for the 2027 MTSI Conference for **ONE** court representative
- Trophy and plaque



How Entries Are Judged

Applicants will be judged based on their court's traffic safety outreach for **calendar year 2026**. A panel of scorers will review and score each application. A maximum of 100 points may be awarded. Scoring is based on the following breakdown:

Narrative (50 points)

What did your court do in 2026 to promote traffic safety? Please provide a written narrative that is **no longer than four pages in length (double spaced, 12-point font)**. This may include, but is not limited to, mock traffic trials, community outreach, social media, distribution of written materials and pamphlets, creative case disposition, leveraging of national traffic safety programs, webpages addressing traffic safety, presentations (in-person or virtual) to local groups and organizations, interaction with youth, and community partnerships.

Samples (35 points)

Provide visual support for your application. This may include, but is not limited to, photos, news articles, press releases, screenshots of your website, flyers, and letters of support. Include **no more than 25 pages of samples**.

Neatness, Grammar, and Following Submission Guidelines (15 points)



Submission Requirements **(Read Carefully!)**

- A **single PDF** with your entire entry must be emailed to ned@tmcec.com **no later than December 31, 2026**. TMCEC is no longer accepting physical application submissions. This PDF must include:
 - (1) Completed Application Form (last page of this packet) – 1 Page
 - (2) Narrative – Up to 4 Pages
 - (3) Samples – Up to 25 Pages

PDFs that have more than 30 pages will result in lost points during scoring!

- Also in this email, please include **6-12 digital JPG files** to be used in the awards video or *Best Practices* publication. **Please include at least one JPG photo of the members of your court, preferably in a formal setting.** The rest should showcase your traffic safety initiatives. TMCEC will not consider the *content* of these files when evaluating your application, but failure to submit them may result in lost points. Applicants may use the same photos here that are provided in the Samples section, but they must be submitted separately in JPG format. Do not embed photos into PowerPoint, Publisher, etc.



Questions?

Contact Ned Minevitz at ned@tmcec.com or (512) 320-8274. For the latest news and information on the 2027 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
- Participate in Municipal Court Week and National Night Out
- Display a TxDOT traffic safety poster
- Promote traffic safety through social media



TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER

Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives



Application Form

Submission Deadline: December 31, 2026

Important application information, including results, will be sent to the e-mail address below.

Name & Position of Person Submitting: _____

Court Nominated: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone number: (____) ____-____ E-mail 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 2021 or earlier

**The Trailblazer Award will be given to only one applicant regardless of which category they select above.*

Judge's Signature: _____ Date: _____