

Helpful Phone Numbers and Websites

State of New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (formerly the Division of Motor Vehicle Services; the name change reflects recent and on-going reorganization)

Website: www.state.nj.us/mvc

Suspension questions: (609) 292-7500

Traffic Ticket On-line Payment (must have a credit card)

Website: www.judiciary.state.nj.us/atwep/njmcdirectmain/

State of New Jersey Legislature

Website (for finding the text of New Jersey laws): www.njleg.state.nj.us

Tips for Avoiding Suspensions when Pleading Guilty

When the driver faces charges that carry a penalty of license suspension, it may be possible to plead guilty to lesser charges that do not carry suspension as a penalty. When pleading guilty to an offense, drivers should use the following table as a guide to avoid license suspension.

Offense Carrying License Suspension as Penalty	Possible Plea to Avoid Suspension
Driving while suspended <i>39:3-40</i>	A guilty plea to driving while suspended, but for a parking ticket (39:3-40(i)); or having an expired license (39:3-10a); or failure to exhibit a valid driver's license (39:3-29)
Unlicensed driver <i>39:3-10</i>	A guilty plea to having an expired license or failure to exhibit a driver's license.
Speeding (over 80-100mph) <i>39:4-98</i>	A guilty plea to a speeding offense, but with a reduction of the actual speed. Example: having the prosecutor amend an 86 mph in a 55 mph zone ticket to a 69/55.
Reckless driving (5 points) <i>39:4-96</i>	A guilty plea to either unsafe driving (39:4-97.2 = 0 points) -or- Careless driving (39:4-97 = 2 points)
Driving without insurance (mandatory 1 yr suspension) <i>39:6B-2</i>	A guilty plea to failure to exhibit a valid insurance card (39:3-29).
Driving while intoxicated <i>39:4-50</i>	For a first offense, if the driver's blood alcohol level is 0.08% but not more than 0.09%, the term of suspension may be reduced from 7 months to 3 months. If there are no blood alcohol readings available, but the driver is still found guilty of a first offense, your advocate may negotiate a 3 month suspension.
A moving violation that brings the driver's overall point total to 12 or above	A guilty plea to any statute that carries fewer points than the original ticket did and which bring the overall total to less than 12 points. See above for examples.