Supreme Court of Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts Court Services Division 1501 West Washington, Suite 410 Phoenix, AZ. 85007

#### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Limited Jurisdiction Judges

Limited Jurisdiction Court Administrators

**Superior Court Administrators** 

**FROM:** Janet Scheiderer

**SUBJECT:** Implementation of Laws 2009, Chapter 165, HB2224

**DATE:** September 2, 2009

This memorandum and attachment provides information related to implementation of Laws 2009, Chapter 165, regarding the disposition of mandatory insurance violations (A.R.S. § 28-4135(A), (B) and (C)). The bill transfers the responsibility for suspending the driver license for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 from the court to the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD). MVD is now required, effective September 30, 2009, to administratively suspend the license and registration upon receiving notice of a finding of responsibility, unless the court waives the suspension.

The bill also changes the language of A.R.S. § 28-4137 to read, "The court may reduce or waive the penalty imposed for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 if the person subject to the penalty presents to the court proof of <u>both</u> of the following:

- The person has not been found responsible for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 within the past twenty-four months or not more than one violation within the past thirty-six months as evidenced by the person's driving record.
- The person has purchased a six month policy of insurance that meets the requirements of A.R.S. § 28-4009."

The AOC has been informed by several courts that it not uncommon for a court to reduce the monetary penalties associated with a conviction of A.R.S. § 28-4135 and to completely waive the driver license, license plate and registration suspension portion of the penalty if the defendant obtains insurance coverage. Current disposition codes accepted by MVD do not accommodate suspending or waiving only a portion of the penalty, and AOC recognizes that submitting manual abstracts to MVD to instruct the department NOT to take suspension action on these cases would create a workload hardship for staff who complete the Court Abstract. After meeting with a

representative group of judges and court staff, and subsequently meeting with MVD staff, it was decided that to avoid an administrative suspension, MVD needs to receive a "W" in the conviction file in position 284. This solution is only available for courts that report disposition information to MVD electronically. Courts that report manually to MVD must still submit a manual abstract.

Functionally, the AZTEC case management system creates a file with multiple fields that represent defendant, violation and conviction information. The file is transmitted to a server at the AOC where once each day (at about 6 p.m.) a batch process is run that combines the files from every court that reports into one file. MVD then uses the combined file to update the records in its system. The file will include a "W" in position 284 of the MVD conviction report when an event code of 5463 has been entered in conjunction with a disposition code of 10, 11, 12, 20, 21, or 22 on a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135(A), (B) or (C). By September 30, 2009, courts on the statewide case management system will receive an updated version of AZTEC that incorporates the changes to the MVD conviction report.

The attached procedures provide detailed information on how to report dispositions for defendants found responsible for violations of A.R.S. § 28-4135. The procedures include how to report manually with an abstract or electronically through AZTEC. Please review the information carefully and follow the recommended steps when reporting dispositions for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 that occurs on or after September 30, 2009.

Should you have questions regarding HB2224, the following resources are available to you:

MVD Questions: Richard Schweinsburg <u>rschweinsburg@dot.state.az.us</u>

AZTEC Questions: Melanie Cluff <u>mcluff@courts.az.gov</u>

#### Court's To Do Check List

HB2224: Mandatory Insurance Effective September 30, 2009

Operational Concerns									
# 🗹	Item	Further Description/Information							
1	Determine how or if bond card should be updated.	Some courts may choose to disallow mail in payments for violations of A.R.S. § 28-4135(A), (B) or (C). If so, those violations should NOT appear on the bond card.  Other courts have determined that Defendants can mail in payments, but bond cards should be changed to provide language advising Defendants of consequences. Those consequences are that by pleading responsible and paying, their license, registration and plates will be suspended by MVD for 3, 6, or 12 months							
2	Ensure that all judges and staff are aware of the changes resulting from passage of HB2224.	depending on prior convictions.  Financial sanctions remain the same. However, upon receipt of the conviction information, MVD is required to suspend driver's license and registration for 3, 6, or 12 months dependant on prior convictions. Per A.R.S. § 28-4137(A), the court may reduce or waive the penalty imposed for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 if the individual presents proof of both of the following 1) the person has not been found responsible for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 within the past 24 months or not more than one violation within the past 36 months as evidenced by the person's driving record, and 2) the person has purchased a six month policy of insurance that meets the requirements of section A.R.S. § 28-4009.							
3	Train staff regarding any changes in reporting to MVD.	If court already reports convictions electronically through AOC, staff should be fully informed of the requirements for entering event code 5463 on the same date that the disposition is entered and saved if the court wishes to waive or reduce the suspensions. (more details on pg 7)  If the court reports convictions to MVD manually, staff should be informed of the requirements for completing all sections of the abstract appropriately and submitting that manual abstract to MVD in a timely manner.							
4	Determine whether court will use the "Information Sheet" that has been developed.	Court staff should determine if the attached "Information Sheet" will be shared with defendants.							

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION SHEET – NO INSURANCE

Effective September 30, 2009, Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) § 28-4135 *requires* the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) to administratively suspend the driver's license and registration of any person convicted of a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135(A), (B) and (C) upon receipt of the abstract of the record of judgment. The monetary penalties associated with violations of the above referenced statute remain the same and are:

- \$500 + surcharges and court fees, for a first offense
- \$750+ surcharges and court fees, for a second offense
- \$1000 + surcharges and court fees, for a third offense.

Effective September 30, 2009, the statute also allows the court to reduce or waive the penalty imposed for a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 if the person provides proof of <u>both</u> the following items:

- The defendant (driver) not been found responsible of a violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 within the past 24 months OR has not had more than one violation of A.R.S. § 28-4135 with the past 36 months as evidenced by the person's driving record.
- The defendant has purchased a six month policy of insurance that meets the requirements of A.R.S. § 28-4009.

The statute allows the court to:

- waive the monetary penalty
- waive only the driver's license suspension
- waive only the registration suspension
- waive both the driver's license suspension and registration suspension
- impose a lower monetary penalty, or
- any combination of the items listed here

Upon receipt of the record of judgment, MVD is responsible for entering a suspension of the defendant's driver license and/or registration/plates in their system. In order to ensure that the defendant is in compliance with the suspension and to receive timely notification from MVD, the defendant must ensure that MVD has their most current address.

The suspension of the defendant's driver license/registration/plates is not effective until MVD mails the Corrective Action Notice to the address of record. Service of notice is considered complete upon the mailing of the Corrective Action Notice. The Corrective Action Notice will provide information of the effective date for the suspension and reinstatement requirements (e.g., fees, SR22, proof of insurance, etc).

Defendants may be eligible for a MVD issued restricted license if they obtain a SR22, proof of insurance and they comply with the additional criteria established by the MVD.

To determine eligibility and for any other questions regarding suspension, defendants should contact MVD at: <a href="http://www.azdot.gov/MVD/index.asp">http://www.azdot.gov/MVD/index.asp</a>

Phoenix (602) 255-0072

Tucson (520) 629-9808

TTD Systems Only

Phoenix (602) 712-3222

Elsewhere in Arizona 1-800-251-5866

# **AZTEC Data Requirements for electronic transmission of the "W" flag**

Complete the below steps below ONLY if it is the judicial officer's intention to waive the entire MVD suspension (DL and registration) action.

- 1 Upon a finding or pleading of responsible, enter appropriate disposition code in the Charge/Disposition screen (10, 11, 12, 20, 21, or 22)
- 2 Enter disposition date based on adjudication date
- 3 CNTL T to save Charge/Disposition screen
- 4 Go directly to case docket (*on the same day disposition was entered*) and enter event code 5463 M/I Suspension Waived
- 5 Tab or enter through fields on Case Docket Screen. You may wish to add descriptive text indicating judicial order to waive the suspension

If an electronic court wishes to only suspend on one or the other (DL or registration), complete the above steps in conjunction with a manual court abstract. See sample abstracts on the following pages.

### **Waiving the Mandatory Insurance Suspension**

	Motor Mail Drop 537M Motor Vehicle Division 1801 W Jefferson St PO Box 2100  COURT ABSTRACT								RACT				
	ADOT DIVI	_:		AZ 8500	11-2100			☐ Amended			Origina	ating Date (MVD Use)	
	Customer Name (first, m John T. Doe	-	uffix)								Date o	of Birth 980	
	Street Address 4500 Happy Road			City Phoenix				State AZ	Zip 85000				
	Driver License/ID Number D01234567	plaint Number 78910 A		Court ID A0001	Number	Citing DPS	Agency		on Date 2/2009				
	Accident Violation Code Approx. Speed Lawful  Yes No 28-4135A  Court Docket Number Disposition Code Disposition						ABC12		A	tate Ma AZ FO	ke DRD		
	TR200912345 Serious Physical Injury	10/15/2009 1) 28-1381A1		\$1	e/Sanction   09 			Vehiele   Hazardous Material					
	☐ Yes ☐ No		res 🗆 No 🗎 Yes 🗆 No					☐ Yes ☐ No					
	IGNITION INTERLOCK ORDERED (No box need be checked in this section.)     The Court has ordered an additional months. Extreme DUI Sentencing Authority Sep 19, 2007 and After												
Mark	appropriate charge		onths,	if indicated ime period.	above, is	<b>28</b> -1	382D w	ith BAC	of 0.2	O or hig	her		
	MANDATORY IN:	SURANCE	SUSPE	NSION pu		5 20 1			J. O.L.	o or ring			
	Jan 1, 1998 and After (28-4135A	Number o	f Months	s Suspended	•								
	□ 28-4135C M/I SUSPENSION WAIVED												
	☐ Court directs MVD	to suspend		-	Privileges Registration								
				☐ Driving I	Privileges and	Vehicle	e Registr	ation					
	<ul> <li>JUVENILE/UNDER</li> <li>8-323 Court has s</li> </ul>			-			3320A7 3320D					iving privileges iving privileges	
	☐ 8-323 Court has re	estricted the	driving	privileges		□ 28-3 □ 28-3			s rest	ricted t		ing privileges ing privileges	
	Beginning Suspension D	ate E	nding Su	spension D	ate	Beginnin	inning Restriction Date Ending Restriction Date					ction Date	
	☐ Terms of Probation	1				Restricted To							
	OTHER ACTIONS	;											
	Pursuant To				driving privile the driving priv	-	,	Beginning	eginning Date		Ending Date		
	DUI / MANDATORY INSURANCE PRIORS (if available)												
	Complaint Number Violation Code Violation Date Court ID Number									ber			
	Complaint Number Violation Code						Violation Date			Court	Court ID Number		
	I certify that the in						Date						
Don't f	above is true and corget to sign and corget and corget to sign and corget and corporate and corporat		Presidin	ng Judge/Co	ourt Clerk Signat	ture					Date		
		MVD Agent I		Driver Lie	ense Number		Dar	te Issued			]		
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### **Suspend DL only**

	Vehicle	Mail Drop 537M Motor Vehicle Division 1801 W Jefferson St PO Box 2100 Phoenix AZ 85001-2100		ABSTRACT Originating Date (MVD Use)								
	26-0117 808-07 www azdot gov											
	Customer Name (first, middle, last, si John T. Doe	uffix)			5/5/1							
	Street Address 4500 Happy Road		City Phoenix	:	State AZ	85000						
	Driver License/ID Number D01234567	Class State Complaint Number D AZ 5678910 A	A0001	Number Citing DPS	3	on Date 2/2009						
	Accident Violation Code  Yes No 28-4135A	Approx. Speed Lawful Sp	Vehicle P		tate Make AZ FORD							
	Court Docket Number TR200912345	Disposition Code Disposition Da 11 10/15/2009		e/Sanction 09								
	Serious Physical Injury Fatality  Yes No Yes O	Drugs (13-3401) 28-1381A1 No	Alcohol Class/Tre	l l	nercial Vehicle es 🗆 No							
	IGNITION INTERLOCK OPPO	ERED /No how pood he checked	in this section 1									
	<ul> <li>IGNITION INTERLOCK ORDERED (No box need be checked in this section.)</li> <li>The Court has ordered an additional months.</li> <li>Extreme DUI Sentencing Authority Sep 19, 2007 and After</li> </ul>											
Mark	appropriate charge below	and, in menerated about, is	🗖 28-1382D w 🗖 28-1382F wi		-							
	MANDATORY INSURANCE		2 20 1002		or riigite.							
	Number of Months Suspended   Number of Months Suspended   28-4135B   28-4135C											
		<ul> <li>Driving Privileges and</li> </ul>	Vehicle Registra	ation								
	<ul> <li>JUVENILE/UNDER AGE SUS</li> <li>8-323 Court has suspended the</li> </ul>		□ 28-3320A7 □ 28-3320D									
	☐ 8-323 Court has restricted the		□ 28-3320B □ 28-3322B	Court has restr Court has restr (4-244.33 for 18-2	ricted the driv							
	Beginning Suspension Date	Ending Suspension Date	Beginning Restrict		Ending Restric	ction Date						
	☐ Terms of Probation		Restricted To									
	OTUED ACTIONS											
	1	rt has revoked the driving privile rt has suspended the driving priv		Beginning Date	Endi	ng Date						
	DUI / MANDATORY INSURANCE PRIORS (if available)											
	Complaint Number	Violation Code	Violation Date		Court ID Number							
	Complaint Number	Violation Code	Violation Date		Court ID Number							
	Customer Signature Date											
	I certify that the information					Date						
	above is true and correct.	Presiding Judge/Court Clerk Signat	ure		Date	Date						
Don't	forget to sign and date	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-									
	MVD USE     MVD Agent I	Initials Driver License Number	Dat	e Issued								

## **Suspend Registration only**

	Motor Vehicle Division	OURT ABSTRACT  Originating Date (MVD Use)									
	26-0117 R08/07 www.azdot.gov  Customer Name (first, middle, last, s	Date of Birth									
	John T. Doe Street Address		City	5/5/1980 State   Zip							
	4500 Happy Road		Phoenix	AZ 85000							
	Driver License/ID Number D01234567	D AZ 5678910 A		DPS Violation Date 10/12/2009							
	Accident Violation Code Approx. Speed Lawful Speed Vehicle Plate Number State Make  Pres No 28-4135A ABC1234 AZ FORD										
	Court Docket Number Disposition Code Disposition Date Fine/Sanction										
	TR200912345 Serious Physical Injury Fatality	11 10/15/2009 Drugs (13-34D1) 28-1381A1	\$109 Alcohol Class/Treatment   C	Commercial Vehicle Hazardous Material							
	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐	No 🗆 Yes 🗆 No	□ Yes □ No □	□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No							
Mark a	• MANDATORY INSURANCE SUSPENSION pursuant to:    Manual Suspension										
	• JUVENILE/UNDER AGE SUSPENSION pursuant to:  □ 8-323 Court has suspended the driving privileges □ 8-323 Court has restricted the driving privileges □ 8-323 Court has restricted the driving privileges □ 28-3320B Court has restricted the driving privileges □ 28-3322B Court has restricted the driving privileges □ 28-3322B Court has restricted the driving privileges □ 28-3320B Court has restricted the driving privileges □ 28-3320B Court has restricted the driving privileges										
	Beginning Suspension Date	Ending Suspension Date E	Seginning Restriction Date	Ending Restriction Date							
	☐ Terms of Probation	F	Restricted To								
	OTHER ACTIONS  Pursuant To  Court has revoked the driving privileges Court has suspended the driving privileges  Beginning Date Ending Date										
	DUI / MANDATORY INSURA  Complaint Number	ANCE PRIORS (if available)	Violation Date	Court ID Number							
	Complaint Number Violation Code Violation Date Court ID Number										
	Customer Signature  I certify that the information above is true and correct.  Customer Signature  Date  Presiding Judge/Court Clerk Signature  Date										
Don't	on't forget to sign and date										
	MVD USE   MVD Agent Initials   Driver License Number   Date Issued										

### **Suspending both DL and Registration**

	Motor Vehicle Division 1801 W Jefferson St PO Box 2100 Phoenix AZ 85001-2100  Mail Drop 537M Motor Vehicle Division 1801 W Jefferson St PO Box 2100 Phoenix AZ 85001-2100  J Amended  Originating Date (MVD Use)											
	Customer Name (first, middle, last, suffix)  Date of Birth 5/5/1980											
	John T. Doe   5/5/1980     Street Address   City   State   Zip											
	4500 Happy Road							enix			ΑZ	85000
	Driver License/ID Number   Class   State   Complaint Number   D01234567   D   AZ   5678910 A						A00		DPS	Ageney	ı	ion Date 2/2009
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	Serious Physical Injury  Yes No	Fatality  O Yes	- 1	.gs (13-3401 Yes □ No						ercial Vehicle   Hazardous Material		
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				if indicated :				) with BAC				
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	MANDATORY IN	SURANCE	SUSPE	NSION pu	rsuant to:							
	28-4135A	Number	of Month	s Suspended								
	☐ 28-4135B			z daspenere								
	☐ 28-4135C  ☐ Court directs MVI	) to suspen	d the:	Driving P	Privilenes							
	A court directs in vi	o to suspen			Registration							
			()	<b>⊠</b> Driving F	rivileges and	Vehicle	e Regi	istration				
	JUVENILE/UNDE	R AGE SU	SPENSI	ON pursuar	nt to:	<b>=</b> 28-3	3320/	A7 Court ha	s susp	ended	the dr	iving privileges
	☐ 8-323 Court has: ☐ 8-323 Court has:	-			5							iving privileges
	D 6-323 Court has	restricted tr	ie arrving	privileges		☐ 28-3 ☐ 28-3		B Court ha	s restr	icted t		ring privileges ring privileges
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	Pursuant 16				driving privile he driving priv	-		Beginning	Date		Enai	ng Date
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	Complaint Number Violation Code Violation Date Court ID Number											
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	Customer Signature Date											
	I certify that the information above is true and correct. Presiding Judge/Court Clerk Signature							ignature Date				
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