

Photo Enforcement

Why use photo speed enforcement?

Photo Speed Enforcement will be used to increase safety in work zones on Illinois highways and to obtain voluntary compliance by motorists to obey posted speed limits. Motorists on average represent over 90% of the fatalities in work zones. Between 7,000 and 8,000 crashes occur in work zones per year. Slower speeds will allow motorists more time to react to changed conditions.

When would photo speed enforcement be in use?

Photo speed enforcement by an automated traffic control system may operate only during those periods when workers are present in the construction or maintenance zone, day or night.

When workers are behind Temporary Concrete Barrier (TCB) can photo speed enforcement be used?

Photo enforcement legislation requires workers to be present. While Temporary Concrete Barriers provide positive protection for workers, they are not impenetrable. Vehicles have hit and broken through TCB, causing injury to workers. Also, lane width restrictions may require reduced speed limits to ensure the safety of the motorists. For these reasons, photo enforcement may be used when workers are present.

Will a special sign have to be in place for photo speed enforcement to be used?

Yes. Signs indicating that speeds are photo enforced by automated traffic control systems will be clearly posted in the area where the systems may be in use.

Do I have an opportunity to slow down before the camera takes my picture?

Yes. In addition, the vans will have a speed indicator device that will be triggered by a separate radar and will communicate the vehicle's speed to the motorist. This will give the motorist one last opportunity to slow down before the camera radar is triggered. If the motorist does not slow down, the camera radar will be triggered. A photo of the driver, vehicle, and license plate will be taken. The time of day and speed will also be captured.

What if the equipment is not working correctly?

Illinois State Police will man these vans with troopers specially trained in photo radar enforcement. They will calibrate the equipment prior to each enforcement detail to make sure everything is working correctly.

Do I have to appear in court and what are the fines for a violation received with photo speed enforcement?

Yes, a court appearance is mandatory. The fines for speeding in a construction or maintenance work zone are the same when issued by any method of enforcement. There is a minimum fine of \$375 for the first offense and a minimum of \$1000 for the second offense. If the second offense is within two years of the first offense, the Secretary of State shall suspend the driver's license for a period of 90 days.

What is the ticketing process?

A ticket will be processed by the vendor and will be approved by the on-duty officer. Tickets will be mailed by certified mail to the registered owner within 14 days. The violator will receive the ticket and will be required to appear in court.