

*Over the course of several weeks CBS4 reached out to every city that operates red light cameras in South Florida. Several cities did not respond to our inquiry into red light camera policy. Other cities have yet to provide answers. This list is all the responses we have received thus far.*

**Police Department: AVENTURA**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

The appeal will cost you \$50, if case is dismissed fee is waived, if you are found in violation, the fee jumps to \$100 in addition to the fine.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

You may make a right turn in a *careful and prudent* manner if you come to a complete stop before turning right (unless it is prohibited by posted sign).

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc.?**

A Special Master appointed by the City Commission adjudicates.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

Out of two hearings in 2014- 5 cases were dismissed.

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**Police Department: Miami Springs**

**How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

If you don't challenge the violation, you pay \$208 penalty; If your appeal is upheld, a \$408 fee is incurred (\$158 statutory penalty and \$250 in administrative costs). If you fail to appear at hearing, you are fined \$408.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

The City does not have a written policy in place. Drivers must make right turns during a red light in a careful and prudent manner unless prohibited by a sign at a safe speed under 15 mph.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc.?**

A Local Hearing Officer, both local attorneys with prior experience with traffic court.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

We have had four hearings so far (54 requested hearings- 6 have been dismissed)

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**Police Department: Bal Harbour**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

If “in violation”, the hearing fee is \$100; if found “not in violation” there is no hearing fee.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

In the Mark Wandall Act, if they stop at any point in the turn, it would not be a violation.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc.?**

A Special Master.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

We have heard a total of 12 cases and all were in violation.

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**Police Department: Homestead**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?** Hearing: if you are found in violation the fee is \$125, not in violation=\$0, and if you do not appear an automatic fee of \$250 is issued.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?** No

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?** Local hearing Officer

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?** No dismissals to date

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**Police Department: Surfside**

**How much is an appeal for red light camera?** \$75.00 service fee

**Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?** No

**Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?** A Hearing Officer

**How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?** Out of 10 hearings we had one dismissed.

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**Police Department: Town Of Cutler Bay**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?** If the defendant is found guilty an additional \$100 fee added to the \$158.00 fine.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

The Town does not enforce right hand turns.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

Special Magistrate, with a clerk assisting.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

We’ve had one hearing and one case dismissed

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**Police Department: Fort Lauderdale**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?** Up to \$250 as determined by our magistrate.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?** The city of Ft Lauderdale does not enforce right on red.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?** Magistrate.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?** 75 Guilty & 13 Won

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**Police Department: Pembroke Pines**

“The City of Pembroke Pines red light camera program has not been active since July 1, 2013; therefore we have no information in response to your request. Thanks.”

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**Police Department: Hallandale**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

There is nothing owed if the violation is not sustained, a 50.00 that is assessed when the hearing is requested & an additional \$100.00 if the violation is sustained.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping? For instance drivers turning at 5mph are not issued tickets.**

Evaluate turns on whether they are “safe and prudent”, if the vehicle comes to a complete stop at any time prior to completing the turn, we do not issue a violation, but no specific mph limitations or length of stop.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

A special magistrate.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

So far, roughly ten% have been dismissed, the violation was not upheld.

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**Police Department: Sunrise**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?** If found guilty a \$258.00 fee, no fee if not guilty; the violation is \$158.00 per state statute, our city adds \$100.00 to cover admin costs.

**Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping? For instance drivers turning at 5mph are not issued tickets.**

It must be done in a careful and prudent manner, less than 15 mph; the right turning driver must yield to oncoming traffic.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?** Red-light camera hearing officer presides.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?** To date, 111 violations were upheld, and 75 have been dismissed.

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**Police Department: Coral Springs**

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping? For instance drivers turning at 5mph are not issued tickets.**

The City of Coral Springs does not use the option of “right turn on red” violations.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

A Special Magistrate.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

Seven appeal requests have been made, which resulted in seven guilty findings.

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**Police Department: Miami**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

Within the first 60 days the fine is \$158 (insurance will have no way of knowing of this violation). If you fight the violation an initial \$50 fee for hearing, but if it's upheld an additional \$35 fee is added... Total \$158 + \$50 + \$35 = \$243...If it is dismissed, no fine is imposed!

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

In the City of Miami we are not enforcing Red Light Camera violations of right hand turns on red.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

We have attorneys educated on the process of RLC's who act as Magistrates.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or "won" by the violator?**

Hearings in Miami, the results= 164 were upheld, 7 were not guilty & 34 were dismissed

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**Police Department: Doral**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

[http://www.miami-dadeclerk.com/service\\_fee\\_schedule.asp](http://www.miami-dadeclerk.com/service_fee_schedule.asp)

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

No. The City of Doral does not issue Notices of Violation for right hand turns.

All vehicles making a right on red must stop and yield in accordance to Florida State Statute.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

The Special Magistrates at City Clerk's Office.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or "won" by the violator?** Our first official hearing was held last Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, so it may be hard to tell the dismissal to won ratio.

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**Police Department: West Miami**

• **How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

\$158.00 plus an administrative fee of \$100.00, if found guilty; a total of \$258.00.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

The magistrate.

• **Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

The law requires a full stop before proceeding. The camera violation does NOT carry points on the driver's license as a regular officer issued citation does.

**How many appeals are dismissed or "won" by the violator?**

The overwhelming majority are found guilty since it is difficult to dispute the video evidence.

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**Police Department: North Miami**

**How much is an appeal for a red light camera ticket?** \$75

**Does the city have a policy allowing drivers to turn right on red without stopping?** No, all drivers must adhere to Florida State Statutes 316.0083, 316.074 (1) and 316.075 (1)(c)1

**Who oversees the appeal hearing?** A Special Magistrate.

**How many appeals are dismissed or "won" by the violator?** Approximately 35-40 cases have been dismissed since November 2013.

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**Police Department: Hollywood**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

There is a \$75 administrative fee to schedule a hearing.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping? For instance drivers turning at 5mph are not issued tickets.**

We do not enforce careful and prudent right hand turns.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

Two traffic magistrates.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or "won" by the violator?**

Out of 102 appeal cases, only two have been dismissed.

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**Police Department: Village of Key Biscayne**

**How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

If you lose the red light camera fine is \$158 plus \$50 -\$150. If they win there is no fine assessed.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

The Village of Key Biscayne does not have a policy allowing drivers to turn on red without stopping.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

A hearing- officer.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

First appeal hearing is scheduled for Feb 26, therefore, at this time we are unable to provide data.

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**Police Department: City Of Sweetwater**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

The citation is \$158.00...With an additional court fee of \$85.00

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

There is no policy that allows right had turn without making a complete stop.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

Several different magistrates rotate.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

It's about 50%.

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**Police Department: City Of Margate**

**-How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

The fee is \$75 when disputed before a Magistrate.

**-Does the city have a policy allowing for drivers to turn right on red without stopping?**

The City of Margate Red Light Camera program does not enforce right on red violations.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

Violations are presided over by a Magistrate.

**-How many appeals are dismissed or “won” by the violator?**

3 of 52 cases thus far have been dismissed by Magistrate.

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**Police Department: Coral Gables**

**How much is an appeal for red light camera?**

The cost depends on the outcome of the hearing. If the Violation is dismissed= no charge, but if it is upheld, you have to pay \$158.00 Violation.

**-Who oversees the appeal hearing? Is it a magistrate, city clerk, etc?**

The City's Special Masters are appointed as Hearing Officers.

Coral Gables is still researching what their right on red policy is.