



# FACTSHEET

## Electronic Citation and Warning System (eCWS)

### PROJECT CONTACT

**Annette Page**  
 apage@jtac.in.gov  
 317.234.3064  
 (toll free) 888.275.5822

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

More than 1,000,000 traffic citations are issued in Indiana every year. Now that **eCWS** is in production, law enforcement agencies using the system can electronically print tickets at the time of a traffic stop. Other officers are still hand writing citations and the forms used vary from county to county. **eCWS** lets officers electronically record citation information in the field, eliminating the need for redundant manual data entry, drastically reducing administrative work, and increasing the safety of Hoosier roadways by quickly identifying dangerous drivers and reducing the time needed for a traffic stop.

The Indiana Supreme Court’s Judicial Technology and Automation Committee, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, Indiana State Police, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana State Excise Police and local law enforcement agencies worked together to give law enforcement officers statewide the ability to produce tickets electronically at the time of a traffic stop. Data can be transmitted electronically to appropriate law enforcement, courts, and state and federal agencies. **eCWS** will, in the future, also transfer the required data fields to a probable cause affidavit form for officers to complete in cases of serious criminal violations.

The eCWS system is currently being used by Indiana State Police officers statewide and officers in over 120 other law enforcement agencies. The application is available in a laptop computer version for patrol cars. A hand-held portable version for motorcycle officers or foot patrol is currently being used by ISP troopers and 3 local law enforcement agencies in the field. eCWS and training is available to law enforcement at no cost.

### HOW IT WORKS

Officers use a scanner to read the drivers license and vehicle registration. A new citation is then generated in the **eCWS** system with the driver’s information automatically entered. The officer will record appropriate offenses, court information and print a paper ticket for the offender.

In cooperation with the U. S. Department of Transportation, **eCWS** produces a Uniform Traffic Ticket (UTT) that identifies Commercial Drivers. The electronic information recorded by the officer will be transmitted to courts and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in later phases of this project. The citation and warning information will also be available to the appropriate judicial and law enforcement officials so the most up-to-date data is available. Because they will, in the future, have access to more timely data, an officer in one county may determine that a warning is not appropriate if the same driver was given a warning the week before in another county.

The **eCWS** initiative is an addition to and the ‘next step’ in the JTAC-BMV project, which allows courts and clerks to transmit serious infractions by a commercial driver to the BMV electronically instead of by mail or fax.

### BENEFITS OF eCWS

- **Eliminates handwritten tickets** and the need to enter the same information into a separate database(s)
- **Enhances safety of Hoosier streets and highways** by identifying dangerous drivers quickly
- **Eliminates duplicate entries** by law enforcement, courts, clerks, ISP and BMV
- **Increases accuracy** of information—data fields pre-populated from license and registration
- **Reduces errors** because data is not retyped multiple times
- **Gives officers more time to patrol** by reducing paperwork
- **Saves clerical time** for clerks, courts and agencies because data is transferred electronically
- **Improves timeliness** by making data available electronically

