

**Plea of Not Guilty:** A plea of not guilty means that you deny guilt and require the State to prove the charge. A plea of not guilty does not waive your right to appeal or to a jury trial. A plea of not guilty does not prevent a plea of guilty or no contest prior to trial.

## How to Enter a Plea of Not Guilty

- You may appear in person or you may appear by mail by completing the Plea Form on the next page.
- The plea form must be received before your appearance date on your citation.
- If you choose to appear by mail you must include a self addressed envelope. By email, please submit completed plea form to [courtadmin@ellago-tx.gov](mailto:courtadmin@ellago-tx.gov)

**Please Note:** Persons entering a plea of not guilty are not eligible for Defensive Driving or Deferred Disposition.

## After a Plea of Not Guilty

The Court will place your case on a Pretrial Docket where the following may occur:

- You may waive a jury trial and request a Court Trial.
- You may file motions.
- You may speak with the prosecutor if you choose to do so.
- You may be required to post a bond to ensure your appearance at trial.
- You may choose to have your trial recorded and pay a \$25 fee.
- You may be scheduled for a Jury Trial or Court Trial date.
- You may no longer be eligible for a driver safety course or deferred disposition if your case is set for a Jury Trial or Court Trial.
- The request must be in person, by counsel, by certified mail or by email (if under 17, you must appear in open court with a parent or guardian to make the request).

PLEA FORM: BY MAIL, EMAIL, OR DELIVERY TO COURT (Arts. 27.14(b) and 27.16(b), C.C.P.)



CITATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF TEXAS	§	IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT
VS.	§	CITY OF EL LAGO
_____	§	HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

**Plea of Not Guilty**

I, the undersigned, do hereby enter my appearance on the complaint of the offense, to wit: \_\_\_\_\_, charged in Municipal Court Cause Number \_\_\_\_\_. I plead **not guilty**.

*Initial One:*

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a right to a jury trial and request to be scheduled for a Pre-Trial Docket  
\_\_\_\_\_ I waive my right to a jury trial and request a trial before the Court.

I promise to appear, in person, in the \_\_\_\_\_ Municipal Court on any date for which this case is scheduled before this Court. I understand that if I do not appear anytime I am required to appear for this case, a Failure to Appear charge may be filed and warrants may be issued for my arrest.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Defendant's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Cell Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

El Lago Municipal Court  
98 Lakeshore Drive  
El Lago, TX 77586  
281-326-4413

Email Plea Form To : [courtadmin@ellago-tx.gov](mailto:courtadmin@ellago-tx.gov)