



# Camera Detected Penalty Notices

Speed, red light and bus lane cameras are located throughout NSW. Cameras operate day and night and are only activated when an offence occurs. **All camera offences have demerit points.**

## How do speed cameras work?

Speed cameras accurately measure the speed of vehicles using either:

- approved electronic sensors embedded in the road surface. An independent set of sensors in each lane allows the camera to monitor multiple lanes of traffic in both directions of travel
- or
- a camera attached to a radar unit. When the radar detects a vehicle exceeding the speed limit, an image is taken. The radar unit is able to monitor multiple lanes of traffic in both directions of travel.

If a vehicle is detected speeding, a digital image is recorded that clearly shows the vehicle's type, number plate, speed, direction and lane of travel. The camera also records the time, date, place and speed limit. You can read more information about speed cameras on the RTA website at [www.rta.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au)

## How do red light cameras work?

Traffic lights operate with approximately four seconds of amber prior to a red light being displayed in a 60 km/h zone, with additional time in higher speed zones. A vehicle passing over the road sensor beyond the stop line activates the camera. Individual sensors monitor each lane of travel.

A vehicle must cross over the stop line after the light has turned red to activate the camera. The camera takes an image of the rear of the vehicle. A second image is recorded to confirm the vehicle has travelled into the intersection. The camera records the time, date and place of the offence.

## How do bus lane cameras work?

A bus lane camera zone consists of two digital cameras installed beside a bus lane and mounted more than 100 metres apart. The cameras can read the number plate of any vehicle using these lanes. Both cameras need to detect the number plate of an unauthorised vehicle within an expected time period for a penalty notice to be generated.

The cameras take two photos each – a wide angle shot to put the situation in context and another of the vehicle's number plate. Penalty Notices are not issued for images of authorised vehicles such as buses, taxis and motorcycles.

## How do T-way lane cameras work?

T-way lanes have a camera installed beside the lane. Only authorised vehicles may use dedicated T-way lanes. The camera records three images of any unauthorised vehicle using a T-way lane.

## Will the image identify the driver?

The camera is aimed at the vehicle and registration plate. The photo is not intended to, and may not, identify the driver. View the photo online at [www.sd.ro.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sd.ro.nsw.gov.au) or phone 1300 138 118 for further enquiries.

## Evidence of the offence

Images taken are considered prima facie evidence and will be produced at court hearings if you elect to have the matter heard in court. Digital camera photos provided to court include a security indicator confirming that they have not been altered.

## MORE INFORMATION



[www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au)

### For Penalty Notice, Penalty Reminder Notice or Warning Notice enquiries:



1300 138 118  
8:00 am – 5:30 pm, Mon. to Fri.  
Hearing or speech impaired users:  
TTY 133 677  
Speak and Listen 1300 555 727



(02) 4937 9111



Email us via:  
[www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au/contactus.html](http://www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au/contactus.html)



PO Box 786  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012



Payments by post:  
PO Box 4444  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Payments by phone:  
1300 130 112 (Local and interstate)  
612 9087 7917 (Overseas)

See your penalty notice  
for other payment options

Overseas clients, call 612 4937 9207.

### For Enforcement order, Roads and Traffic Authority Sanction, Property Seizure order, Garnishee order or Time to Pay order enquiries:



1300 655 805  
8:00 am – 5:30 pm, Mon. to Fri.  
Hearing or speech impaired users:  
TTY 133 677  
Speak and Listen 1300 555 727



(02) 6354 7302



[info@sdرو.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@sdرو.nsw.gov.au)



PO Box A2571  
Sydney South NSW 1235



Payments by post:  
Locked Bag 2128  
North Sydney NSW 2059

Payments by phone:  
1300 130 112 (Local and interstate)  
612 9087 7917 (Overseas)

See your enforcement order  
for other payment options

Overseas clients, call 612 6354 7000.

### Office of State Revenue: A division of the Department of Finance & Services

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## Obtaining a photo

If you are the person named on the penalty notice, or have a lawful interest in the matter, you can view or download a copy of the photo of the offence free-of-charge at [www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au). Internet access is available at most public libraries.

If preferred, the person named on the penalty notice can purchase a copy of the photo from SDRO. To do this, send a cheque or money order for \$10 with a letter identifying the penalty notice number and requesting the photo to:

State Debt Recovery Office  
Photo Requests  
PO Box 786  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Photos supplied or downloaded are office copies only and are not suitable as photographic evidence in court.

## What happens when I pay the fine?

Upon payment of the fine, SDRO notifies RTA to apply the appropriate number of demerit points for the offence to the person named on the penalty notice. Throughout this process, strict privacy regulations are followed to ensure that personal information is handled appropriately.

**Warning:** Do not make payment if the person named on the penalty notice was not in charge of the vehicle at the time of the offence, as this may result in demerit points being applied to the wrong person's traffic record. You should instead complete a statutory declaration nominating the person responsible. If you pay the fine before the fine is transferred to the person responsible, it may result in an additional fine being issued for Failure to Nominate.

## What if I wasn't driving the vehicle?

Penalty Notices for camera-detected offences are sent to the registered owner of the vehicle. The registered owner is responsible

for the offence unless they tell us the name and details of the person who was in charge of the vehicle at the time of the offence. If another person was responsible, the registered owner should complete and return the statutory declaration (received with the penalty notice or downloaded from [www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au)) nominating this person by the due date on the penalty reminder notice.

If the vehicle is registered in a company or organisation name, an authorised representative of the company or organisation must nominate the actual driver responsible for the offence.

When SDRO receives your statutory declaration, we will transfer the fine into the nominated person's name and reissue the fine to them, providing a further period to finalise it.

## What if I fail to identify the person in charge by the due date?

SDRO issues an additional fine of more than \$1000 for companies/organisations and over \$470 for individuals who fail to nominate the driver responsible by the due date on the penalty reminder notice.

## Requests for leniency

SDRO will generally not consider leniency for certain offences where safety is an issue. These include:

- speeding offences where the speed detected is 30 kms or more over the speed limit
- demerit point offences in school zones
- where multiple offences are issued from one camera incident (where a red light and a speed penalty notice are both issued because of one detected incident).

Read more about requesting leniency at [www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sdرو.nsw.gov.au)