



Hamilton

Provincial Offences Office Collection Process and Challenges

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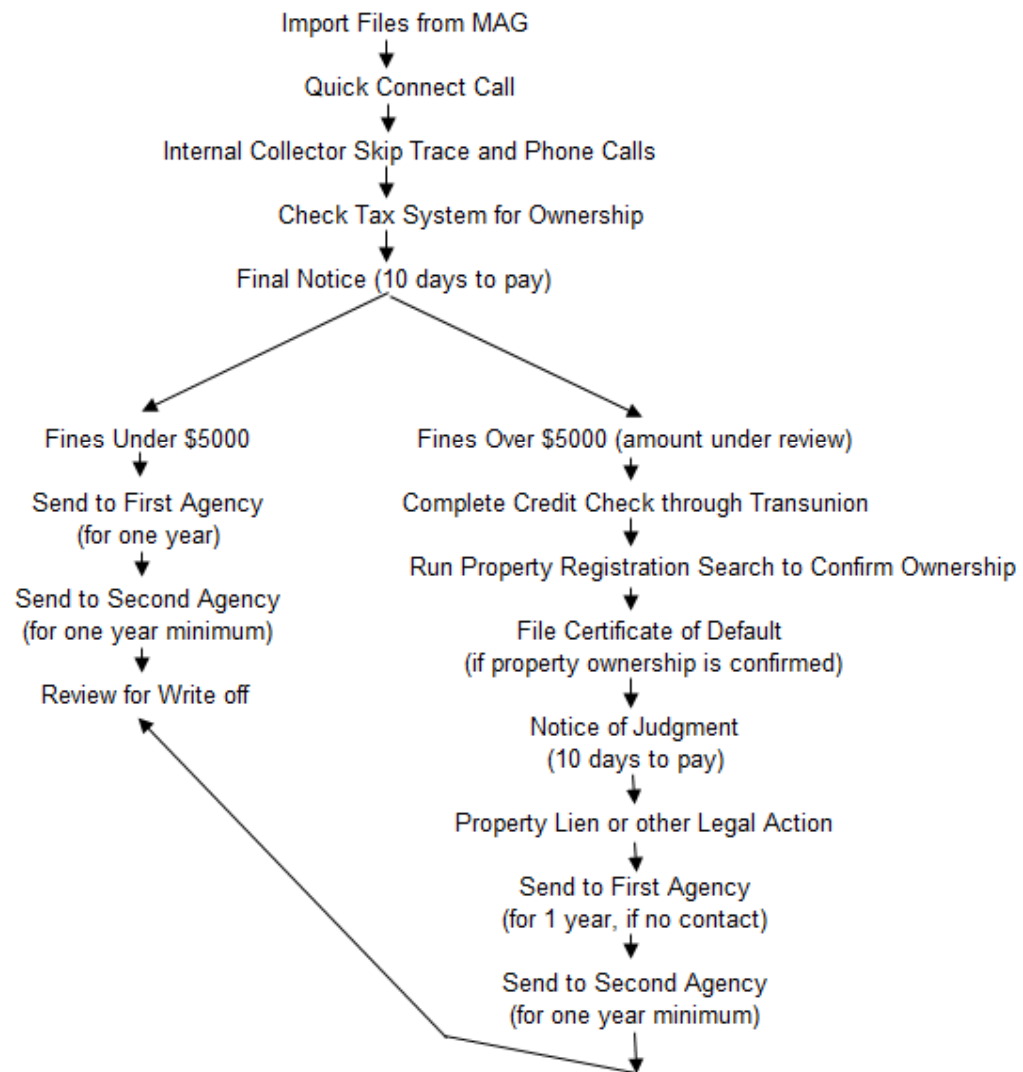
Provincial Offences Fines Facts

- Outstanding Provincial Offences fines totalled \$61,853,753 as of December 31, 2016.
- Current fines, not in default totalled \$9,162,453.
- Non current, defaulted fines totalled \$52,691,300. The total number of non current, defaulted tickets was 76,371.
 - 34,595 tickets are enforceable fines (licence suspension and license plate denial) totalling \$41,938,290.
 - 41,776 tickets are unenforceable Fines (Defaulted) totalling \$10,753,010.
- Of the 76,371 tickets totalling \$52,691,300:
 - 25,447 fines totalling \$3,166,339 will be deemed uncollectable as they are issued to transient offenders.
 - 2,401 tickets totalling \$5,034,357 have been granted extensions of time to pay and are no longer considered to be in default.
 - 48,523 tickets totalling \$44,490,604 are in various stages of collection.



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Collection Process



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Collection Challenges

- Offenders continue to drive with suspended licenses and license plate stickers.
- Obtaining payment for unenforceable fines when there are no legislated consequences.
- Privacy protection legislation creates barricades to locating and contacting offenders.
- Small percentage of Hamilton offenders own property.
- High number of offenders are on social assistance.
- Many tickets (i.e. red light camera tickets) do not have offenders date of birth or driver's license on them making identity confirmation impossible.
- Extension of time to pay and appeals are granted at the discretion of Justices of the Peace with no input from POA staff.
- Provincial legislation limits collection abilities.



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Going Forward

- MAG/MTO is implementing expanded plate denial in 2017.
- Fines are being reported on offenders' credit bureau reports.
- Tax rolling of fines for offenders who have sole ownership of a property.
- Reviewing minimum thresholds for enforcement action.
- OMTRA/POA Collection Committee looking at creating additional fees for court related tasks.
- Ongoing requests to the Ministry of the Attorney General to make changes to legislation that limits our collection ability.



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Summary

- The Provincial Offences collection staff is conscientious in overcoming challenges to maximize collections in the most cost efficient and effective manner.
- New and innovative methods to collect are always being sought and we work with other POA sites in Ontario to share ideas and successful tools.
- It is only after seven years of diligent efforts by both internal collections and external collection agencies that unenforceable fines are considered for write off. Enforceable fines are never written off.



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