

---

SACRAMENTO COUNTY



SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

---

SCOTT R. JONES

*Sheriff*

February 4, 2012

On December 23, 2011, The Sacramento Metropolitan Red Light Photo Enforcement Detail, which is managed by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, discovered an issue with the Red Light Enforcement System in place for the eastbound Arden Way at Watt Avenue. The yellow time was indicating 3.54–3.56 seconds for all five enforced lanes at that intersection on the captured red light violation images. This is the correct yellow time for lanes #1 and #2, which are left turn lanes, but not correct for lanes #3, 4 and 5, which are straight and right turn lanes. Based on speed surveys, Sacramento County Department of Transportation (DOT) has historically set lanes 3, 4 and 5 of this intersection at 4.8 seconds of yellow time. After investigating further, we discovered that DOT replaced the signal controller at the intersection on July 15, 2011 and erroneously set yellow light times for all lanes in the approach at 3.5 seconds.

The amount of missing/short yellow time was 1.26 seconds, during the time period of July 15, 2011 to December 23, 2011. You were identified as a motorist receiving a photo enforced citation for violation of running the red light (21453a CVC) at this intersection, during the above time period. The photographic images show your vehicle entered the intersection at 1.27 seconds or higher, which is longer than the 1.26 seconds of missing yellow time. Therefore, the court will not grant an automatic dismissal of your citation.

If your case **has not been adjudicated**, your citation stands and you will need to resolve the citation, through the normal procedure by either bail forfeiture or attending your normally scheduled court date. The courts are aware of the yellow time anomaly at this intersection and have advised that this information may or may not affect the outcome of your court trial.

If your case **has already been adjudicated** (resolved by bail forfeiture or court hearing), in light of this new information, the court has agreed to re-open your case, at your request. Please do not contact the Court regarding this matter. If you would like to re-open your case, contact our office at (916)876-6643 and we will notify the court of your request for a hearing.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. Please feel free to contact our office at (916)876-6643, with any questions.

Very truly yours,

SCOTT JONES, SHERIFF

January 11, 2012

Honorable Judge Donald J. Currier  
Carol Miller Justice Center  
301 Bicentennial Circle  
Sacramento, CA 95826

Your Honor,

On December 23, 2011, The Sacramento Metropolitan Red Light Photo Enforcement Detail, which is managed by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, discovered an issue with the Red Light Enforcement System in place for the eastbound Arden Way at Watt Avenue. The yellow time was indicating 3.54–3.56 seconds for all five enforced lanes at that intersection on the captured red light violation images. This is the correct yellow time for lanes #1 and #2, which are left turn lanes, but not correct for lanes #3, 4 and 5, which are straight and right turn lanes. Based on speed surveys, Sacramento County Department of Transportation (DOT) has historically set lanes 3, 4 and 5 of this intersection at 4.8 seconds of yellow time.

After investigating further, we discovered that DOT replaced the controller at the intersection on July 15, 2011 and set yellow light times for all lanes in the approach 3.5 seconds. There were 551 red light running citations issued during this time period for these lanes. 163 were issued with a red time of 1.26 seconds or less, which would have been yellow time had the timing been set correctly.

Due to this discovery, we are convinced of the factual innocence of these defendants who have been convicted based on evidence we thought to be true, but now know was in error. In order to avoid a miscarriage of justice, we ask that the court dismiss the cases listed on the attached document.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Very Truly Yours,

SCOTT JONES, SHERIFF



**Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento**

301 Bicentennial Circle, Room 100, Sacramento, CA 95826

(916) 875-7800

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

www.saccourt.ca.gov

01TEST



ANNIE CARR DRIVER  
101 TESTING LANE  
NORTH HIGHLANDS, CA 95660

---

CASE NUMBER 01TEST

CITATION NUMBER EXT

The Sacramento Metropolitan Red Light Photo Enforcement Detail, who was the issuing agency of your citation for the case listed above, discovered an issue with the Red Light Enforcement System in place for the eastbound Arden Way and Watt Avenue on the date of your charged violation. The yellow time indicator was not correct for the straight and right turn lanes. This resulted in a shorter yellow light than what is normally set for intersections within Sacramento County. Because of this anomaly in yellow times, the issuing law enforcement agency has requested that your case be dismissed.

Therefore, pursuant to this request, the case number listed above has been dismissed, the Department of Motor Vehicles has been notified and no further action is required on your part. If you paid a fine to the court on this case, the money will be refunded to you. Please allow 8 to 10 weeks to receive the refund.”

I certify that I am not a party to this cause and that this notice was mailed first class, postage prepaid, in a sealed envelope addressed to the party shown above at Sacramento, California on 1/21/2012.

By: Deputy Clerk, Sacramento Superior Court

