



Town of Wrightsville Beach



Civil Penalty Appeals Process

The Town of Wrightsville Beach has adopted an Appeals Process for civil penalties pursuant to a violation of one or more of the Town's ordinances. If you received a civil citation and wish to appeal that decision, you must make that appeal to the Chief of Police within 14 days of the date of violation. The appeal will not be considered beyond the 14 day time limit to file an appeal.

The following circumstances will not constitute a basis for appeal and will be denied:

- Lack of knowledge of the Town's ordinances or new to the area.
- The citing officer could have issued a warning.
- Signs listing prohibitions on the beach were not adequate.
- Did not see the signs listing prohibitions on the beach.
- The amount of the civil penalty is excessive.
- Unable to pay the amount of the fine.
- The violator is a homeowner in Wrightsville Beach.
- The citing officer's conduct (See instructions below #5)

Please follow the instructions below to ensure your appeal is heard in the designated time frame.

Instructions:

1. Please fill out the enclosed form completely and have it notarized. The Chief of Police will not accept any appeals that have not been notarized.
2. Please use as much detail as possible concerning the events that you feel led to the issuance of the civil penalty.
3. Attach as many additional pages as you may feel necessary to fully explain events. You may want to include support documentation such as names and contact information for witnesses, written witness statements, photographs or any other documentation you feel would aid the Police Chief in making a fair and impartial decision in this matter.
4. Once completed, return the enclosed form to the police department front desk or by mail to:
Wrightsville Beach Police Department
ATTN: Civil Appeals
P.O. Box 452
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480
5. **If your appeal is based on an officer's conduct, do not use this form!** Please contact the duty sergeant or the Uniform Patrol Division Commander for any complaint dealing with officer conduct. The desk receptionist will be happy to help you contact either of these individuals. The Police Department Main Number is 910-256-7945.
6. Any payment of penalty is temporarily suspended once an appeal is filed. All appeals are reviewed and you will be notified by email if one is provided, otherwise you will be notified by mail of the outcome of your appeal. Your decision notification will include instructions regarding any payment of penalties.

Thank you for participating in our process. **Please note that the Police Chief cannot change the amount of penalty, change a procedural policy, or change the elements describing a violation.** These are functions of the Town of Wrightsville Beach's governing body and questions or concerns covering these matters will not be addressed under the Civil Penalty Appeal Process.

