**Trial Rights and Procedures**

1. I understand that I have the right to be represented by counsel throughout these proceedings.

2. I understand that if I cannot afford an attorney one may be provided without cost to me (applies to misdemeanor offense or traffic offense in which jail is requested).

3. I understand that the charge(s) against me carries a possible fine of $2650.00 and up to 364 days in jail (for traffic infractions, the possible penalty is a fine of $500 and no jail).

4. I am not under the influence of any drug, medication, or alcohol that would impair my ability to think and make judgments.

5. There is no reason why I may not understand these proceedings.

6. I understand that while I have the right to represent myself, I am taking a great risk of not properly presenting my defense.

7. I understand that although I am representing myself, I still have the right to remain silent and not testify in my own defense.

8. I understand that I have the right to confront witnesses against me and to cross-examine them, that is, to ask questions of them.

9. I understand that I have the right to compel (subpoena) witnesses to appear and testify on my own behalf and ask them questions about the case.

10. Knowing my right to the assistance of counsel and knowing the disadvantages of proceeding without the assistance of counsel, it is still my desire to represent myself in these proceedings.

11. This decision to represent myself is made of my own free will.

12. I understand that the Court is the trier of fact and cannot provide assistance to either side.

13. I understand the Court will hear all of the legally admissible evidence before making a decision.

14. I understand that since I have chosen to act as my own legal counsel, the Court will require me to follow the normal rules of procedure and evidence in the trial.

**Trial Procedure and Order**

* Opening statements – optional, are not evidence; and not arguments. They are intended to give the Court a good blueprint of that each side will show during the case. Defendant may reserve until after City’s evidence.
* Presentation of witnesses/ evidence by the City. The City has the burden to prove the case beyond a reasonable doubt.
* Cross-examination of the City’s witnesses – optional for the defendant.
* Curtis Advisement- the defendant will be advised of the right to testify or not testify and be subject to cross-examination.
* (Opening statement if reserved by the defendant- optional).
* Defense presentation of witnesses/ evidence – optional. No burden on the defendant.
* Rebuttal witnesses – may or may not occur.
* Closing arguments – optional. Comment on the evidence and apply law, however are not evidence.
* Decision by the Court.

**Curtis Advisement**- You have the right to testify, if you wish to testify- no one can prevent you from doing so. If you do testify, the prosecution will be allowed to cross-examine you regarding any felony convictions or false reporting convictions. If a felony or false reporting conviction is disclosed to the Court through the prosecutions’ cross-examination, the Court will only consider it as to it bears upon your credibility and for no other purpose. You also have the right to not testify. If you choose not to testify, the Court will not use that against you in any way.

I have read and understand the above listed rights and procedures.

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Defendant Date

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Parent/ Guardian (if defendant is under 18)