



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
transportation.ky.gov

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Kentuckians Warned of Continued Text Message Scam Posing as State Agency**  
*Guidance offered to avoid disclosing sensitive information*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 20, 2026)** – The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) warns Kentuckians of continuous reports of fraudulent text messages received by residents impersonating the state agency, its Office of Highway Safety, and driver licensing offices which feature a suspicious link similar to Kentucky government website addresses.

The scam messages warn customers of unpaid traffic tickets or "traffic infractions" and say that a "payment is due" and that "actions will be taken" if not resolved.

Kentuckians should not click on any links in or respond to the scam messages. We are taking appropriate steps to request to have the fraudulent websites taken down. Please follow the tips and recommendations below to avoid disclosing sensitive information to scammers.

**Tips to Spot a Scam Text**

- KYTC does not collect traffic ticket fees or notify customers of violations using text messages.
- We do not refer to ourselves as 'KDOT' or a 'DMV' in official communications. Be cautious of messages using these terms - they are not from us.
- Our official website for motor vehicle and driver services is [drive.ky.gov](http://drive.ky.gov). Beware of fraudulent websites that mimic this address, or include the word "pay" - scammers often add subtle changes, like a hyphen, to trick you.

**Steps If You Receive a Fraudulent Text**

- Do not click the link.
- When in doubt, reach out to the agency to confirm authenticity before taking any action.
- If you have provided any personal information, contact your bank immediately.
- You can also report this to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at [ic3.gov](http://ic3.gov), or to the Federal Trade Commission at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://reportfraud.ftc.gov), or visit the Kentucky Office of

the Attorney General website, [ag.ky.gov](http://ag.ky.gov), to follow their guidance concerning potential identity theft.

- Forward the suspicious message to 7726 (SPAM) to alert your mobile provider as well.

You can also visit [stopscams.ky.gov](http://stopscams.ky.gov) to stay up-to-date on ways to report and spot scams.

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*Eds: Screenshot of one of an example fraudulent text message (links may reference "ky.org" or "drive.ky" but the links are not government agency links):*

**TEAM KENTUCKY**  
TRANSPORTATION CABINET

# SCAM ALERT

If you receive one of these texts, do not click on the link.

Report any scam texts to:  
[www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov)  
[www.reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov)  
Forward the message to  
7726 (SPAM)

+63 908 756 3429

Kentucky Office of Highway Safety  
Notice: Your vehicle has outstanding traffic infractions recorded in the database.

Payment is due by March 22, 2026, with processing scheduled for March 23, 2026.

Please visit the portal to review your case information and complete payment through the official website:  
<https://ky.org/1234567890/mv>

If this issue is not resolved by the deadline, actions will be taken under State Regulation 12C-16.003, which may include:

- First, suspension of your vehicle license.
- Second, temporary suspension of your driving privileges (up to 4 business days).
- Third, additional late fees or administrative penalties.

You are reminded that non-compliance may result in further legal and credit consequences; please proceed with the required procedures.