

Municipal Law e-News

June 18, 2014

TICKET QUOTAS NOW PROHIBITED

This past Sunday, June 15th, the Governor signed new legislation into law which now prohibits police departments in Illinois from assigning ticket minimums within a prescribed time period to their officers. Public Act 98-0650 affects a number of policing agencies, including municipal departments. The law amends the Illinois Municipal Code to prohibit evaluating a police officer by comparing the number of citations issued against the number by any other officer with similar duties. The Governor's press release regarding the law stated:

"Law enforcement officers should have discretion on when and where to issue traffic citations and not be forced to ticket motorists to satisfy a quota system. This new law will improve safety and working conditions for police officers and prevent motorists from facing unnecessary anxiety when they encounter a police vehicle."

The law does not prohibit the evaluation of an officer based on his or her "points of contact". The law preempts home rule authority on this subject and becomes effective January 1, 2015.

The full text of Public Act 98-0650 is available at:

http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=098-0650

1 "Points of contact" means any quantifiable contact made by an officer in performing their duties, including, but not limited to, number of traffic stops completed, arrests, written warnings and prevention measures,, but cannot include the issuance of citations or the number of citations issued.

For more information about matters discussed in this issue, please feel free to contact Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins Ltd.



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