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District Traffic Court Conferences

Dicta Editorial Board

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DISTRICT TRAFFIC COURT CONFERENCES

The Colorado Highway Safety Council, in conjunction with the University of Colorado Law School, the Colorado Municipal League, the State Association of County Commissioners, the Colorado Sheriffs' and Peace Officers' Association, and the Colorado Bar Association will conduct a series of district traffic court conferences during the month of July. The dates and places of these conferences are as follows:

July 8 Sterling	July 22 Durango
July 9 Greeley	July 23 Alamosa
July 15 Colorado Springs	July 24 Montrose
July 16 Pueblo	July 29 Grand Junction
July 17 Trinidad	July 30 Glenwood Springs
July 18 Lamar	July 31 Steamboat Springs

The conferences will be day long conferences and will be held insofar as possible in the district courtroom. Under tentative plans, the registration will begin at 9:00 a. m. The conference will begin at 9:20 a. m. with a welcoming address followed by a keynote address describing the conference theme and the history of the development of traffic court conferences. This will be followed by a panel discussion on current traffic court problems, both administrative and substantive, and following that will be an address on problems frequently encountered in traffic court. The afternoon session will begin at 1:30 with a sound movie entitled "A Day in Traffic Court". This will be followed by a few short talks on phases of traffic courts, and by a model traffic court demonstration. Residents of the immediate area of each conference—judges, traffic officers, prosecuting attorneys, members of the bar generally—will make up the morning panel and the cast for the afternoon model court demonstration. Each member of the bar is urged to attend the conference nearest his office. Members of the bar who have a particular role in traffic court procedure, either as prosecuting attorneys or as defense counsel, are especially urged to attend. The conferences have been developed at the suggestion of a statewide conference called by the governor and are designed to improve traffic court procedure. All persons present will have an adequate opportunity to participate in the discussions.

The Colorado Bar Association is a pioneer in the field of district traffic court conferences. In 1944 the Colorado Bar Association sponsored a series of district traffic court conferences, which were the first held in the United States and which became a model for district traffic court conferences subsequently held by many states. During the war such conferences were largely eliminated, but with the increase in traffic deaths and the increase in traffic on the road, it is now imperative that these conferences be reestablished, so that traffic court procedure may be improved to keep pace with traffic problems.