



The Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS) at the University of Alabama has developed electronic citation software (eCite) that can be used to quickly, accurately, securely and legibly issue citations by an officer in a mobile setting. Using a conventional laptop or tablet PC, an officer can issue tickets electronically, print a copy for the violator, and periodically transmit the tickets to an on-line central server repository. The data is then in the court system and doesn't have to be hand-entered by the clerk. CAPS has also developed administrative web portals for both officers and clerks to complement the system. These portals allow previously administered tickets to be searched by various parameters, viewed and printed. The status of the ticket can be ascertained and the case number is linked.

This program has a number of versatile features:

- Driver's license barcode and magnetic stripe scanning;
- Auto-population of driver's license information;
- Interfaces with Web pages and other applications;
- Set defaults to auto-populate certain form fields;
- Ability to import driver and/or vehicle data from third party applications (ASPEN, etc.);
- Ability to import location data from GPS device;
- Automated data validation;
- Ticket replication to allow multiple tickets to be written quickly and easily;
- Templates to allow customized preset values;
- Automated Internet-based upload of ticket data to central data repository;
- Automated internet-based download of ticket numbers from a central repository;
- Ability to write warning tickets and transfer into ticket database.

The screenshot shows the eCite software interface in training mode. The window title is "eCite - Alabama Uniform Traffic Ticket And Complaint [TRAINING MODE]". The menu bar includes File, View, Tools, Windows, and Help. The toolbar contains icons for New, Open, Save, Print, Replicate, Validate, Messages, Void, Transfer, and Ticketbooks. Below the toolbar is a "Ticket Summary" section showing the officer "Terry W Elliott" and the time "6/30/2008 3:23 PM". The main form area is titled "Alabama Uniform Traffic Ticket and Complaint" and has a "Ticket Number" field with the value "@0000001". The form is divided into sections: "Officer", "Defendant", "Vehicle", "Location/Time", "Offense", and "Court/Bond". The "Person Charged with the Offense" section includes fields for First Name (Terry), Middle/Maiden Name (Wayne), Last Name (Elliott), and Suffix. The Address section includes 200 Ridgeway Road, Hueytown, Alabama, 35023. The Personal Information section includes Sex (Male), Race (White/Caucasian/Hispanic), Date of Birth (03/05/1981), and Social Security Number. The Physical Characteristics section includes Height (6'3"), Weight (185), Eyes (BRN - Brown), and Hair (BRN - Brown). The Driver License section includes In Possession? (Yes), State (Alabama), Number (6625512), and Class (D).

New Enhancements:

A non-UTC was recently added as an option in eCite. Many agencies write tickets that cannot be written on a Uniform Traffic Citation. Now these agencies can use eCite to issue warnings or citations and transfer them into the database.

A weight form was also added. This form is used for recording weight inspections of commercial vehicles and automatically calculating the data to determine if the vehicle needs to be cited for being overweight. If it does, eCite is used to issue the citation.

eCite can be adapted to meet the requirements of your jurisdiction. Once customized, the eCite software may be licensed within your jurisdiction at no charge. All costs are one-time fees associated with the customization of the software. Cost is determined based on the requirements of your jurisdiction. Contact Rhonda at rstricklin@cs.ua.edu or at 866-349-CARE for further details.

