

# How Arrest Order Grace Periods Work

A grace period allows people to resolve missed appearances and avoid arrest. Here's how they work.



John missed his court date for a traffic offense because he couldn't get time off work. What happens if the judge...

## Issues an arrest order immediately?

The clerk immediately enters an arrest order.

John, who doesn't have a lawyer, doesn't know he could be arrested for missing court.

Three weeks later, John is pulled over for a broken tail light and is arrested on the order.

Additional law enforcement time is required for the arrest and booking.

Even though he is released from jail that day, John missed his shift at work and is fired from his job.

John's court date is rescheduled six weeks out. He struggles to find a new job now that he has an arrest record.

## Allows a Grace Period?

The clerk indicates that the arrest order should be held for 2 business days.

John is notified by a text or phone call that he missed court and has 2 business days to appear before he is subject to arrest.

Realizing he could face serious consequences, John comes to the clerk's office first thing the next morning.

John's court date is rescheduled for two weeks later without any further consequences.

John's case moves forward with minimal delay.