

**§6208. Marine resources' citation form**

**1. Form.** The commissioner shall designate the Uniform Summons and Complaint as the citation form to be used by the Bureau of Marine Patrol, except that the commissioner may permit the use of any citation forms approved by the Chief Judge of the District Court before May 1, 1991 that are in current stock as of May 1, 1991 until those stocks are depleted.

[PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

**2. Responsibility for issuance and disposition.** Responsibility for issuance and disposition is as follows.

A. The commissioner is responsible for all marine resources' citation forms approved by the Chief Judge of the District Court prior to May 1, 1991. The Department of Public Safety is responsible for all Uniform Summons and Complaint forms issued by the Bureau of Marine Patrol. The commissioner or the commissioner's designee is responsible for the further issuance of Uniform Summons and Complaint books to individual law enforcement officers and the proper disposition of those books. [PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

B. [PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (RP).]

[PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

**3. Illegal disposition; prohibited act.** It is unlawful and official misconduct for any marine patrol officer or other public employee to dispose of an official citation form or Uniform Summons and Complaint, except in accordance with law and as provided for in any applicable official policy or procedure of the Bureau of Marine Patrol.

[PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

**4. When a lawful complaint.** If the citation provided for in this section or a Uniform Summons and Complaint is duly sworn to as required by law and otherwise legally sufficient in respect to the form of a complaint and charging an offense, it may be filed in a court having jurisdiction and constitutes a lawful complaint for the purpose of the commencement of any criminal prosecution or civil violation proceeding.

[PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

**5. When a lawful summons.** A citation as provided for in this section or a Uniform Summons and Complaint, when served upon a person by a law enforcement officer, acts as a summons to appear in court or to otherwise respond in accordance with law on or before the date specified in the summons. Any person who fails to appear in court as directed by the summons or to otherwise respond in accordance with law on or before the date specified in the summons commits a Class E crime. Upon that person's failure to appear or to respond in accordance with law, the court may issue a warrant of arrest. It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this subsection that the failure to appear or to respond resulted from just cause.

[PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

**6. Refusal to sign; prohibited act.** Any person who refuses to sign a citation or Uniform Summons and Complaint after having been ordered to do so by a law enforcement officer commits a Class E crime.

[PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1985, c. 481, §A37 (NEW). PL 1987, c. 513, §3 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 459, §1 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature and is current through October 15, 2024. The text is*

*subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.