

FLHSMV

FLORIDA HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES



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Official Florida Driver License Handbook





Dave Kerner
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December 31, 2024

Honorable Ron Desantis
Governor of Florida
PLS, The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Honorable Ben Albritton
Senate President
409 The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Honorable Daniel Perez
Speaker of the House
420 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor, President and Speaker:

Pursuant to the provisions of sections [316.173](#) and [316.1896](#), Florida Statutes, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (the department) respectfully submits the enclosed summary report on the use of School Bus Infraction and School Zone Speed Detection Systems in Florida.

This is the first year for reporting these programs, and relatively few school districts or law enforcement agencies are actively participating at this time. Therefore, for simplicity, we have combined both programs into one report. As more entities embark on the programs going forward, the reports may be separated once there is a greater volume of data available.

This report is a compilation of information the department requested and received from school districts and law enforcement jurisdictions in counties operating these systems and who issued Notices of Violation for these infractions during the 2024 calendar year.

The department collaborated with school districts to obtain violation information from program inception through the end of the third calendar quarter, September 30, 2024. Please note, there were three school districts and seven law enforcement jurisdictions operating these camera systems during this first reporting period.

The department is still actively consulting with school districts, law enforcement jurisdictions, and camera vendors to reconcile and improve the data collection process and the reporting requirements for both programs.

Should you need additional assistance or have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 617-3100.

Respectfully,

Dave Kerner
Executive Director

Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles School Bus and School Zone Camera Report 2024

Introduction

[Section 316.173\(17\)\(c\)](#), and [s. 316.1896\(16\)\(c\)](#), Florida Statutes, require the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (the department) to annually provide to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives summary reports on the use of School Bus Infraction Detectors and School Zone Speed Detection systems, respectively, on or before December 31, 2024, and annually thereafter. For this first year of reporting, the two reports have been combined into one for simplicity, due to the relatively few participating entities. Following years may see the reports separated as later adopters implement their programs.

The reports are directed to be summaries on operation of the school bus cameras and school zone cameras during each reporting period, along with the department's recommendations and any recommended legislation. Each summary report must include a review of the information submitted to the department by the school districts and law enforcement agencies and must describe the enhancement to traffic safety and enforcement programs.

Terms and abbreviations used in this report are as follows:

- School districts will be referred to as districts.
- Law enforcement agencies of counties and municipalities will be referred to as jurisdictions.
- Notices of Violation will be referred to as N O V's.
- Uniform Traffic Citations will be referred to as U T C's.

Background

During the 2023 Florida legislative session, [section 316.173](#), Florida Statutes (F.S.), entitled Enforcement of School Bus Passing Infractions was created. The statute authorizes school districts to install cameras on school buses to capture video and photographs of motor vehicles passing stopped school buses in violation of [section 316.172](#), F. S., and to issue Notices of Violations (N O V's) based on the images.

[Section 316.173\(17\)\(c\)](#), F.S., directs school districts operating a school bus infraction detection system to submit a quarterly report to the department which details the results of school bus infraction detection systems.

In the same legislative session, [section 316.1896](#), F. S. related to Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits was created authorizing counties and municipalities to install speed detection cameras in school zones to capture video and photographs of motor vehicles exceeding 10 miles per hour over the posted speed limit during designated school zone hours and to issue N O V's based on the images.

[Section 316.1896\(16\)\(c\)](#), F. S., directs counties or municipalities that operate one or more school zone speed detection systems, to report compliance with [section 316.0776\(3\)\(c\)](#), F. S., to the department and detail the results of the speed detection systems in the school zones and the procedures for enforcement.

Fees and Distribution for Infraction Detection Systems

Violation Type	Fine	Distribution	Reference
School Bus Infraction Detection	\$200	"Must be remitted to the school district in which the violation occurred. Such civil penalties must be used for the installation, operation, or maintenance of school bus infraction detection systems on school buses, including student transportation safety initiatives, driver recruitment and retention stipends, or other student transportation safety enhancements; for the administration and costs associated with the enforcement of violations as described in this section; or to provide financial awards to recruit or retain school bus drivers in the school district in which the civil penalties are assessed and collected."	Section 316.173(7) F.S.
School Zone Infraction Detection	\$100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$77 distributed to the county or municipality in which the violation occurred. • \$20 Remitted to Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. • \$3 Remitted to Department of Revenue for deposit into the Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Justice Standards and Training Trust Fund. 	Section 318.18 (3)(d) F.S.

Methodology

New legislation was enacted in July 2023 to authorize School Bus Infraction Detection Systems and School Zone Camera Speed Detection Systems aimed to improve student safety by deterring dangerous driving behaviors around schools.

The department developed and published reporting requirements of camera-based school bus passing and school zone speeding violations on the department's public website. The documentation provides specific guidance on the form and manner in which data must be compiled and submitted to the department. The reporting specifications are structured to capture detailed violation events (locational), a summary of violation dispositions, and an inventory of district or jurisdiction camera systems from each enforcement program.

The department briefed the Florida Association of Pupil Transportation Directors at their meetings in January and June 2024 on the reporting requirements for the School Bus Infraction Detection System. These sessions enhanced communication and information sharing about school bus safety programs with both school districts and participating vendors. The department worked closely with districts and vendors to define reporting requirements and develop a violation database. By the end of 2024, the system had begun collecting and processing data, laying the foundation for more effective enforcement and a safer environment for Florida's students.

Report Summary

For both School Bus and School Zone violations, districts and jurisdictions are to submit to the department, two required quarterly reports. The report elements are identical for school bus and school zone violations within these two reports. The reports are structured to account for the results of school bus and school zone data within each program.

The first required report is an event report that records specific details of the violation. The event report captures:

- Unique identifier of the violation,
- Date and time of the violation,
- Type of violation (school bus or school zone),
- Unique identifier of the camera,
- School District or Law Enforcement Jurisdiction,
- County where the violation occurred,
- Location where the violation occurred, via latitude and longitude coordinates, and
- Camera system vendor name.

The second required report is a quarterly summary report that aggregates the event data by the disposition of the violations. This report provides:

- Snapshot of the violations issued and their status throughout the year,
- Disposition status of previous reports will be updated,
- Number of N O V's issued,
- Number of N O V's paid,
- Number of N O V's pending,
- Number of N O V's contested,
- Number of N O V's contested and upheld,
- Number N O V's contested and dismissed, and
- Number of N O V's issued as UTC's.

A process flow diagram for each program is provided in Appendix I and II.

Analysis

The data in this summary represents information submitted to the department through the end of October 2024 from participating districts and jurisdictions for both camera systems. As more programs become active and data becomes available, the department will have enough data to develop a meaningful information baseline for traffic safety analysis of these systems.

There are presently three school districts operating school bus infraction detection systems, and seven local law enforcement jurisdictions operating school zone speed detection systems. The entities that are actively operating, or are considering implementing School Bus Infraction and School Zone Speed Detection System Programs are listed in the following tables:

School Bus Cameras

School District	Status
Hillsborough County Schools	Actively Participating
Miami-Dade County Schools	Actively Participating
Santa Rosa County Schools	Actively Participating
Charlotte County Schools	Evaluating options. Plan on a Pilot in 2025
Duval County Schools	Plans are on hold
Flagler County Schools	Evaluating options
Leon County Schools	Evaluating options
Mantee County Schools	Evaluating options
Orange County Schools	Evaluating options
Osceola County Schools	Evaluating options
Polk County Schools	Operating a Pilot program

School Zone Cameras

County	Jurisdiction	Status
Alachua	High Springs Police Department	Actively Participating
Bradford	Lawtey Police Department	Actively Participating
Brevard	Palm Bay Police Department	Actively Participating
Manatee	Bradenton Police Department	Actively Participating
Manatee	Manatee County Sheriff's Office	Actively Participating
Miami-Dade	Pinecrest Police Department	Actively Participating
Miami Dade	South Miami Police Department	Actively Participating
Broward	Hollywood Police Department	Plans are on hold
Columbia	Lake City Police Department	Evaluating options
Hendry	Hendry County Sheriff's Office	Evaluating options
Manatee	Holmes Beach Police Department	Evaluating options

Statewide Notices of Violation

Disposition	School Bus	% of Total	School Zone	% of Total
N O V's Issued	61,150	100.00%	26,300	100.00%
N O V's Paid	34,461	56.35%	4,749	18.06%
N O V's Pending	24,866	40.66%	19,423	73.85%
N O V's Contested	1,814	2.97%	40	0.15%
N O V's Upheld	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
N O V's Dismissed	0	0.00%	1,470	5.59%
N O V's Issued as UTC	9	0.02%	618	2.35%

Camera Violation Systems Summary information as of October 2024

- The table above shows the N O V data reported by the districts and jurisdictions:
 - School Bus Infraction Detection System:
 - 1,517 cameras in use by three school districts.
 - 394 school buses have cameras installed.
 - Three school districts issued 61,150 N O V's.
 - School Zone Speed Detection System:
 - 74 cameras in use by seven law enforcement jurisdictions.
 - 26,300 N O V's were issued from seven law enforcement jurisdictions for School Zone speeding violations.
- U T C's issued due to Non-Payment of uncontested N O V's:
 - School Bus Infraction Detection cameras:
 - 9 U T C's were issued due to non-payment of uncontested N O V's.
 - School Zone Speed Detection cameras:
 - 618 U T C's were issued due to non-payment of uncontested N O V's.
- The table below shows the U T Cs issued directly by law enforcement officers for the third quarter of 2024.

Statewide Officer Issued Traffic Citations	Statute	Offense Date 2024		
		July	August	September
Failure to Stop for a School Bus	316.172	6	344	378
Passing Stopped School Bus	316.172		4	5
School Zone Speeding - More than 10 mph	316.183	29	38	37
	316.1895	9	78	84
Unlawful Speed - School Zone	316.1895	227	6304	5445

Recommendations

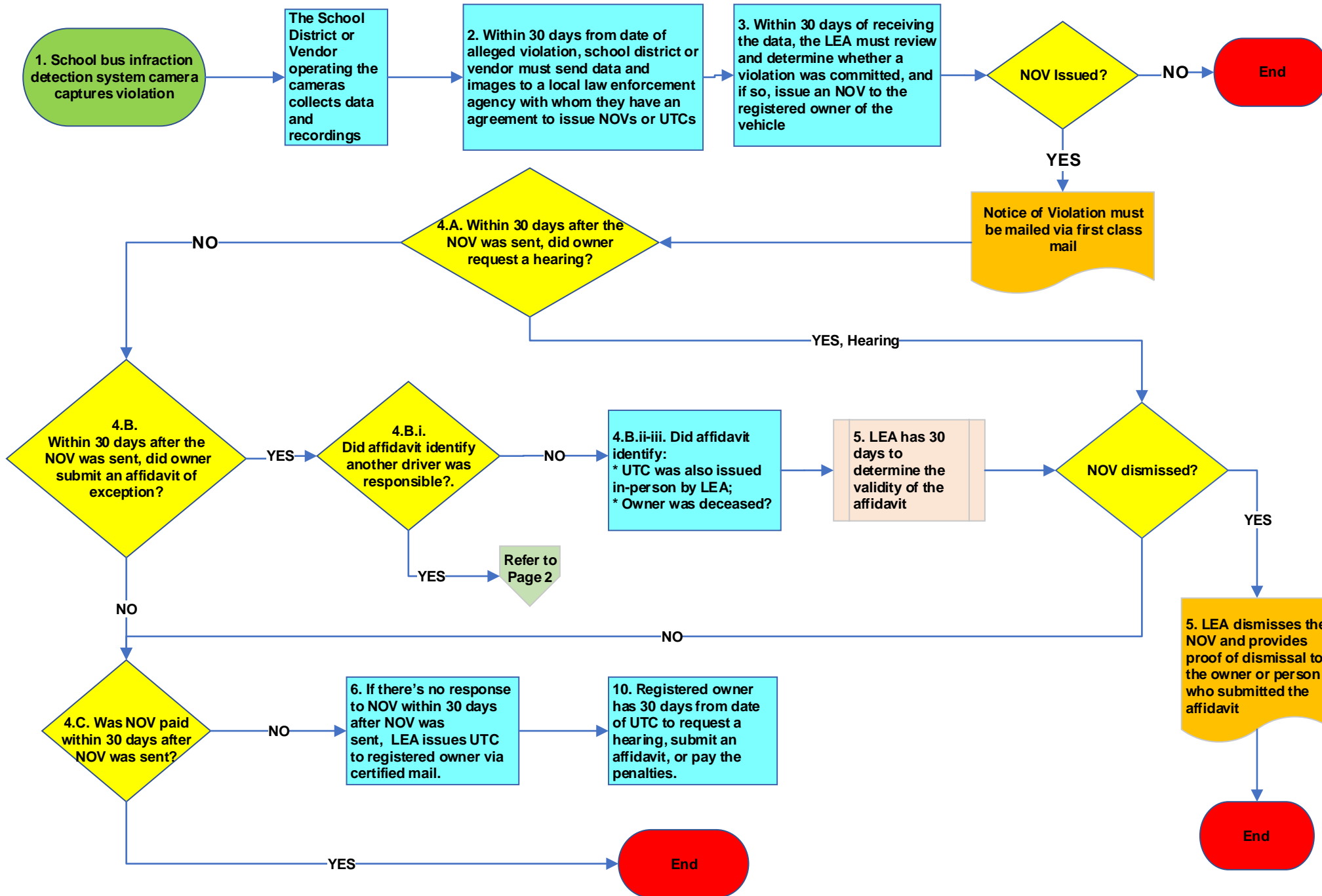
The following recommendations would allow more accurate reporting of information that cannot currently be tracked through the available data.

1. Recommend clarifying the reporting period of the reports to reflect the Fiscal Year, aligning it with the School Year.
2. Conduct virtual and in-person data quality, reporting and traffic safety workshops in collaboration with school districts, law enforcement jurisdictions, partner state agencies and vendors.
3. Assess violation data after each calendar year and provide further safety recommendations.

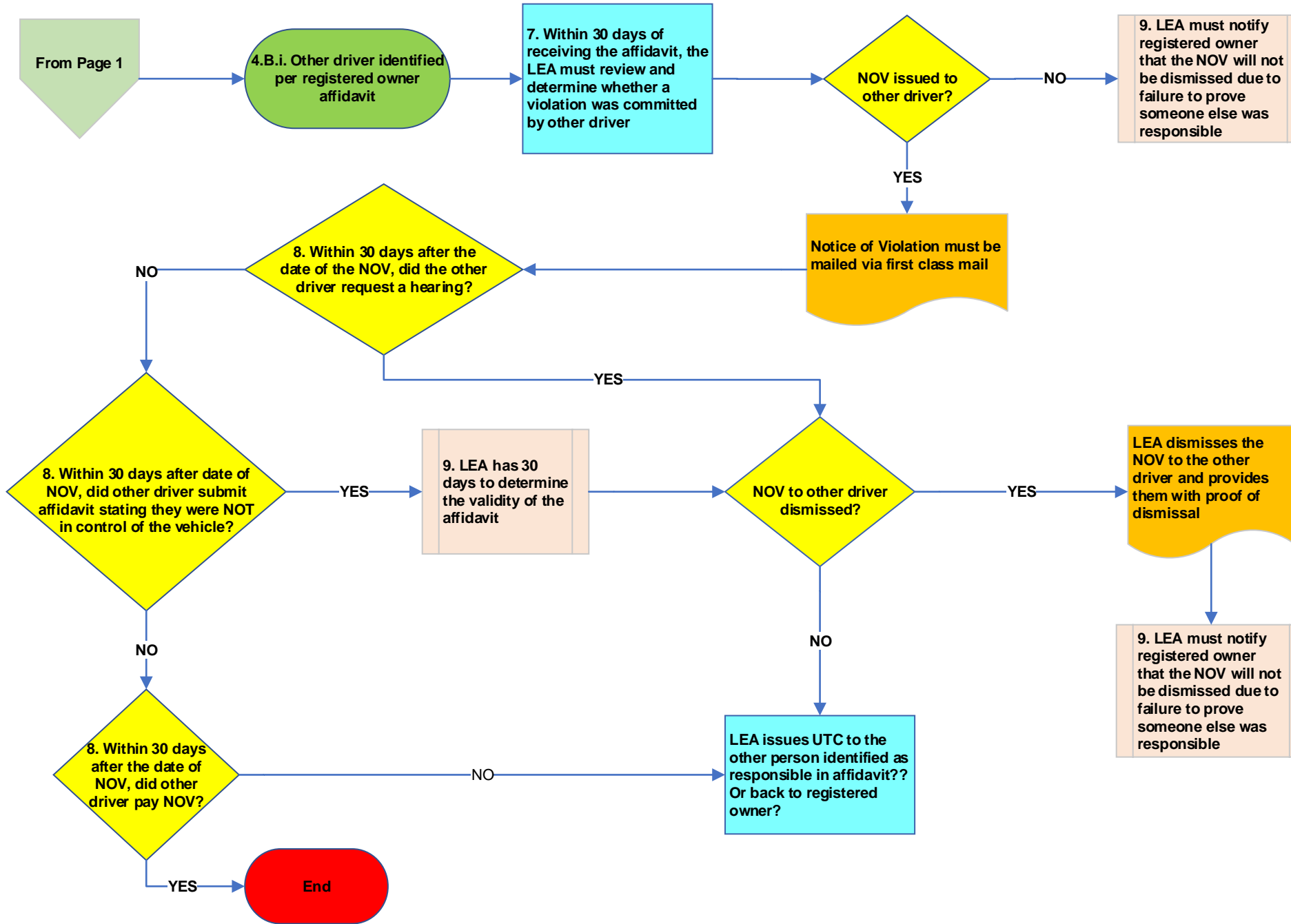
Appendices

- I. School Bus Infraction Detection Process Flow
- II. School Zone Camera Speed Detection Process Flow

Appendix I: School Bus Infraction Detection Process Flow



School Bus Infraction Detection - Other Driver Identified



Appendix II: School Zone Speed Violation Process Flow

