

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI,  
AMENDING SECTION 18-34(a) OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS  
MUNICIPAL CODE TO ELIMINATE THE CHARGE OF “FAILURE TO APPEAR” AS  
TO MINOR TRAFFIC CHARGES.**

WHEREFORE, section 479.360(6) RSMo. (2025) states that “no additional charge shall be issued for the failure to appear for a minor traffic violation.”

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Section 18-34 of Chapter 18 of the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors municipal code states as follows:

**Sec. 18-34 Failure to appear on charged offense.**

(a) In addition to the forfeiture of any security which was given or pledged for the release of any person charged with an offense in the municipal division of the county circuit court, it shall be unlawful for any person who has been charged with an offense in the municipal division of the county circuit court to willfully fail to appear before such court as required.

(b) Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to punishment as provided in section 1-10 of this Code of Ordinances except that the maximum fine cannot exceed the maximum fine permitted on the municipal ordinance violation on which he had been charged and on which he had failed to appear. This penalty shall not diminish in any way the contempt powers of the municipal judge.

SECTION 2: Section 18-34(a) of Chapter 18 of the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors municipal code is hereby amended to state as follows:

**Sec. 18-34 Failure to appear on charged offense.**

(a) In addition to the forfeiture of any security which was given or pledged for the release of any person charged with an offense in the municipal division of the county circuit court, it shall be unlawful for any person who has been charged with a “**major**” traffic offense in the municipal division of the county circuit court to willfully fail to appear before such court as required.

(b) Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to punishment as provided in section 1-10 of this Code of Ordinances except that the maximum fine cannot exceed the maximum fine permitted on the municipal ordinance violation on which

he had been charged and on which he had failed to appear. This penalty shall not diminish in any way the contempt powers of the municipal judge.

SECTION 3. All ordinances, parts of ordinances or provisions of the Municipal Code of the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors, Missouri in conflict with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**PASSED and APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2026**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**James W. Thomas Sr.**  
**Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Denise Johnson**  
**City Clerk**