



Broome County School Bus Stop-Arm Safety Program FAQs

Why has Broome County installed School Bus Stop-Arm Safety Cameras?

Today, parents have enough reasons to worry about their children's safety—sending them to school should not be one of them. It is illegal and incredibly dangerous for a vehicle to pass a stopped school bus.

Every day, for some 26 million students nationwide, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. More than 400 children nationwide have been killed by drivers passing a stopped school bus over the past four decades according to the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at NC State University. The goal of the program is to improve the safety and transportation of students riding school buses. We are committed to reducing violations, collisions, and injuries to keep our community safe.

In 2019, 17 million U.S. drivers illegally passed school buses, coming to more than 95,000 vehicles passing school bus in a single day according to NASDPTS. Unfortunately, when motorists disregard the law and pass the school bus, they jeopardize the safety of our children putting them in danger.

To address this serious issue, Broome County partnered with Verra Mobility to administer a County-wide School Bus Stop-Arm Safety Program through coordination with participating School Districts and other governmental agencies to keep our children safe as enter and exit the school bus.

A total of 342 school bus safety cameras will be installed on County buses. The following schools will be equipped with school bus stop-arm safety cameras participating in the School Bus Safety Program with more to come:

- Binghamton City School District
- Chenango Forks School District
- Chenango Valley School District
- Harpursville School District
- Johnson City School District
- Maine-Endwell School District
- Marathon City School District
- Susquehanna Valley School District
- Union-Endicott School District
- Whitney Point School District
- Windsor School District





The CrossingGuard[®] school bus arm safety solution provides state-of-the-art stop-arm safety technology including DVR and storage devices, internal cameras, GPS, telemetry, and LTE connectivity. When the stop arm is deployed, the camera automatically detects a vehicle illegally passing the stop arm in either direction and captures video of the violation and still images of a vehicle's license plate. The violation video and license plate images are then reviewed by law enforcement for approval prior to a warning being issued. Most importantly, communities that use school bus stop-arm safety cameras consistently report safer roads around their schools. The program helps ensure that drivers pay more attention and obey traffic control devices.

The use of school bus safety cameras in Broome County was authorized under the State Statue, Code Section 1174(a), a driver who meets or overtakes a school bus (from either direction) that has stopped to receive or discharge any passengers, and which has at least one flashing red signal lamp, must stop their vehicle before reaching said school bus. The driver must also remain stopped until the bus continues moving or signals for the driver to pass, or until a police officer gives the driver permission to continue.

When are the school bus stop-arm safety cameras operational?

School bus stop-arm safety cameras will only be captured when the school bus stop arm is extended, and lights are flashing. Violations will be captured all year long.

What is the fine amount for a school bus stop-arm notice of liability?

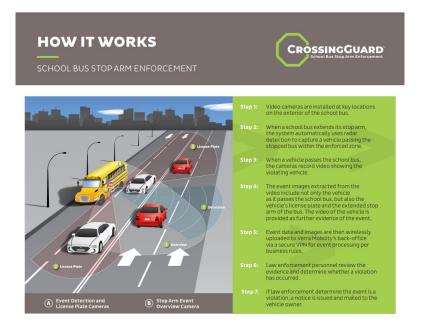
The fine amount for a school bus stop-arm safety camera is \$250 for a first offense, \$275 for the second within 18 months and \$300 for subsequent offense in 18 months.





How do the school bus stop-arm safety cameras work?

Broome County utilizes school bus stop-arm safety cameras.



STOP ARM ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY







How do I pay the fine?

1. **PAY ONLINE:** Go to <u>www.ViolationInfo.com</u> and log in with your Notice # and PIN located on the front of your Notice of Liability. Click the Pay button.

There is an additional convenience fee for online payments.

2. PAYMENT BY MAIL: Send bottom portion of your Notice of Liability along with a check or money order payable to the following address. *Be sure to include the License Plate and Notice number on the face of your payment.*

Broome County Security Division School Bus Safety Program PO Box 35131 Seattle, WA 98124-5131

*Please do NOT mail cash.

3. **PAY BY PHONE:** Call 1-866-790-4111 and select option 1. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A fee may apply for phone payments

You may use the following methods to pay the Notice of Liability:

- Credit/Debit Cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover. (a convenience fee will be charged for credit card payments)
- Personal Check (no out-of-state checks)
- Money Order
- Money Gram





What if I don't agree with my School Bus Stop-Arm Notice of Liability? How can I dispute it?

 SUBMIT AN AFFIDAVIT OF NON-RESPONSIBILITY (REVIEW): The owner of the vehicle shall be responsible for the Notice of Liability except where evidence is provided that, at the time and place of the violation, the ownership of the motor vehicle had been transferred or a citation has been issued by a police officer for this infraction. Sign and mail the Affidavit of Non-Responsibility (along with all supporting documentation) back before the Due Date on the front of the Notice of Liability.

Please mail to: Violation Processing Center PO Box 22091 Tempe, AZ 85285-2091

or email to Info@VerraMobility.com, or fax to 1-480-990-4819.

You will be notified of the outcome by mail. Keep in mind that submitting the Affidavit will NOT automatically result in the closure of this matter. If further information is required, you will be notified.

2. REQUEST A HEARING (IN-PERSON): Request to contest liability through an administrative hearing by signing and mailing the hearing coupon on the back side of your Notice of Liability (coupon is also available on your Delinquent Notice of Liability). You will receive a hearing notification letter in the mail that will include the date, time and location of your hearing. By requesting a hearing, you acknowledge that if found liable, you will be responsible for the civil penalty and any court costs that apply. If you fail to attend your hearing you will be found liable and will be responsible for the fine civil penalty and any additional penalties. If you choose to pay the civil penalty before your hearing date you do not need to attend the hearing.





What if I lost my Notice of Liability?

Please call 1-866-790-4111 and have your license plate number readily available.

What if the registered owner was not driving the vehicle at the time of the violation?

The registered owner of a vehicle will be mailed the Notice of Violation. If your vehicle/plate was stolen or you are a rental/lease car agency, you may complete an Affidavit of Non-Responsibility and attach supporting documentation found on <u>www.violationinfo.com</u>. The Affidavit must be received by the due date of your Notice. The Affidavit and supporting documentation will be reviewed and will result in either dismissal of the notice or scheduling an administrative hearing. You will be notified in writing of any action taken.

Who receives the Notice of Liability?

Notices of Liability are mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle.

Can I receive citations for other offenses because of the school bus stop-arm violation?

No. Drivers who receive school bus stop-arm violations are cited for school bus stop-arm violations only.

How can I see the video and images captured for my Notice of Liability?

The recorded images and video will be submitted as evidence in any Administrative Hearing for this violation. You may view your images online at www.ViolationInfo.com. You will need your Notice # and PIN shown on the front of this Notice of Violation. If you do not have a computer/smartphone or internet access, you may visit any of your public libraries for assistance in getting online to see your evidence.