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ABOUT THE PITTSBURGH PARKING COURT

Pursuant to 75 Pa.C.S.A. § 6107(h), which took effect on May 9, 2005, the Public Parking Authority of Pittsburgh, a body corporate and politic organized under the Parking Authority Law of June 19, 2001, P.L. 287, as amended and supplemented, is obligated to enforce and administer all ordinances and resolutions enacted or adopted by the City of Pittsburgh pursuant to the powers specified in 75 Pa.C.S.A. § 6109(a)(1), as well as those certain stopping, standing, and parking provisions set forth in Sections 3351, 3353 and 3354 of Title 75. In accordance with the Pennsylvania Legislature's mandate, the Parking Authority established the "Pittsburgh Parking Court," an administrative agency, to adjudicate all disputed parking violation notices issued by the Parking Authority's enforcement officers. Hearing officers, rather than judges, preside over matters adjudicated within the Pittsburgh Parking Court. The full text of 75 Pa.C.S.A. § 6109(h) is set forth below.

(h) Delegation of powers in cities of the second class.-

(1) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 55 or this title, beginning on January 1, 2005, the parking authority of a city of the second class shall enforce and administer all ordinances and resolutions enacted or adopted by the city of the second class pursuant to the powers specified under subsection (a)(1) and those certain stopping, standing and parking provisions provided in sections 3351 (relating to stopping, standing and parking outside of business and residence districts), 3353 (relating to prohibitions in specified places) and 3354 (relating to additional parking regulations).

(2) Beginning on March 1, 2005, the parking authority of a city of the second class shall enter into an agreement with the city of the second class for the transfer of a portion of the fines, penalties and costs collected pursuant to this subsection, which the parking authority board deems reasonable, to the city of the second class.

(3) As used in this subsection, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this paragraph:

"Administer." To provide any services or materials necessary to enforce any ordinance or resolution enacted in order to regulate or prohibit the stopping, standing or parking of motor vehicles in a city of the second class or those certain stopping, standing, and parking provisions provided in sections 3351, 3353, and 3354, including, but not limited to:

(i) The installation and maintenance of all equipment, including parking meters, on and along highways, streets and roadways.

(ii) The installation and maintenance of all signage, including signage for handicapped parking, residential permit parking and loading areas, on and along highways, streets and roadways.

(iii) The operation and management of any handicapped parking, residential parking and loading area permit programs.

(iv) The adjudication of all disputed parking violation notices or citations issued through enforcement by the parking authority in a city of the second class.

"Enforce." The issuance of parking violation notices or citations, the immobilization, towing and impoundment of motor vehicles and the collection of fines, penalties and costs, including independent collection agency fees, for violations of any ordinance or resolution enacted in order to regulate or prohibit the stopping, standing or parking of motor vehicles in a city of the second class and those certain stopping, standing and parking provisions provided in sections 3351, 3353 and 3354.