

Municipal Court Project

**Dismantling financial barriers through
citation deferral initiatives**



Citation Deferral Program in El Paso

Individuals who have an exceeding number of citations may not be able to pay them for a number of reasons, such as a lack of finances, unemployment, or not having an ID. Many individuals who receive citations may struggle with mental health, have disabilities that prevent them from driving, or be deterred by other barriers such as a lack of childcare.

To support them and remove this financial barrier, Workforce Solutions Borderplex partnered with the El Paso Municipal Court to start a citation deferral program that allowed individuals with citations to complete nontraditional volunteer opportunities with Workforce Solutions Borderplex in lieu of payment.

Volunteer Opportunities and Experiences

Through this volunteer experience with Workforce Solutions Borderplex, participants had the opportunity to strengthen their interview skills, search for employment and helpful resources, and to develop skills through various workshops and LinkedIn Learning. Workforce Solutions Borderplex also assisted individuals in obtaining IDs, obtaining financial literacy education, and other resources to help them succeed beyond the end of the volunteer experience.

Looking to the Future

A total of twenty individuals participated in this initiative that will end on August 31, 2025. Ten have completed the entire program while the remaining ten have until the 31st. Participants have engaged with WSB services and events and have worked toward overcoming barriers in their journeys.

