

Bicycling Monterey

Local Partner of the California Bicycle Coalition

<https://bikemonterey.org> - 831.375.6278

Mari Lynch, Bicycling Monterey
PO Box 3041, Monterey, CA 93942-3041

September 15, 2024

To: Comm. William M. Litt
Monterey County Superior Court
Marina Courthouse, Dept. 20, Traffic Court
Re: Community service by [REDACTED] following bicycling-related citation

This is to advise the court that the mother of 13-year-old [REDACTED] contacted Bicycling Monterey on June 21, 2024, asking that [REDACTED] be allowed to do two hours of community service. That option had been offered by the Court as an alternative to paying a fine, the result of [REDACTED] receiving a citation from City of Salinas Police in March 2024 for biking without a helmet, required for minors by CA Vehicle Code 21212(a).


Before doing his community service, [REDACTED] was asked to go over specific educational resources provided at bikemonterey.org. Those included info on bicycle helmets and their proper fitting; an audio and written information on sidewalk riding and sidewalk ordinances in Salinas and elsewhere; videos on proper lane usage and on "dooring"; the Bike League Smart Cycling video series, and more.

In addition to other phone and email communications with his mother June-Sept, on August 30 [REDACTED] spoke with me at length, with his mom also on the call. [REDACTED] and I discussed some bike laws and safety issues, and the circumstances of his being cited. He also told me some of what he'd learned from reviewing the educational resources that I'd referred him to.

For his community service, [REDACTED] distributed ten laminated posters as well as some fliers, including bilingual bike law summaries and mini fliers about resources provided on bikemonterey.org. [REDACTED] did his poster and flier distribution in Salinas, under his mom's supervision. On September 3 his mom emailed me two photos, which showed [REDACTED] taking a poster to a library and sharing fliers at a park. She also emailed me a list of locations where he did this community service, as follows: [REDACTED] took a laminated poster to Salinas Visitor Center; Cesar Chavez Library, El Gabilan Library, Steinbeck Library; Bread Box Rec Center, El Dorado Rec Center, Salinas Rec Center; Bobcat Bicycles, Valley Bikes; and Harden Middle School. He distributed some bike law summaries and mini fliers at Central Park, El Dorado Park, Kammann Park, Maple Park, and Natividad Creek Park.

[REDACTED] and his parents were welcomed to phone me anytime with questions about bicycle laws, riding skills, or other bike-related topics. I also encouraged [REDACTED] to continue reviewing the Smart Cycling videos and other specific educational resources I'd referred him to.

I sincerely appreciate the court's willingness to allow transforming a finable citation into education and community service.

Respectfully,

Mari Lynch, Founder
Bicycling Monterey