

Radha Das
13 Pambula Street
Parramatta NSW 2820

15 February 20XX

The Presiding Magistrate
Parramatta Local Court

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Radha Das - Travelling without a valid ticket

I am very sorry for the offence before the court and take full responsibility for my actions.

On 26 June 20XX, I was travelling home from TAFE. I took the 5.14pm western line train from Central Station to Harris Park Station, as I do every day. I arrived at Harris Park at about 5:44pm. I was approached by a transit officer who asked me for my ticket. I explained to him that I couldn't find my ticket, but I had purchased a weekly ticket on Monday morning as I do every week. The officer said it was an offence to travel on the train without a ticket and issued me with a fine.

I don't know what happened to my ticket that day and I accept that I should have been able to produce it when the transit officer asked to see it. I would never have intentionally travelled without a valid ticket.

I am currently a full-time student, completing a Diploma of Hospitality Management at Ultimo TAFE.

I am not employed and receive Youth Allowance at the maximum rate. With my low income, I have to meet all of my living expenses, including rent, utilities, food, travel and other expenses. After paying all my bills each week, I have very little money left over to spend. If I am convicted of this offence, and fined, this would cause me serious financial hardship.

I have never been in trouble with the police or any transit officers, and I have never been to court.

I have been involved with a local youth group in my area for about 2 years. We take part in fundraisers, and every Easter and Christmas we help out at a homeless shelter by serving food.

Since this incident, I have ensured that I always carry a valid train ticket every time I travel on public transport. I will not travel on public transport without a valid ticket in the future.

I ask that the court consider the circumstances of the offence, my financial situation and my clear record and show leniency by waiving the fine.

Regards,

Radha Das

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