Claims:

1. A method for electronically processing a traffic violation of a vehicle which has an onboard unit having a transceiver, an input device and an output device, comprising:

upon a beacon, or a human operator of the beacon, determining that the traffic violation has occurred, transmitting a traffic violation message from thea beacon to the transceiver of the onboard unit by short range communication, and outputting the traffic violation message on the output device of the onboard unit;

accepting a user selection related to two options via the input device of the onboard unit;

if the user selection indicates the first option, transmitting the traffic violation message from the onboard unit to a remote central facility;

if the user selection indicates the second option, generating a debit transaction related to the traffic violation and charging the debit transaction against a user account.

2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the user selection must be confirmed by entering a PIN code.

3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that a cryptographic signature of the onboard unit is transmitted together with the traffic violation message.

4. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the onboard unit signs and/or encrypts the traffic violation message with a cryptographic signature.

5. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the user selection takes place by way of an NFC connection in the input device.

6. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the user account is kept in the onboard unit and the debit transaction is generated in the onboard unit.

7. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the user account is kept on a data carrier, which is debited via an NFC connection.

8. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the user account is kept in the central facility, and the traffic violation message is transmitted together with the user selection to the central facility, where the debit transaction is generated.

9. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the user account is kept in the central facility and the debit transaction is generated in the onboard unit and transmitted to the central facility.

10. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized by the step of transmitting a status of the onboard unit to the beacon and creating the traffic violation message in the beacon depending on the received status.

11. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the communication between the beacon and the onboard unit takes place according to the DSRC standard.

12. An onboard unit for a vehicle, comprising a transceiver, an input device and an output device, characterized in that the onboard unit is configured:

to receive a traffic violation message by short range communication from a beacon and output it on the output device;

to accept a user selection concerning two options via the input device;

if the user selection indicates the first option, to transmit the traffic violation message to a remote central facility; or

if the user selection indicates the second option, to initiate the generation of a debit transaction for a user account related to the traffic violation.

13. The onboard unit according to claim 12, characterized by comprising a stored modifiable status and being configured

to transmit the status via the transceiver to the beacon in response to a wireless poll.

14. The onboard unit according to claim 12 or 13, characterized in that the onboard unit is configured to keep a user account and charge the debit transaction against the same.

15. The onboard unit according to any one of claims 12 to 14, characterized in that the transceiver is a DSRC transceiver.

16. A method performed by an onboard unit of a vehicle for electronically processing a traffic violation of the vehicle, the onboard unit having a transceiver, an input device and an output device, comprising the onboard unit:

upon a beacon, or a human operator of the beacon, determining that the traffic violation has occurred, receiving a traffic violation message from the beacon to the transceiver of the onboard unit by short range communication, and outputting the traffic violation message on the output device of the onboard unit;

accepting a user selection related to two options via the input device of the onboard unit;

if the user selection indicates the first option, transmitting the traffic violation message from the onboard unit to a remote central facility;

if the user selection indicates the second option, generating a debit transaction related to the traffic violation and charging the debit transaction against a user account.

17. The method according to claim 16, characterized in that a cryptographic signature of the onboard unit is transmitted together with the traffic violation message.

18. The method according to claim 16 or 17, characterized in that the user selection takes place by way of an NFC connection in the input device.

19. The method according to any one of claims 16 to 18, characterized in that the user account is kept in the onboard

unit and the debit transaction is generated in the onboard unit.

20. The method according to any one of claims 16 to 19, characterized in that the user account is kept on a data carrier, which is debited via an NFC connection.