

'Parking Pal' just the ticket

Kit can curb summonses

By NEIL GRAVES

So you just got another parking ticket and you have two options: Pay it or don't.

Maybe this time.

But in the future, you have a third choice: Don't get the ticket in the first place.

Louis Camporeale, president of Parking Pal, said when it comes to



the Parking Violations Bureau, the best offense is a good defense.

"A lot of traffic-enforcement people are not aware of all the regulations," said Camporeale, 36, from his Gravesend, Brooklyn, business. "Parking Pal is a pre-

ventive device that alerts traffic-enforcement people that you know the rules."

The Parking Pal arsenal contains an alternate-side-of-the-street parking calendar; pointers on where not to park; what to look for on a ticket so it'll be dismissed; and a grab bag of multicolored, laminated dashboard signs ranging from "Broken Meter: Legal Parking Space" to "Commercial Vehicle on Service/Delivery Call."

Most signs have a space where the motorist can marker the time when they parked. Camporeale said drivers can win the battle of the dueling



NOT SO FAST: Louis Camporeale's Parking Pal includes placards to notify traffic agents of a broken meter. *Kevin P. Coughlin*

pens, since half of it is showing the other guy you know what you're doing.

"A lot of people don't know you can legally park at a broken meter for the amount of time legally given on the meter," he pointed out. "So when you write in the time [on a dashboard sign], it's saying: 'Hey, I parked here at noon and I can legally stay here until 1 p.m. It's not just knowing the law, it's substantiating it.'"

Camporeale, who earned his para-

legal credentials from New York University, started Parking Pal in 1994 after taking one too many up-percuts from the PVB.

"I would get a lot of tickets, especially for broken meters, when I was a student at Brooklyn College," he remembered.

"I'd write, and the ticket would get dismissed. I knew the principles of Parking Pal before I realized the concept. I put two and two together and said, 'Hey, people will pay for this information.'"