

Helpful Suggestions

Compliance with the following items will help reduce any problems you may experience during a traffic stop:

- **Carry proper identification.**
In order for you to lawfully operate a motor vehicle, you need a valid state driver's license (or permit) and be able to exhibit it upon request.
- **Carry proof of insurance.**
You are required by law to show valid proof of vehicle insurance upon request.
- **Know your responsibilities.**
When you operate a motor vehicle, even if you do not own it, you are responsible for the registration, inspection, and license plates. As the driver, you are also responsible for the vehicle condition, contents and occupants.



Plano Police Services

Emergency 911

Non-emergency972-424-5678

Headquarters

Plano Police.....972-424-5678

909 14th Street
Plano, Texas 75074

Important Numbers

Desk Officer972-941-2135
Jail972-941-2145
Professional Standards972-941-2436
Records.....972-941-2019
Crime Prevention972-941-2431
Media Information972-941-2433
Court Information972-941-2199
Alarms Information.....972-941-2426
FASIL.....972-941-2505
(Spanish Language)
Fingerprint Information.....972-941-2049
Criminal Investigative.....972-941-2445
Division
Crime Victim Liaison.....972-941-2802
Narcotics Tip Line ...972-941-STOP (7876)
Red Light Runner972-941-LITE (5483)
Hotline
Child Safety Seat.....972-208-8061
Inspections

Internet Address:

www.planopolice.org

REV. 5/13



Helpful things
to know if a
Police Officer
stops your vehicle



Plano Police Department

909 14th Street • Plano, Texas 75074

Why do Police stop people?

Reasons why you might be stopped by the police:

- You may have committed a traffic violation.
- Your vehicle may have equipment or registration violations.
- Your vehicle may fit the description of a “wanted” vehicle.
- You may appear to be in trouble or in need of help.

If you are stopped by the police while driving you may feel confused, anxious or angry. It might help you to remember that traffic stops can be equally stressful for a police officer. Every year a significant number of law enforcement officers are killed or injured while making seemingly “routine” traffic stops. Your cooperation and compliance with the police officer’s directions can make the traffic stop safe and uneventful for all involved.



Things to remember if stopped by the Police

- A police officer may stop you at any time for a traffic offense or police investigation.
- When you see the activated police lights and/or hear the police siren, remain calm and safely move your vehicle as far to the right as the roadway allows. Leave enough space for the officer to safely approach you.
- Remain in your vehicle unless otherwise directed by the officer.
- If the stop occurs after dark, turn on your dome or interior light so the officer can see you. If the officer uses a bright spot light, it is not to intimidate or embarrass you, but for the safety of all persons involved.
- Keep your hands on the steering wheel so the officer can see them.
- Do not immediately reach for your license or other documents. Wait for the officer to request them. If your documents are out of reach, tell the officer where they are before you reach for them.
- Avoid any sudden movements, especially toward the floor or seats. If you have passengers, encourage them to do the same. You, as the operator, are responsible for your vehicle and its occupants.

The Officer may issue you a ticket

After determining that you violated a law, the police officer has the option of arresting you (taking you to jail) or issuing you a citation. If you are issued a citation you will be asked to sign it. Your signature is not an admission of guilt, but an agreement that in lieu of going to jail, you will contact the court and make arrangements to dispose of the charge(s).

- If you do not agree with the citation, do not argue at the scene or refuse to sign the ticket. You should contact the court and contest the citation before a judge.
- If you do not agree with the officer’s demeanor, do not argue at the scene. Contact the police dispatch and ask to speak to the supervisor for the officer. You may also file an official complaint by contacting the Professional Standards Unit.
- If you want to commend an officer, you can send a complimentary letter to the Chief of Police at the Police Headquarters.

