

ACTk NOWledge

Knowledge is power... be responsible for what you know



Youth Guide for Interacting with Police Officers

Produced by the High School youth of United Against Violence of Greater Dayton. Sponsored by Samaritan Behavioral Health

Respect is the key in any relationship. We all want to be treated with common courtesy and respect.

Remember the police are here for you; seek them out when you need any sort of help. This is true even if you have had bad interactions with the police in the past.

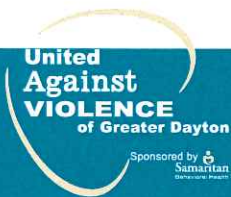
Our police officer's job is to keep everyone safe – including you.

Thank You,

Young Adults Focus Council (YAFC)

United Against Violence of Greater Dayton (UAVGD)

www.stopviolence.org



Traffic Stops

Traffic stops are potentially a very dangerous situation for police officers. Remember, they don't know anything about who specifically is driving until they reach the car. Approaching your car with caution is a routine safety precaution. Calling for backup is also routine, especially at night.

Helpful Tips:

- Remain calm and safely pull over to the right side of the road.
- Stay in your vehicle.
- **Keep your hands visible!**
- Follow the directions you are given.
- Do not jump to conclusions.
- Wait and listen for the reason you are being stopped.
- Speak calmly and with respect.
- Tell any passengers to do the same.
- At night, please turn on your interior car light.
- Your attitude may send a message – either good or bad.

Stopped on the Street as a Pedestrian

Helpful Tips

- How you react and answer the questions may determine whether or not you get arrested.
Don't Run!
- **Keep your hands visible!**
- Identify yourself.
- Answer all questions to the best of your knowledge.
- Do not "BAD MOUTH" or walk away from police officers, even in instances where you feel they are wrong.
- If the police officer behaves inappropriately, report their misconduct to a supervisor at a later time.
- If an officer has "reasonable suspicion" that you may be carrying a weapon or illegal substance, you may be subjected to a "Pat-down" search.
- Do not resist the search.
- **Obey all requests made of you.**