



DAYTON
—POLICE DEPARTMENT—



WHAT TO DO...

When the police knock on your
DOOR

If the Police Come to Your Door

- Confirm the person(s) is law enforcement by requesting to see a badge and/or identification card
- Be pleasant but serious, ask “How can I help you?” or “What brings you to my home?”



Reasons the Police May be at Your Door

The Officer(s) May:

- Have an arrest or search warrant
- Be actively investigating a crime
- Be in “hot pursuit” of an individual suspected of committing a crime and running into your house
- Or there’s an emergency, such as a 911 call or someone yelling for help



If the Police Come to Your Door

If the officers insist on entering your home, you may verbally express objections; however, do not resist, argue, or try to prevent them from entering

When the situation is under control, you have the right to ask the officers to explain their actions and also to ask them for their name and ID numbers, which they must provide if asked. Write down badge numbers, the time of day and what the officers looked like.

If you are still not satisfied, you can ask to have a supervisor respond or file a complaint with the Police Department



If the Police Come to Your Door

Helpful Reminders:

- Try to stay calm and control your emotions
- Do not make threatening motions or statements to the officers
- Even if you're not involved in an incident, you may be arrested if you use threatening language or gestures towards the officers or cause a disturbance that makes the officers to fear for their safety





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QUESTIONS?



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WHAT TO DO...

When you are stopped by the police as a
MOTORIST

If You Are Stopped In Your Car



Slow down and pull over safely when you can

If the police vehicle is unmarked and you cannot identify the driver as a uniformed police officer, drive below the speed limit to a well lit, populated area and then pull over



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

- Stay in the driver's seat with both hands on the steering wheel
- Do not leave the car, unless asked
- Getting out of your car can be perceived as aggressive behavior and a threat to the officer's safety
- If stopped at night, turn on your interior lights



If You Are Stopped in Your Car

Here Are Some Questions You May Be Asked:

- What is your name?
- Where do you live?
- Do you have any identification?



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

- Comply with the officer's request to see your driver's license, proof of insurance, and/or registration
- If those items are in the glove box or under the seat, tell the officer where they are and wait until told to retrieve them
- Most officers will not tell you why you were stopped until they have your license and/or registration



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

- If you wish to offer an explanation of your actions, do so before the officer returns to their vehicle
- The officer can't void the ticket once it has been written
- If you are issued a ticket, sign it. Signing a ticket is not an admission of guilt, it's acknowledgment of receiving the ticket



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

- Refusing to sign the ticket could result in your arrest and/or additional charges
- If you believe you have been treated unfairly, present your case in traffic court, not to the officer



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

- If you are the driver or owner of the car and do not want your car searched, clearly inform the officer of your non-consent in a polite manner
- However, if the officer has probable cause, your car can be searched without a warrant



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

Officers can order both the driver and passengers to exit the car.
Failure to do so could result in arrest

- ***Pennsylvania v. Mimms***, 434 U.S. 106 (1977), is a United States Supreme Court criminal law decision that a police officer ordering a person out of a car following a traffic stop and conducting a pat-down to check for weapons in the interests of safety did not violate the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution



If You Are Stopped In Your Car

- If you are suspected of impaired driving, cooperate with the officer(s)
- Refusal to submit to breath, blood, or performance tests is cause for an automatic license suspension in Ohio





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WHAT TO DO...

When you are stopped by the police as a
PEDESTRIAN

If You are Stopped as a Pedestrian

- Don't run
- 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 You are Stopped as a Pedestrian

Terry v. Ohio: 1968

"The sole justification of the search ... is the protection of the police officer and others nearby, and it must therefore be confined in scope to an intrusion reasonably designed to discover guns, knives, clubs, or other hidden instruments for the assault of the police officer."

—Chief Justice Earl Warren



image: http://a.abchews.com/images/Biotter/gty_nypd_cops_kb_130812_16x9_092.jpg

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



If You are Stopped as a Pedestrian

- Obey all requests made of you, unless the request poses a risk to your personal safety or well being
- In that case, immediately state your concerns to the officer
- Afterwards, if you feel the officer acted improperly, ask to speak to a supervisor



When Stopped in the Downtown Area

It is against the law to:

- Block sidewalks, bus stops and store and business entrances
- Play loud music or use obscenities or profane gestures
- Cross the street out of a crosswalk or against traffic
- Spit on or litter on the sidewalks and roadways





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