



Getting pulled over by a police officer can be a stressful and uncomfortable experience, but we hope that this page will help familiarize you with what to expect from the Puyallup Police Department if you are pulled over.

- 1. As soon as you notice the emergency lights, pull your vehicle safely over to the right and come to a complete stop when it is safe to do so.**
 - Even though you may not know the reason for the stop, you should pull over right away
 - There may be a problem with your vehicle that you are unaware of

- 2. Remain in your vehicle while the officer approaches.**
 - Do not attempt to get out of your vehicle or approach the officer
 - Exiting your vehicle does not assist the officer, it may be perceived as a threat
 - For your safety and the safety of the officer, remain in your vehicle unless instructed to do otherwise

- 3. Turn on your interior light if stopped at night.**
 - A lit vehicle will reduce the officer's concern regarding weapons or other possible threats

- 4. Keep your hand easily observable, preferably on the steering wheel where they can be easily seen by the officer.**
 - Reaching under your seat or into your glove box are actions that will cause the officer concern that you may be reaching for a weapon

- 5. Give your license, registration and proof of insurance to the officer if asked to do so.**
 - Law requires a driver to turn over this information upon request by a uniformed officer or an officer in plain clothes who displays proper identification

- 6. Answer all questions honestly.**
 - Information pertaining to prior arrests or traffic violations is easily verified by the officer

- 7. Touching or threatening an officer or acting in a disorderly manner could result in the filing of additional charges against you.**
 - If the officer asks you to step out of your vehicle, do so without any sudden or threatening actions
 - Give the officer approximately 3-5 feet of space as a safety zone to do his/her job
 - Do not become argumentative. If you believe you were treated unfairly do not make that argument on the side of the road. Your best alternative is to bring your issues to court. There is no such thing as a "routine" traffic stop, every stop has the potential for danger