

- You have the right to an attorney if you are under arrest. Ask for one immediately.
- Regardless of your immigration or citizenship, you have constitutional rights.
- Citizens rely on the police to keep them safe and treat them fairly, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin or religion.
- IF YOU ARE NOT UNDER ARREST, you have the right to leave calmly.

The Vision of the Montgomery County Department of Police

We, the Montgomery County Department of Police, are committed to providing the highest quality of police services to the people who live, work and visit our County. We will constantly evaluate and improve our efforts to enhance public safety with the goal of improving the quality of life within Montgomery County, while at the same time maintain respect for individual rights and human dignity.

Please visit our website at
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police

Let Us Know How We Are Doing

Community Policing depends on a working partnership between the police and the citizens we serve. If you would like to compliment or complain about an employee, you may contact our Office of Internal Affairs at 240-773-6000.

Important Numbers

District Community Service Officers

1st District.....	240-773-6070
2nd District.....	240-773-6700
3rd District.....	240-773-6800
4th District.....	240-773-5500
5th District.....	240-773-6200
6th District.....	240-773-5700
Central Auto Theft.....	240-773-6370
Police Emergency	911
Non-Emergency.....	301-279-8000



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
100 Edison Park Drive
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police



Montgomery County, Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

What To Do If Stopped By The Police -While Driving-



If You Are Stopped While Driving

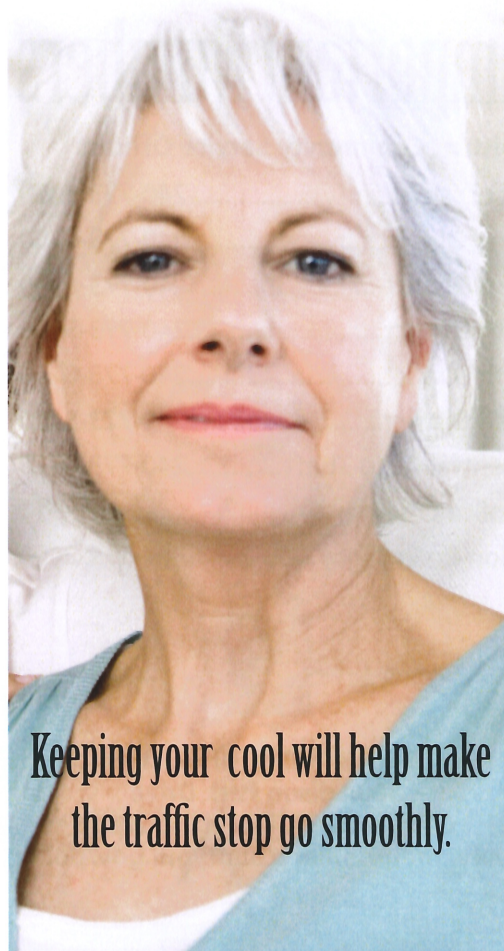
An officer may pull you over if they have probable cause or reasonable suspicion to believe a law has been broken.

Every year many officers are killed during traffic stops. Traffic stops are no longer considered "routine". Officers are taught to treat all traffic stops as potential threats. For the safety of everyone involved during a traffic stop, please consider the following suggestions. We hope to make your traffic stop a professional and expedient one.

Upon discovering that you are being pulled over:

- Pull over to the closest curb when it is safe. Come to a complete stop.
- If you are stopped after dark, turn on hazard lights and pull into the nearest safe location.
- Do not get out of the car unless instructed to do so by the officer.
- Roll down your window when the officer approaches your vehicle.

- Keep your hands on the steering wheel so that officer can see them.
- The officer may ask you for your license and vehicle registration.
- Tell the officer when you need to reach for an item.
- Be polite and respectful.
- Stay calm.
- If you believe you are innocent of the charge, take the ticket to court. The roadway is not the place to dispute the ticket.



Keeping your cool will help make the traffic stop go smoothly.



Your Rights

- You have the right to remain silent. If you wish to exercise that right, say it out loud.
- The officer may request to search your vehicle. You have the right to refuse to consent to a search of yourself, your vehicle and your home, unless:
 - **YOU ARE UNDER ARREST.** The officer then has the right to search you and your vehicle.
 - The officer observes something in plain view.
 - The officer has probable cause to believe there is illegal activity.
 - The officer has the belief that you are armed and the officer fears for his/her safety, they may do a "patdown" of you or your vehicle to check for weapons.