



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Being stopped for a traffic violation can be a stressful time for you and the deputy. Prince William County Sheriff's Deputies are trained to maintain professionalism and courtesy during every traffic stop.

### WHAT TO EXPECT FROM US DURING A TRAFFIC STOP

- ❑ A greeting with the name of the deputy and the reason why you were stopped.
- ❑ A uniformed deputy or the presentation of a badge and / or identification card.
- ❑ A polite, respectful tone from the deputy and answers to reasonable questions.
- ❑ Prompt action in completing the citation / warning and traffic checks.
- ❑ An explanation of the citation / warning.
- ❑ A deputy may ask for consent to search your vehicle. If consent is requested, you may be asked to give consent in writing on a form provided by the deputy. You have the right to refuse a request for consent to search your vehicle.

### WHAT WE ASK OF YOU DURING A TRAFFIC STOP

- ❑ Carry proper identification and paperwork including a valid driver's license, vehicle registration card and proof of insurance.
- ❑ When signaled by the deputy to stop, look for the nearest, safest place to position your vehicle that is as far out of the traffic lane as possible. Never stop in a traffic lane.
- ❑ Stay in your vehicle. If asked to exit, do so slowly. Remain calm.
- ❑ Keep your seatbelt fastened until the deputy has seen you wearing it.
- ❑ Keep your hands in view, preferably on the steering wheel and do not reach down, duck or make any sudden movements.
- ❑ Turn off your engine and stereo, roll down your window so the deputy can speak with you. Ask passengers to remain quiet and cooperative.
- ❑ Don't be surprised if another patrol car appears. This helps ensure the deputies safety.
- ❑ Treat the deputy the way you would like to be treated.

"Material obtained from NHTSA professional traffic stop training curriculum"