

# Respect for Authority Academy

## Traffic Stops Lesson Scenarios

Each group will receive two scenario cards to discuss the behaviors and answer the questions.

1. A driver has been stopped for running through a red light. The driver turns off the car, places both hands on the steering wheel and waits for the officer. The passenger sits quietly and places both hands where they are visible.

\*Were these actions safe or unsafe for the officer and the driver? List at least 2 reasons that support your answer.

2. A driver sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. She ignores the officer's lights and drives all the way home. When she arrives home, she stops the car, turns it off, places her hands on the steering wheel and waits for the police officer.

\*Were these actions safe or unsafe for the officer and the driver? List at least 2 reasons that support your answer.

Based on these lists, which is the better option for both the officer and driver?

3. A driver sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. The driver puts on his signal to indicate to the officer that he is planning to stop. When the driver reaches a stop, he turns off the car, places his hands on the steering wheel and waits for the officer. The officer asks the driver if he has his registration, insurance, and driver's license. The driver responds with yes, may I take them out of my car compartment?

\*Were these actions safe or unsafe for the officer and the driver? List at least 2 reasons that support your answer.

4. A driver and his friend see the flashing lights of a police officer. The driver pulls to the right side of the road and brings his car to a complete stop. The driver turns off the car and places his hands on the steering wheel to wait for the police officer. When the police officer arrives to the car, the passenger asks the officer, "why are you stopping my friend? He was driving at the correct speed limit, and we are going to be late now that you have stopped us."

\*Were these actions safe or unsafe for the officer and the driver? List at least 2 reasons that support your answer.

Based on these lists, which is the better option for both the officer and driver?

# Respect for Authority Academy

## Traffic Stops Lesson Scenarios

Each group will receive two scenario cards and discuss the behaviors by answering the questions.

5. A driver is on his way to school when he sees the flashing lights of an officer's car. The driver pulls to the right side of the road. When the officer comes to the driver's car, the driver refuses to talk to the officer and just sits in silence.

\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?

\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?

6. A driver is on her way to go eat with some friends. She sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car and pulls to the side. When the police officer makes her way to the car, the driver begins to be argumentative with the police officer, demanding why she is being stopped. The officer explains that she needs to know if the car is safe to be in the street and needs to verify some information.

\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?

\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?

7. A driver gets pulled over. He is very nervous. When the officer makes his way to the driver, the driver begins to ask: Do you need my driver's license? Do you need my insurance? Why am I being stopped? Do you think I have something in my car that I shouldn't have? Do you always stop the teenagers driving by this street?

\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?

\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?

8. A student is driving home after school. He suddenly sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. The driver pulls to the side and makes a stop. The officer goes to the driver and asks for the necessary documentation. The driver refuses to provide their license and registration and claims he has the right to refuse to provide this.

\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?

\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?

# Respect for Authority Academy

## Traffic Stops Scenarios Facilitator Guide

1.

**A driver sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. The driver pulls over to the right side of the road, turns off the car, places both hands on the steering wheel and waits for the officer. The passenger sits quietly and places both hands where they are visible.**

\*List ways that these actions were safe for the officer and safe for the driver.

- The driver is doing what the officer expects.
- The driver makes a stop to the right of the road.
- The driver turns off the car.
- Places both hands where they are visible.

\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges?

No

2.

**A driver sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. She ignores the officer's lights and drives all the way home. When she arrives home, she stops the car, turns it off, places her hands on the steering wheel and waits for the police officer.**

\*List ways that these actions were unsafe.

•The driver is unsafe by: ignoring the flashing lights and driving all the way home.

•Unsafe situation for the officer because the officer does not know if the driver has called someone at home and is letting them know that an officer will be there.

•The officer could be in danger in this situation.

\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....

Yes. 28-1595. Failure to stop or provide driver license or evidence of identity; violation; classification.

Consequences could be a class two misdemeanor. It could be jail or fines.

Based on these lists, which is the better option for both the officer and driver?

# Respect for Authority Academy

## Traffic Stops Facilitator Guide on Scenarios

3. A driver sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. The driver puts on his signal to indicate to the officer that he is planning to stop. When the driver reaches a stop, he turns off the car, places his hands on the steering wheel and waits for the officer. The officer asks the driver if he has his registration, insurance, and driver's license. The driver responds with yes, may I take them out of my car compartment?

\*List ways that these actions were safe for the officer and safe for the driver.

·The driver makes a stop.

·The driver places his hands where they are visible.

·The driver is calm.

·When the driver is asking if he may get his documentation from the compartment, there will be some follow-up questions from the officer. Such as: is there anything else in the compartment? Are there any weapons? Is there a gun? The officer will also inform the driver that his hands must be visible when going to the compartment.

\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....

No

4. A driver and his friend see the flashing lights of a police officer. The driver pulls to the right side of the road and brings his car to a complete stop. The driver turns off the car and places his hands on the steering wheel to wait for the police officer. When the police officer arrives to the car, the passenger asks the officer, "Why are you stopping my friend? He was driving at the correct speed limit, and we are going to be late now that you have stopped us."

\*List ways that these actions were unsafe for the officer and the driver.

·The passenger is distracting the attention from the driver.

·It is unsafe that the police officer may not give all his attention to the driver.

·The officer may respond to this situation by stating the following: I'll be happy to address any questions, please let me continue with the traffic stop with the driver. Once we are done, I'll be happy to answer any questions.

\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....

No, there is no citation or charge.

Based on these lists, which is the better option for both the officer and driver?

# Respect for Authority Academy

## Traffic Stops Facilitator Guide

5. A driver is on his way to school when he sees the flashing lights of an officer's car. The driver pulls to the right side of the road. When the officer comes to the driver's car, the driver refuses to talk to the officer and just sits in silence.

\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?

The driver made the situation helpful by pulling to the right side of the road.

\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?

• The driver refusing to talk this makes the situation challenging. The officer might become suspicious and need to ask more questions to make sure everyone is safe.

\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....

AR-28-1595 Failure to provide drivers license. It is a class two misdemeanor, possible fines, jail time or probation.

6. A driver is on her way to go eat with some friends. She sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car and pulls to the side. When the police officer makes her way to the car, the driver begins to be argumentative with the police officer, demanding why she is being stopped. The officer explains that she needs to know if the car is safe to be in the street and needs to verify some information.

\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?

The driver made the situation helpful by pulling to the side.

\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?

The driver made the situation challenging by being argumentative with the police officer. The officer might feel the need to be more cautious and possibly ask more questions.

\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....

No citations or charges.

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## Traffic Stops Facilitator Guide

7. **A driver gets pulled over. He is very nervous. When the officer makes his way to the driver, the driver begins to ask: Do you need my driver's license? Do you need my insurance? Why am I being stopped? Do you think I have something in my car that I shouldn't have? Do you always stop the teenagers driving by this street?**

**\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?**

The driver made the situation helpful by cooperating.

**\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?**

The driver made the situation challenging by asking so many questions. All those questions indicate to the officer that something could be going on and he may ask additional questions.

**\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....**

No citations or charges.

8. **A student is driving home after school. He suddenly sees the flashing lights of a police officer's car. The driver pulls to the side and makes a stop. The officer goes to the driver and asks for the necessary documentation. The driver refuses to provide their license and registration and claims he has the right to refuse to provide this.**

**\*How did the driver make this situation helpful?**

The driver made the situation helpful by pulling to the side.

**\*How did the driver make this situation challenging?**

The driver made the situation challenging by refusing to provide their license and registration and claims he has the right to refuse to provide this.

**\*Could any actions in this scenario lead to additional citations or charges? If yes, the charges are.....**

ARS 28-3169: Upon request the vehicle operator must provide a legible driver license. The driver can be cited for not having a license in their possession. It is NOT an arrest-able offense. If cited, the operator can show their license or get a certified copy of their license and provide it to the court, showing they had a valid license at the time of the stop. If the operator can show they had a valid license at the time of stop, the citation becomes void.