

**READ ENTIRE PAGE**  
**DO or DON'T**  
**File a Complaint Against the Police**

### **Should you File a Complaint or Letter of Appreciation?**

Learn as much as you can about what happened. Were you stopped, detained, and handcuffed because you and your vehicle fit the description of a bad guy that kidnapped a little girl or shot someone (meaning that the Officer had to take extra precautions to make sure you were not armed with a knife, gun or rifle? If this is why the Police treated you as a criminal, he deserves a Letter of Appreciation not a complaint. Put yourself in the shoes of the victim's parents (what do you want the Police to do).

### **Good Cops vs. Bad Cops**

They are human, so we have both good and bad cops. If you have information about a Police Officer that sells illicit drugs, firearms without a dealer license, previously convicted of crimes, fired from work for committing crimes (including embezzlement/fraud), adultery, stalking, or other serious crimes, you may want to submit a Complaint, if you have some type of proof. REWARD GOOD COPS with Letters of Appreciation.

### **File a Complaint**

If after being fully cooperative with the Police, you feel that the Officer was disrespectful, abusive, or violated your rights, you should decide whether to file a written complaint. Especially if you're a teenager, please share what happened with your parents and ask for their opinion before you file a complaint. After you write your complaint make sure you read it for accuracy. The sooner you write your complaint the better, that way everything is still fresh in your mind.

### **Respect and Obey Police**

Did you know that criminals practice good behavior when stopped by the police, to avoid prolonged detention and possible arrest. WHY, CAN YOU AS AN INNOCENT PERSON do the same? Cooperate and be done in 5-10 minutes When you give the police a hard time (or standup for your rights—as some like to call it), you'll be detained for much longer (**sometimes for over an hour, or worse, arrested, taken to jail, and incur unnecessary expenses like paying a fine or bond, attorney fees, going to trial, and maybe going to prison**)?

## **Avoid Jail Lawyers**

These guys repeatedly go in and out of jail for violating the law themselves. They love to advise others on how to defend themselves in Court but they're not attorneys and often encourage others to break laws and not cooperate with the Police. THE TRUTH is that only a real (Bar Certified) lawyer can give you legal advice (but most are very expensive) and it is better to comply with the Police to avoid fines and arrest. Especially, if you did not commit a crime.

## **Parents Lead by Good Example**

Teach your children and grandchildren to Respect & Obey the Police at all times, and to notify you every time they have an encounter with the Police. **Teach them to comply with the Police instructions, and to avoid negative comments and challenges.**

Depending on the circumstances, the Police could have good reasons for their conduct, questions, and behavior. Their behavior has a lot to do with Officer Safety (they cannot become complacent in order to stay safe and alive to go home at the end of their shift).

### **Example:**

1. If they ask to see your ID card, provide it. If you don't have it, say I don't have it and provide your real name, date of birth, etc. If you lie, you can be arrested and charged with providing False Information or Resisting Arrest Without Violence.
2. If they ask for your driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance, provide it.
3. If they ask you to step out of the car, comply.
4. If they tell you to stay in the car, comply.
5. Turn off your phone and turn off your radio.
6. If your car window is closed, lower it a little so that you can hear the officer and he can hear you. At night, turn on your interior lights before you pull over and turn-on your flashers (warning lights) to draw the attention of other citizens (especially if you get pulled over in a dark area or when you get pulled over by Police in an unmarked vehicle).

## **Things to know about the Police**

The Police, like you are human (believe it or not, they are not robots). They have feelings and emotions that they often keep inside because they are trained not to look weak or confused. They see many bad things, including drug addicts, alcoholics, homeless, and victims that have been stabbed, shot, or killed. The stress level of a Police Officer is overwhelming, and we can help make things a little easier when we are cooperative and understanding.

## **Marriage vs. Good Work & Dedication**

Marriage is the best thing that can happen to a single person (that's why God made men for women and women for men). Together, we form a stronger human being. Unfortunately, the law enforcement community has the highest divorce rate. While we as citizens expect the Police to perform miracles, preventing crime and solving cases, it is very difficult to please everyone. Despite the many hours an Officer works, he never gets caught up with his cases because more and more cases are reported each day. **The Officer's spouse and children often complain that the Officer is never home and never spends quality time with them, while we the citizens often complain that the Officer is not doing his job to solve our complaints.** There are not enough hours in a work shift to get the job done, despite working 12 hour shifts, and lots of people do not want to cooperate with the Police. That's why it is important that you report suspicious activity and crimes—DOING SO HELPS THE POLICE and the community.