



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
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Newsletter Article

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Are you an Aggressive Driver?

What thoughts go through your mind when you see a police cruiser in your rearview mirror? Do you ease up on the gas, use turn signals when appropriate, and pay more attention to your lane position? Most people adjust their driving style when they see a police cruiser. But, how do you drive when you think law enforcement is not watching?

So far this year, aggressive driving behaviors account for over 40% of all fatal crashes in Delaware, surpassing even alcohol-related crashes. It is easy to spot an aggressive driver, but did you know that some driving behaviors that you have may be considered aggressive driving? Ask yourself these questions:

- Do I drive faster than the posted speed limit?
- Do I sometimes forget to signal when turning or making a lane change?
- Do I tend to roll through stop signs instead of coming to a complete stop?
- Do I cut in front of other drivers when at a stop sign or when making turns?
- Do I follow other cars too closely?
- Do I try to beat red lights?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you may be an aggressive driver. If you commit three traffic offenses in a single incident, you can be charged with aggressive driving. Penalties for driving aggressively are significant and include: points on your driver's license, fines and court costs, license suspension, increased insurance premiums, and a mandatory behavior modification course.

How can you avoid police lights in your rear-view mirror? Don't turn into *that guy*. Make a decision every time you get behind the wheel to follow the rules of the road and always Respect the Sign.

Respect the Sign. Arrive Alive DE.

For more information about aggressive driving behaviors, go to www.aggressivedrivingde.com and www.ohs.delaware.gov.