



## **Traffic Safety News**

### **From the Delaware Office of Highway Safety** **Are You That Guy?**

The Delaware Office of Highway Safety wants to know "Are You That Guy?" OHS' 2012 Aggressive Driving campaign is highlighting the traffic signs "That Guy" (or Girl) is likely to ignore such as stop signs, speed limit signs, and yield signs. Over the next three months OHS is rolling out this campaign in combination with high visibility enforcement to decrease these deadly violations.

#### **What you need to know**

- In 2011, of Delaware's 97 fatal crashes, 38% (37 crashes) were attributed to aggressive driving behaviors.
- The top four aggressive driving behaviors that cause crashes are speeding, failure to yield the right of way (not waiting for other drivers when merging or turning left), driving left of center (unsafe lane changes) and stop sign/red light violations.
- The 2011 "Respect the Sign" campaign resulted in 4,698 citations issued for aggressive driving behaviors and 36 individuals arrested for violations of DE's aggressive driving law itself.
- Delaware's aggressive driving law says when a driver commits three specified traffic offenses at one time they may be stopped and ticketed for aggressive driving. Penalties include:
  - Fines, between \$100 - \$300 for a first offense;
  - Increased insurance rates;
  - Possible jail time; and
  - Mandatory attendance at an 8-hour behavior modification course.

Subsequent convictions will result in the loss of driving privileges for one month.

#### **What you can do**

Are you *that guy*? Find out what kind of driver you are by going to [www.aggressivedrivingde.com](http://www.aggressivedrivingde.com). Whether you think you are *that guy* or not, everyone should observe the following safe driving habits:

- Always stay calm and control when behind the wheel.
- Obey all posted signs and signals.
- Avoid sudden lane changes and always signal your intentions.
- Use caution when merging into traffic, and be aware of your lane position.

Be on the lookout for OHS' 'Are you *That Guy*' aggressive driving campaign over the next several months. Stepped up enforcement and awareness efforts will be ongoing this summer. To find out more, go to [www.ohs.delaware.gov](http://www.ohs.delaware.gov).

**Respect the Sign. Arrive Alive DE.**