

RULES OF POLICE ENGAGEMENTS©

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- If stopped, try and position yourself in a **populated area** where there are witnesses.
- Everyone is considered a threat to a cop until proven otherwise. **They are trained to stop a threat!**
- They don't know good guys from bad guys. Because of this **everyone is treated like a bad guy until they are proven differently.**
- When a cop says "**get out of your car**", he means now! Failure to do so raises their suspicion that your intent is not a good one. (You have to make your own call before exiting any vehicle if you feel your life is in serious danger).
- Everyone is considered hostile until proven otherwise.
- Outside of your vehicle **keep your hands in plain sight**. Don't make any sudden moves; they will think you are reaching for a gun. Inside the vehicle don't reach under your seat or into the glove compartment.
- **Never approach a police office** until asked to do so.
- When standing up, **never reach into your pockets for anything**, even your wallet.
- They see more than one person, their thinking ambush. **Stay put and don't move.**
- **Never jump out of the car during a stop.** They will think either an attack, trying to run away, or you're getting ready to act stupid.
- Never joke around, **always be extremely serious.**
- **Don't talk, say very little** until you're asked to speak, a simple yes or no will do fine.
- If they put you in the car or have you sit on the curb, for the most part it is because they don't know your intentions and they want to be able to see and control you, this is caution on their part. (Telling you to lay face down on the dirty street is another story! This is totally unacceptable).
- **Always be visible**, make sure you are seen.
- Travel in **teams of two** whenever feasible. Provides you a witness to any encounter. Try and carry some form of communication. (Cell phone is a good example).
- Attempt to do as you're told, **follow their directions**. If you are unclear on what you're being told to do, repeat the directions back to them for clarity.
- If you feel your Civil Rights are being violated, **fight it in court and not on the street.**

Remember the rule in a street encounter is that if a cop feels his life is in danger and he perceives a threat, he can legally shoot to neutralize that threat!