



# Crime Prevention News Bulletin

## Vehicle Safety Edition

Roseville Police Department  
Community Services Division

[www.roseville.ca.us/police](http://www.roseville.ca.us/police)

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### Police Department Community Services

#### Community Services Supervisor

Sgt. Karl Dyer  
(916) 774-5052

#### Crime Prevention

Rob Baquera  
(916) 774-5057

#### Alarms/Alarm Permits

Charlene Accooe  
(916) 774-5093

#### Community Events & Neighborhood Watch

(916) 774-5050

#### Animal Control

(916) 774-5090

#### Graffiti Abatement

(916) 746-1021

#### Abandoned Vehicle Hotline

(916) 746-1022

### Our Partners

Roseville Crime Stoppers  
[www.rsvlcrimestoppers.org](http://www.rsvlcrimestoppers.org)  
(916) 783-STOP

Roseville Coalition of  
Neighborhood Associa-  
tions (RCONA)  
[www.RCONA.org](http://www.RCONA.org)

Roseville Police Activities  
League (RPAL)  
[www.rosevillepal.org](http://www.rosevillepal.org)  
(916) 772-7725

Project Lifesaver  
Tracking for wandering  
children and seniors  
(916) 746-1077

### Stopped by Police! What do you do?

Chances are that you will be stopped by the police sometime during your many years as a licensed motor vehicle driver. Knowing what to expect and how to conduct yourself can mean the difference between a good experience and a bad one. Innocent people are often offended, angered, or both when detained by law enforcement officers. If you are stopped, please follow these procedures:

- Place both hands on the steering wheel in plain view of the officer.
- Do not make any sudden movements, such as reaching for your driver's license, a wallet, the glove box or putting your hands into your coat, pants pocket or other concealed area until the officer has given you permission to do so.
- Do not carry illegal weapons or make jokes about having a weapon with you. If you are carrying a Licensed Concealed Handgun, advise the officer immediately and do not reach for the weapon.
- Remain calm, be polite and avoid being argumentative. Although this delay might be an inconvenience, it is a lawful and correct procedure for law enforcement.
- Comply first and then you may seek an explanation from the officer later.



Each year, thousands of motorists are injured or killed due to a failure to follow basic driving laws. Speeding is the largest contributor to traffic deaths.

### Did you know?

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that 30 percent of all fatal accidents are speed related. Speed alone is rarely the cause of accidents though, differences in speed among drivers are the main problem. If you are traveling a distance of 20 miles in a 55-mph zone, you will arrive at your destination in 21 minutes and 49 seconds and speeding will not help you to get there any faster, in fact:

- Traveling 5 mph over the limit will only cut your travel time by 1 minute and 47 seconds.
- Traveling 10 mph over the limit will only cut your travel time by 3 minutes and 22 seconds
- Traveling 15 mph over the limit will only cut your travel time by 4 minutes and 41 seconds
- Traveling 20 mph over the limit will only cut your travel time by 5 minutes and 48 seconds

### Distracted Driving

Driver inattention is the leading factor in most motor vehicle crashes. 80% of accidents involve some form of driver inattention such as cell phone use or drowsiness, just 3 seconds prior to the crash.

In California it is illegal to hold a cell phone in your hands while driving. Hands-free devices are the only cell phones allowed by law while driving a motor vehicle. Even at that, an emotional or stressful conversation can distract you while driving. NEVER read or compose text messages when you are driving! Many people think that they are in control of the phone and don't worry about their safety. Sadly, it can often be the other motorist who is distracted that demands your immediate attention and reaction to his mistake in order to avoid a collision.



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## Here are a few things to keep in mind to help keep you crime free on the road

- Don't drink or do other drugs and drive. And don't ride with drivers who are under the influence.
- Keep your car in good working condition and the gas tank full. If your car does break down, pull over and stay inside it with the doors locked and the windows rolled up. Wait for the police to arrive or ask a passing motorist to call the police for you.
- Always lock a parked car, and look under and inside the entire car to see if someone has gotten into your car before you get back in.
- Avoid parking in isolated areas. If you're uncomfortable about where your car is parked, ask a security guard or store staff to watch you or escort you to your car.
- Drive to the nearest gas station, open business, or busy, well-lighted area to get help if you think you are being followed. Don't head home. Use your cellular phone, if you have one, to call the police, otherwise, stay off cellular phones while you are driving.
- Don't pick up hitchhikers. Don't hitchhike.



## Taking Your Anger on the Road

Road rage—uncontrolled anger or frustration because of traffic conditions or other drivers—is becoming a serious problem throughout the country. A majority of drivers get angry when someone cuts them off or tailgates them. Here are some tips on avoiding road rage:

- Keep calm when you're driving. Instead of retaliating, count to 10 and take a few deep breaths.
- Back off when someone cuts you off. If someone tailgates you, change lanes. Don't get pulled into a game of "chicken" on the road. Your life and the lives of others are at stake.
- Keep a reasonable distance between you and the car in front of you, and make sure that you aren't cutting someone off when you change lanes. Drive in the passing lane only when you are passing another car, and be sure to use your signals.
- Use your horn sparingly—as a warning, not an outburst.
- Don't make obscene gestures to other drivers, no matter how mad they make you.
- Don't fight over parking spots.
- Stay out or move out of the way of other angry drivers.



## What About Carjacking?

Carjacking—stealing a car by force—has captured headlines in the last few years. Statistically, your chances of being a carjacking victim are very slim, and preventative actions can reduce the risk even more.

- Approach your car with the key in hand. Look around, inside and underneath the car.
- Keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up at all times while you are driving.
- Be especially alert at intersections, gas stations, ATMs, shopping malls and convenience and grocery stores—all are windows of opportunity for carjackers.
- Park in well-lighted areas with good visibility, close to walkways, stores and people.
- Beware of the "bump and rob" where someone lightly hits your car from behind. When you get out to assess the damages, the carjacker's accomplice gets in your car and drives away.
- If you must, give up your car with no questions asked. Your life is worth more than a car.



## Don't Make It Easy for a Thief to Steal Your Wheels!

- Never leave your car running or keys in the ignition when you're away from it, even for "just a minute."
- Always roll up the windows and lock the car, even when it's in front of your home.
- Never leave valuables in plain view, even if your car is locked. Put them in the trunk or at least out of sight. Buy auto stereo equipment that can be removed and locked in the trunk.
- Park in busy, well-lighted areas.
- Carry your insurance and registration card with you; don't leave personal ID in your vehicle.
- Leave only the ignition key with the attendant when you pay to park in a lot or garage. Do the same when you take your car in for repairs.
- Install and use a car alarm or other "tracking" device.
- Report your stolen car to the police immediately.