MARYLAND STATE POLICE
FAIR PRACTICES SECTION
1201 REISTERSTOWN ROAD
PIKESVILLE, MARYLAND 21208

DETACH THIS CARD

PLACE IN ENVELOPE

APPLY POSTAGE AND MAIL
TO ADDRESS BELOW

TARGETING TERRORISM
1-800-492-TIPS

The Maryland State Police is committed to working with federal, state and local law enforcement to prevent the threat of terrorism in the State. You can also have a vital role in our efforts to keep the State safe.

The Maryland State Police Homeland Security and Intelligence Bureau operates an around-the-clock tips line (1-800-492-TIPS) for people to call with information about suspicious persons or circumstances that may be related to terrorism. All information is taken seriously and will be investigated.

Do not ignore your feelings of uneasiness about a person or circumstances you may encounter. If you observe someone or something unusual or suspicious, take the time to contact police and have the situation checked out.

Some characteristics to consider are:

-persons asking unusual questions about building security or law enforcement in the area;

-persons taking still pictures or video, sometimes discreetly, of buildings, bridges, or other locations from unusual positions, such as from under the bridge;

-persons asking detailed questions about the schedules of public transportation in the area that goes beyond what is readily available on published schedules;

-persons seen timing the arrival/departure of public transportation;

-persons seen loitering around or photographing non-public areas around reservoirs, water treatment plants, dams or power plants;

-persons in groups of two or three watching a building for extended periods of time;

-persons disguised as panhandlers, street vendors or sweepers not previously seen in the area;

-suspicious vehicles abandoned or parked in unusual places at unusual times.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER AN
EMERGENCY OR LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION
CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY.

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT A
SUSPICIOUS PERSON
OR CIRCUMSTANCE THAT MAY BE RELATED TO TERRORISM
CALL 1-800-492-TIPS.
YOUR IDENTITY CAN BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL

An Important Message For YOU

Fairness
Integrity
& Service

1-800-525-5555 **In Maryland**
1-800-333-9890 **Outside Maryland**
TDD - 1-410-486-0677

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Thomas E. Hutchins
Secretary

MSP 225 (8-06)

Message from
Colonel Thomas E. Hutchins
SECRETARY

The Maryland State Police is a full-service law enforcement agency comprised of dedicated state troopers and committed civilian support personnel. These men and women provide the highest quality of police services you will find anywhere.

Our mission is clear. We are to do all we can to keep our citizens safe. Whether combatting crime, preventing terrorism, or enforcing traffic laws, protecting the lives and property of Marylanders and those who visit or travel through our State is our objective. My priority is to ensure we are effectively protecting the people of Maryland by providing outstanding law enforcement. I expect members of this Department to be professionals, who are known for courteous service, compassionate care, and ever-vigilant enforcement.

As a veteran soldier, state trooper and state legislator, I know the importance of honor, integrity, duty, respect, courage, and selfless service. I expect those values to be reflected in our troopers and in the service they provide to you.

Racial profiling has no place in the Maryland State Police. Our policy against this practice is clear. Our troopers are committed to upholding the civil and constitutional rights of each person they encounter. We will reinforce this mandate through continuing training and close supervision.

We understand that our diligence in performing our duties has a direct impact on the safety of our citizens. Maryland roads and highways are not to be places of danger, whether caused by dangerous drivers or individuals furthering their criminal enterprise. Our patrol effectiveness within communities affects the rate of crime and the sense of security felt by our citizens.

We also recognize our role as part of the homeland defense. Preventing acts of terrorism by foreign or domestic terrorists is a priority for the Maryland State Police.

This brochure is designed to provide you with a way to communicate with us if you need to. It will also give you a better understanding of how you can help us.

We are committed to serving and protecting you. Thank you for your support and for helping us make Maryland safer.

For state/local police emergencies dial 9-1-1.
For non-emergencies on Maryland's interstates safely dial #-7-7 on your cellular phone.

MARYLAND'S CHILD AMBER ALERT

If police confirm a child abduction in Maryland, believe the child is in serious danger and there is descriptive information about a suspect and/or vehicle, the AMBER Alert will be activated. Lookouts will be broadcast on radio and television. Highway message signs will read "Child Amber Alert" and give a description of the suspect vehicle. If you see the vehicle, please dial 9-1-1.

PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC STOPS*

Being stopped for a traffic violation can be a stressful time for you and the police officer. Maryland state troopers are trained to maintain professionalism and courtesy during the traffic stop.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM US DURING A TRAFFIC VIOLATION STOP-

A greeting with the name of the trooper and reason why you were stopped.

A uniformed trooper or the presentation of a badge or identification card;

A polite, respectful tone from the trooper;

Answers to reasonable questions;

Prompt action in completing the citation/warning and traffic checks;

An explanation of the citation/warning, with an explanation that signing the citation is required, but is not an admission of guilt.

Probable cause that a crime is being committed permits the trooper to search you or your vehicle without your consent.

A trooper is permitted to ask for consent to search. If consent is requested, you will generally be asked to indicate your response in writing on a form provided by the trooper. You have the right to refuse a request for consent to search your vehicle.

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU DURING A TRAFFIC STOP-

Traffic stops are never "routine." More than half of the police officers who die in the line of duty each year are killed during traffic stops. Each day troopers encounter impaired drivers, illegal firearms, drugs, fugitives, and drivers with suspended licenses. This is why troopers are trained to place a great deal of emphasis on their safety and take a defensive posture at the stop until the risk of confrontation or injury is diminished.

Carry proper identification: a valid driver's license, proof of vehicle registration and insurance;

When signaled by the trooper to stop, look for the nearest, safest place to position your vehicle as far out of the traffic lane as possible;

Stay in your vehicle. If you are asked to exit, do it slowly;

Remain calm. Ask passengers to remain quiet and cooperative. Keep your seat belt fastened until the trooper has seen you are wearing it;

Keep your hands in view, preferably on the steering wheel and do not duck down, reach or make sudden movements;

Turn off your engine, stereo and roll down your window so the trooper can talk with you;

Don't be surprised if another patrol car appears. This is done to assure the trooper's safety, since he/she patrols alone.

Treat the trooper the way you want to be treated.

***Material from NHTSA**
professional traffic stop training curriculum

COMMENDATION/COMPLAINT FORM

Please provide the following information if you wish to commend or express your concerns about the actions of a Maryland State Trooper.

***YOUR* NAME:** _____ *or call* **1-800-525-5555 In Maryland**

***YOUR* STREET Address** _____ **1-800-333-9890 Outside Maryland**

***YOUR* State and Zip code** _____ **TDD 1-410-486-0677**

***YOUR* TELEPHONE Number:** _____

DATE/TIME / LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER _____

TROOPER'S NAME & ID: _____

DESCRIBE ENCOUNTER: _____

_____

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