

### **Moving Patrol Method**

1. **Look ahead** 1000 to 2000 + feet:
  - The average driver does not look at oncoming traffic
  - Many violations are committed at that distance from a marked police vehicle
  - Keep your eyes shifting constantly
  - Watch for drivers crossing the centerline (impaired, sleepy, medical?)
  - At the same time, do not expect all traffic violations to occur in front of you. Keep vigilant about what is occurring behind and to your sides
  
2. **Do not** neglect your own safety:
  - Make frequent observations of your surroundings
  - Be aware of vehicles approaching your police car, maintain an overall awareness of all traffic
  - Watch drifting while changing lanes
  - Traffic may brake suddenly
  - To avoid a collision, would you be able to brake fast or would you need to make an emergency lane change?
  - Be mindful of your avenues of escape
  - No headlights, Inclement driving conditions
  
3. **Check** your **mirrors** at least every 3 to 5 seconds:
  - You will pick up many violations in your mirror
    - For example, you could have a rear pace
  
4. **Reposition** in order to observe different vehicles
  
5. Inside **Fast Lane**:
  - Avoid patrolling in the inside lane (lane closest to center of highway) to stay away from possible wrong way drivers that could be DUI, or disoriented
  
6. **Turning** on vehicles:
  - Make sure you have the room before attempting to turn around. Don't turn around before tunnels, on the crest of hills, on a curve.

### Stationary Patrol Method

1. Pick your **location** carefully:
  - Be able to see two or more directions
  - Safe for a fast entry to the main roadway
  - Maintain safety from walk-up threats, maintain 360 degree awareness
2. Know the **weather** conditions:
  - Before you pull into traffic, know the weather conditions
    - Example: you will not want to pull in front of traffic in icy conditions
3. **Entering** traffic:
  - Make sure you have enough lead time from the approaching traffic to safely enter the roadway

### Night vision and Safety

1. At night, **continue watching oncoming cars** on two-lane roads until they are past the danger area (after the approaching vehicle has passed the patrol car)
2. In citizen-driver safety classes students are taught to look at the fog line. As a police officer you look at the **left front tire area** if the violator's high-beams are on. They might be a DUI and cross the center line.
3. Try to maintain your position on the road, but **devote most attention to the violator vehicle**. If he/she fails to dim, this is a violation and they can be stopped. You will rarely be blinded if you practice this habit.