

Traffic Stop Skill Steps

Once you have identified a violation:

Plan your Stop (the Pre-stop Survey)

- Identify and plan to respond to risk factors
- Select a location you can control

Stop the Violator

- Notify dispatch using proper radio procedures and giving relevant info
- Signal the violator to pull over
- Prepare for any violator response
- Position your vehicle

Contact the Violator

- Exit patrol vehicle quickly and safely
- Choose driver or passenger approach
- Approach alert to threats and ready to respond
- Maintain a safe position
- Make contact
 - Greet the violator, identify yourself and give a reason for stop
 - Obtain required information
 - Advisement: "Please remain seated in your vehicle, while I..."
 - Request additional information if necessary
- Return to your vehicle remaining alert to threats

Determine Enforcement

- Check violator for warrants and DL status
- Conduct an investigation if no license or ID is present
- Decide on actions to be undertaken (verbal warning, citation, arrest, backup)
- Complete the infraction/citation as applicable

Close the Contact

- Request additional needed information if applicable
- Present and explain the citation
- Advise of items they need to correct/other violations not ticketed
- Thank them for cooperating , close with safety phrase
- Return to patrol car, wait for violator to leave, clear with dispatch, leave the scene