

# *Upper Darby Police Department Safety Tips*

*Michael J. Chitwood, Superintendent of Police*

*“Crime prevention is defined as the anticipation, recognition, and appraisal of the crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce it.”*



Upper Darby Township Police are proactive in their efforts to prevent crime and address those issues, which destroy the quality of life for the community. To that end though, the public must recognize that they too have a responsibility to assist the police, and without question are an integral part of the crime prevention process. Here are some tips you can use to protect yourself from becoming a victim, and become part of the eyes and ears of the police in your neighborhood.

## Tips on Stopping for an Unmarked Police Vehicle

In the ongoing effort to maintain the safety of our citizens, we will use a variety of tools; Unmarked Police Vehicles are a valuable, effective tool in providing safe, efficient and proactive law enforcement.

These vehicles address many community safety issues: Traffic violations, Aggressive driving, Fugitive apprehension, Investigative operations and to identify those driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

The Upper Darby Police Department is offering these tips when being stopped by an Unmarked Police Vehicle; if you feel concerned or uncomfortable:

- **Turn your interior dome light on.**
- **Activate your four way flashers.**
- **Safely proceed a short distance to the nearest well-lit public area.**
- **Keep your doors and windows locked.**
- **Do not ignore the officer. Show respect to the officer by staying calm and do not use profanity.**
- **Roll down the car window enough to hear the officer and pass documents.**
- **Utilize your cell phone to call 911 and ask the dispatcher to verify that it is an officer attempting to pull you over (exact street location is required).**
- **If still concerned, ask for a uniformed officer in a marked vehicle respond to the scene.**
- **Never exit your vehicle unless told to do so by a law enforcement officer.**
- **Try to remain calm and use common sense.**

It is always advisable to exercise these precautions and explain your actions later, than become a victim of a crime.

We remind everyone that obeying the speed limit and always wearing your seatbelt reduces the risk of a collision, personal injury or being stopped for a violation.

**Be Safe!**