



Public Safety Announcement

The Blue Envelope

The Department of Motor Vehicles "Blue Envelope" was created to enhance communication between a police officer and a driver with autism spectrum disorder. The envelope was created by a new state law which went into effect on January 1, 2020

The driver places their insurance card, registration, and driver license in it so that they can hand it to the officer during a traffic stop or motor vehicle collision. There are helpful instructions and tips printed on the envelope, so the officer and driver can communicate successfully. Keep the Blue Envelope in either the glove box or secured to the visor of the vehicle. The Greenwich Police Department received training on what to do once handed the Blue Envelope.

The Blue Envelope is available at all Connecticut DMV locations, driving schools, autism advocacy groups, and the Greenwich Public Safety Complex.

The below pictured Contact Card can be printed from the DMV website and placed in the Blue Envelope as well.

These documents can also be stored in any envelope if the Blue Envelopes are not available. Further, Contact Card can be carried in someone's pocket when they are not driving.

The goal is to make the officer aware of any considerations needed so they can have effective communication with a person with autism.

Please visit <https://portal.ct.gov/dmv-blue-envelope> for this information and to print the Contact Card.



LK-6056 New 11-19

Driver on the autism spectrum:

- Keep your hands on the steering wheel until otherwise directed, even if the officer is not at your car.
- Remember the officer may shine a flashlight in your car, may have a radio and may have flashing lights on their car.
- When the officer gets to your car say "I have a blue envelope".
- Answer the officer's questions and ask the officer before moving any parts of your body.
- When the officer tells you, slowly get the blue envelope that has your license, registration and insurance card and hand the envelope to the officer.
- The officer will go back to their cruiser, you will need to wait for the officer until he/she comes back.
- When the officer comes back to your car, they will explain the end of the stop to you and will tell you when to leave.

Important Papers!

Sponsored By




OUR PATCHES ARE DIFFERENT
CONNECTICUT
POLICE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION
OUR MISSION IS THE SAME

For more information:
portal.ct.gov/DMV-Blue-Envelope

I Have Autism:

I have been medically diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. My medical condition impairs my ability to communicate with others. As a result I may have difficulty understanding your directions, and I may not be able to respond to your questions. I may also become physically agitated if you touch me or move too close to me.

Please do not interpret my behavior as refusal to cooperate. I am not intentionally defying your instructions.



(Please see reverse side for additional information) →

If I exhibit any of these behaviors, I request that you contact the person noted below on my behalf; s/he will confirm my diagnosis and provide information you may need about my identity.

Sincerely,

My Printed Name

Contact Printed Name

Contact Printed Number

Contents:
Driver's License
DMV Auto Registration
Current Auto Insurance Card

Police Officer:

1. Individuals may display repetitive body movements or fidgeting and may have unusual eye contact.
2. Driver may exhibit signs of high anxiety especially due to brights lights and noises like your radio.
3. Allow driver extra time to respond, driver may need more time to formulate their response.
4. Use the most simplistic explanations possible, speak clearly and limit unnecessary details or jargon.
5. Please clearly tell the driver when the stop is over and that they may leave.
6. If the driver becomes upset, ask and/or consider contacting the person listed on the contact card.

