



TOWN OF DOVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

37 NORTH SUSSEX STREET
DOVER, NEW JERSEY 07801
Telephone: (973) 366-0302 Fax: (973) 366-1813

Mayor

Carolyn Blackman

Chief of Police

Jonathan Delaney

Blue Envelope

Dear Care Providers,

There is no doubt caregivers of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) know them better than anyone. But that is not always true for anyone who interacts with them. To that end, the “Blue Envelope” was created to help those with ASD and Police Officers in the event of a motor vehicle stop.

The primary goal of the Blue Envelope is to assist the drivers with ASD with document organization and understand what to do during a motor vehicle stop. Caregivers should review the envelope and Emergency Contact Form with the individuals they are caring for and have a plan in place customized to their needs.

Any questions or assistance in regards to contact planning can be directed to the Dover Police Department. Secondly, the Blue Envelope is to provide Police Officers with the means to quickly identify an operator of a motor vehicle who has ASD and help guide Police Officers with the interaction.

Police Officers throughout the State of New Jersey are receiving training to help them recognize and improve interactions with individuals with ASD or other special needs. The Blue Envelope will further assist Police Officers in their duties to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the individuals using the envelope, and help the officer and driver successfully communicate with each other.

It is highly recommended that all “Blue Envelope” documents are clear photocopies of the driver’s license, vehicle registration card and insurance card. The Emergency Contact Form is included in this envelope. Please list several emergency contacts to ensure someone can be reached if needed. Please be sure a Blue Envelope is placed in each car the person with ASD may be driving.

For the best possible contact between police and the person you are caring for, please review the steps below with the person who will be using the "Blue Envelope."

- 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 car to check all your information, and you will need to wait for the officer until they come back.
- When the officer comes back to your car, they will explain why you were stopped and will tell you when to leave.

The Blue Envelope was originally developed and distributed in the state of Connecticut for the purpose of improving interactions between a driver with ASD and a police officer during a motor vehicle stop (<https://portal.ct.gov/DMV-Blue-Envelope>).

PRINT NAME

CONTACT NAME **PHONE NUMBER**

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