



Instructions for Use of the NYPD Visor Card for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community

If you are ever stopped by the police, use your Visor Card and follow these steps:

1. **Turn on your right turn signal immediately upon seeing the emergency lights of the police vehicle.** This will tell the police officer(s) that you acknowledge them and are looking for a safe place to stop.
2. **Pull over to the right (such as the shoulder/exit ramp on the highway or an available space on a street), and stop safely.** If it is not possible to stop safely on the right immediately, pull over to the next available safe location. Remember that the police vehicle will also need a safe area to stop.
3. **Open your driver's side window all the way. If it is dark, turn on your interior dome light.** If you can electronically access the other windows from the driver's seat, do that as well. These steps will allow the officer to see inside your vehicle and ensure that there is nothing in your vehicle that will compromise his/her safety.
4. **Immediately remove the card from the visor and hold it in your left hand, with the "I am Deaf or Hard of Hearing" side up.**
5. **Place or rest both of your hands near the top of the steering wheel well before any police officer approaches your vehicle, with the visor card visible in your left hand.** Any passengers in the vehicle should also keep their hands in a conspicuous location. Police officers want to see both your hands at all times. The safest place is to put them on the wheel at the standard driving positions of 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock. Keep your hands on the wheel until after you establish effective communication with the police officer. Hand the officer your Visor Card so that he or she can read the information about how to effectively communicate with you. The officer may take your card for further review. Remain calm. If there is confusion over the card, attempt to hand the card to the officer along with your license and registration, when instructed to do so.
6. **Do not reach for any items in your vehicle (glove compartment, back seat, under your chair, in your door) until instructed by a police officer.**