

Southern Pines Police Department
Safety Tips
Aggressive Drivers

Anyone with experience as a driver of a motor vehicle can probably recount an interaction with an aggressive driver. How should drivers deal with these situations? First and foremost, remember your responsibility to operate your vehicle in a safe manner that complies with the state and local statutes. Safety MUST be the focus at all times while on the roadway. Then, take steps to minimize and end the interaction. Don't make matters worse by engaging in aggressive behavior yourself. Slow down, turn at an intersection or off-ramp and let the other driver go. If you are being followed, head to a well-lighted, populated place and call 911. Be sure to get a description of the vehicle, the vehicle license plate and direction of travel. Don't stop to talk with the other driver and don't get into an altercation. Aggressive drivers are often emotional and unpredictable; their behavior often starts with a simple act of perceived discourtesy. Remember to be a courteous driver, leave enough space for traffic to merge, don't tailgate and keep to the speed limit. We must all be observant and share the roadways with motorists, bicycles and other users. If you feel yourself getting upset over the actions of another driver, put your pride in the backseat and remember your responsibility to drive safely. You'll make it to your destination and so will your fellow motorists. Don't let aggressive drivers upset you and, most importantly, don't become an aggressive driver yourself!

For more information or a presentation on this topic, contact the Community Services Coordinator at (910) 692-2732.