

October 8, 2018

This is Lieutenant Larry Depee, Commander of the California Highway Patrol, Crescent City Area. As we discussed a couple weeks ago, Aggressive driving has increasingly become a major cause of concern for many road users.

This week, I thought I would discuss a few things you can do to protect yourself from being a victim, and from potentially becoming upset to the point your safe driving practices suffer.

Remaining calm and courteous behind the wheel lowers your risk of an unpleasant encounter with other motorists, as such, here are some rules of the road to remember:

- Maintain adequate following distance.
- Use turn signals.
- Allow others to merge.
- Use your high beams responsibly.
- Tap your horn if you must, but avoid overuse.
- Be considerate in parking lots.

If you find that you have agitated another driver, do not react or retaliate. This could only cause the situation to escalate. Here are some tips to consider:

- Do not respond to aggression, with aggression.
- Keep your distance.
- Have an escape route.
- Do not drive home if the aggressive driver continues to follow you.
- If you feel you are at risk, call 9-1-1, and drive to a law enforcement office or station.
- If you are confronted, stay as calm and courteous as possible.

If you would like more information on aggressive driving, rules of the road, or any other information, please feel free to contact us. Additionally, please follow us on Facebook for the most current news and information from the California Highway Patrol.

Thank you.