

DRIVE EMPLOYEES...

TO A COMPANY-WIDE TRAFFIC SAFETY POLICY: STOP AGGRESSIVE DRIVING



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT AGGRESSIVE DRIVING (AND HOW TO ANSWER THEM)

Requiring employees to obey traffic laws and drive defensively as a condition of employment—even when they are off the clock—will likely prompt questions from employees. Below are some questions you might get asked, along with responses.

1. WHAT IS AGGRESSIVE DRIVING?

Common examples of aggressive driving include speeding, frequent and unnecessary lane changes, tailgating, running red lights or stop signs and passing on the right. Driver distractions, such as talking on the phone, can also result in aggressive driving because drivers simply aren't paying attention to what is going on around them. These behaviors create unsafe situations, frustrate other drivers and can lead to road rage.

2. WHY ARE YOU CREATING A COMPANY POLICY IF MOVING VIOLATIONS, LIKE SPEEDING, ARE ALREADY AGAINST THE LAW?

We care about our employees, and we want to encourage you to arm yourself with the defensive driving skills that will reduce your chances of getting into a serious crash. A new policy to prevent aggressive driving is just one more thing we can do to help keep employees safe and injury-free.

3. CAN YOU GET A TICKET FOR AGGRESSIVE DRIVING?

Drivers can be fined up to \$200 for each moving violation associated with aggressive driving, including speeding, and may spend time in jail. Many people do not realize that you can get a ticket for driving too fast even if you're driving the posted speed limit. It's called "unsafe speed." You must adjust your speed and slow down when the weather is bad, when traffic is heavy or when entering a work zone.

4. IF I SEE SOMEONE DRIVING AGGRESSIVELY, SHOULDN'T I SPEED UP TO GET AWAY FROM THEIR VEHICLE?

It is true that you should put as much distance as you can between yourself and an aggressive driver or a driver you think may be impaired. However, you shouldn't put yourself at additional risk by speeding. Pull over, turn right or take the next exit to keep out of harm's way.

5. WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M THE VICTIM OF ROAD RAGE?

The most important thing is to avoid any conflict if possible, even if you think you are in the right. For example, if someone is following you too closely, let them pass. Always keep your emotions in check: Don't make inappropriate hand gestures, honk your horn or attempt to retaliate. Simply give the other driver plenty of space and move on. If you're concerned for your safety or the safety of other drivers, call 9-1-1.

Defensive driving means not only taking responsibility for yourself and your actions but also keeping an eye on the other guy. It means driving at safe speeds, avoiding distractions that take your eyes off the road, and being respectful of other motorists. Don't tailgate, and give other drivers room to merge or change lanes.



**Create A COMPANY
OF safe drivers!**
txdrivingconcern.org/safecompany

The National Safety Council saves lives by preventing injuries and deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the roads, through leadership, research, education and advocacy. For more information about safe driving in Texas, please visit the Texas Chapter of the National Safety Council at txdrivingconcern.org/safecompany, call 888-222-4143 or email texas@nsc.org.