



## ROAD RAGE SAFETY TIPS

ROAD RAGE IS ANY AGGRESSIVE, ANGRY, OR DANGEROUS BEHAVIOR EXHIBITED BY A DRIVER OR PASSENGER OF A VEHICLE

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Road rage can be caused by inebriation, impatience, anxiety, or any other kind of mental or emotional strain
- Road rage looks like cutting someone off, honking their horn, verbal insults, obscene gestures, showing a weapon, tailgating, brake-checking, or attempting to fight another motorist
- **Harris County has the highest rate of road fatalities in Texas**, 66% of which are caused by aggressive driving (*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration*)
- 37% of road rage incidents involve firearms (*American Safety Council*)
- 41% of people believe that road rage is just as dangerous as drunk or distracted driving, but most fail to report road rage when they see it

### HOW TO DE-ESCALATE

#### STAY CALM

Refuse to engage with the angry driver. Put some distance in between you and the other driver by safely slowing down or pulling over and letting them pass you

#### FRIENDLY WAVE

Giving the other driver a wave and a friendly smile communicates to them that you do not want to escalate the situation further

#### MOUTH "I'M SORRY"

Even if the incident is not your fault, accepting blame helps neutralize the situation and hopefully encourages the other driver to calm down

#### LISTEN TO MUSIC OR A PODCAST

Listening to calming music or a podcast can help you relax and stay levelheaded in a hectic situation

### HOW TO REPORT

- **Report aggressive drivers by calling 311.** Include vehicle description, location, license plate number and direction of travel.
- **Call 911 if threatened.** Continue to drive to a public place like a police or fire station.
- Road rage incidents have increased in Houston & Harris County. **If you have any information about an unsolved road rage incident, please report anonymously to the Crime Stoppers Tip Line at 713-222-TIPS(8477).**

### PARTNERS & RESOURCES

- **Houston Police Department Vehicular Crimes Division:** Responds to and investigates crashes and road rage incidents. [https://www.houstontx.gov/police/divisions/vehicular\\_crimes](https://www.houstontx.gov/police/divisions/vehicular_crimes)
- **Harris County Motorist Assistance Program:** Free program designed to assist stranded motorists on all Harris County area freeways. <https://harriscountyso.org/Services/MOTORISTASSISTANCEPROGRAM>
- **Texas Department of Transportation:** provides motorists with vital information and resources to keep them safe on the road. <https://www.txdot.gov/driver/safety/aggressive-drivers.html>