

Dealing With Aggressive Drivers

An aggressive driver might be defined as one who "operates a motor vehicle in a selfish, bold, or pushy manner, without regards for the rights or safety of the other users of the streets and highways". One study suggested that road rage may start as a relatively minor traffic incident and culminate in a violent act, often the result of a series of stressful events in a person's life.

The New York State Police Department has developed six tips for dealing with aggressive drivers that drivers in any state would be wise to employ.

1. Always remain calm and avoid eye contact with the aggressive driver.
2. Keep your distance as much as possible from the aggressive driver.
3. Avoid passing an aggressive driver.
4. Change lanes when you can safely do so to allow the aggressive driver to pass.
5. If you are unable to change lanes and an aggressive driver is tailgating you, maintain the proper speed and do not respond with hostile gestures.
6. Call 911 from your cell phone when you can safely do so to report this incident.