

## If you are stopped in your car:

- Stop your vehicle in a safe place
- Stay in the driver's seat and do not make threatening motions
- Comply with the law enforcement officials request
- If the law enforcement official has probable cause, your vehicle is subject to be searched
- If you are issued a citation, present your case in court, not on the side of the road.

## If a law enforcement official comes to your door:

- Make sure the individual is really law enforcement
- You do not have to let law enforcement into your home without proper paperwork,
- Determine the type of warrant being served
- You have the right to remain silent
- If you suspect there may be a warrant for your arrest, contact your local law enforcement agency to make arrangements to have the warrant served.

## If you are arrested:

- Stay Calm – Do no resist arrest
- Never attempt to interfere with the arrest of others.
- You should be told the reason for your arrest.
- Be mindful of what you say.
- You will be handcuffed and taken before a judicial official
- You have the right to make telephone calls.

## If you feel you've been mistreated:

- Cooperate with the law enforcement official, even if you feel as though you are being unjustly stopped or questioned. Retain your composure and conduct yourself in a professional manner.
- Report the case immediately to an agency supervisor. There is always a supervisor on duty who will be glad to talk to you about your experience.
- Provide the officer's name, witness information, and a factual statement about what happened.
- At the conclusion of the investigation, you will receive a letter about your complaint.

## How to File a Complaint or Commend a Law Enforcement Official:

We want to know when you have something to say about one of our employees. Complaints or Compliments will be taken in any form:

- In person
- By telephone
- Online at [www.fvpolice.org](http://www.fvpolice.org)
- By email at:
  - [fvpolicetips@fuquay-varina.org](mailto:fvpolicetips@fuquay-varina.org)
  - A handwritten letter
  - Anonymously

When providing information about the incident, please be as detailed as possible.



# Know Your Rights The Law & You

## Fuquay-Varina Police Department

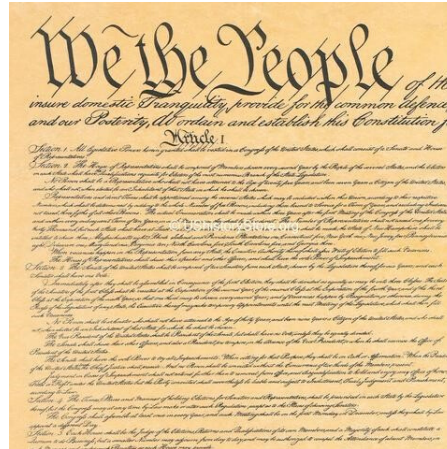
401 Old Honeycutt Road  
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526  
919-552-3191

*In a republic that honors the core of democracy, the greatest amount of power is given to those called Guardians. Only those with the most impeccable character are chosen to bear the responsibility of protecting the democracy.” -Plato*

Law enforcement agencies are continuously working to build trust and legitimacy with the public, trying to make positive changes by embracing the pillars found in 21st Century Policing. Law enforcement officials understand that by creating a culture of transparency and accountability, the trust of the citizens can be earned. The mission is to build trust between citizens and their law enforcement officers so that all components of the community treat one another fairly and justly and are invested in maintaining public safety in an atmosphere of mutual respect.



The Constitution of the United States is the source of all government powers, and it also provides important limitations on the government that protect the fundamental rights of United States citizens.



The First Amendment protects the freedom of speech, the press, assembly, and the right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

The Fourth Amendment protects people from unreasonable search and seizure and gives people the right to be secure in their persons, homes, papers, and effects.

The Fifth Amendment provides that citizens are not subject to criminal prosecution and punishment without due process.

## Know Your Rights

**Can you take photographs or video recordings?**

You have a right to capture images and make recordings in public places, and you have a right to take pictures and make recordings of officers who are performing official duties in public.

If you are taking photographs or video recordings of an officer, give them space to safely work. If an officer asks you to stand back, do so.

**On private property, the property owner sets the rules about the take of photographs or video. If you disobey property owners' rules, they can order you off their property.**

**If you are stopped on the street:**

- Stay Calm – Do not make any threatening motions or comments.
- If you decide to answer questions, be factual
- You have the right to remain silent
- You do not have to consent to a search
- If the officer has reasonable suspicion to believe you are armed and dangerous, you are subject to be frisked.