

Safety On The Road

As a REALTOR®, you spend a great deal of time in your car. These tips may help protect you from dangerous situations on the road or while waiting in your car.

- Your office should keep a file on each agent's vehicle, including the make, year, model, color and license plate number. Your office should keep this confidential information in a secure place.
- Always take your own car for showings. When you leave your car, lock it.
- Wear a visible company name badge at all times. It is also best to drive a vehicle clearly marked with your company name. These will be invaluable for identification if you need to get assistance.
- When you're alone getting into your car, the first thing you should do is lock the doors. Be observant when approaching your car, looking underneath and in the back seat before entering.
- Keep roadside breakdown essentials in the trunk, including flares, a tire-inflation canister, basic hand tools, spare belts and hoses, a flashlight, a first-aid kit and water. Have your vehicle inspected regularly, keep it well maintained and learn how to change a flat tire.
- Dress for the weather. If your car breaks down or you need to escape a dangerous situation on foot, you could find yourself exposed to harsh weather conditions for an extended period of time. Keep a pair of comfortable shoes in the car, in case you need to walk for assistance. In the winter, bring a coat with you and keep a blanket in the trunk of your car along with some spare warm clothes.
- If you're driving at night and are approached by a vehicle with blue lights, exercise caution. Call 9-1-1 to identify the vehicle, turn on your flashers to acknowledge that you see the police car, and keep moving until you're in a well-lit area. A legitimate law enforcement officer will understand your caution.
- Don't antagonize potentially dangerous drivers by mimicking their gestures or aggressive driving. Just let it go.

For more safety tips, visit www.REALTOR.org/Safety