

In a Car

- A Passenger in a Vehicle Police May Order a Driver to Exit Their Vehicle During a Traffic Stop

A Passenger in a Vehicle

Can a police officer order passengers in a vehicle to exit said vehicle during a traffic stop even if they do not have reasonable suspicion of a crime other than the reason for the initial traffic stop.

No. 95-1268. Argued December 11, 1996-Decided February 19, 1997

[Full Court Opinion](#)

Police May Order a Driver to Exit Their Vehicle During a Traffic Stop

Police may order you to exit your vehicle during a traffic stop if it is for reasons of officer safety or to further their investigation. You must comply with their command for you to exit the vehicle. They do not need any additional probable cause or reasonable suspicion behind that which they had to legally pull you over. Failure to comply with that lawful order could be a crime and subject a person to arrest.

Police may NOT extend the stop any longer than is necessary for them to issue the traffic citation, the same as any other traffic stop.

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