

Roll Call Talking Points for Safe, Quick Clearance

Whether responding to a single-vehicle incident, or a multiple vehicle crash, take the following steps into consideration. This roll call outlines considerations recommended for law enforcement when arriving first on the scene of a traffic incident. Always follow your agency's policies. The below talking points are designed to be given during roll call to reinforce key information when responding and setting a scene of a traffic incident and assist officers in applying this knowledge to their role as first responders in their community.

Arriving First and Setting the Scene

- Maintain a safe distance
 - Considerations on arrival, weather conditions, and visibility
 - Hazmat presence
- Block the lanes
 - Provide a block with your vehicle to protect the scene, those involved, and other emergency responders.¹
- Assess the scene
 - Secure the scene for responder and motorist safety. Set up flares and/or cones at an appropriate distance to afford motorists time to slow down and adjust to changes in traffic patterns.
- Put on your vest
 - Wear your high-visibility vest. Wearing high-visibility vests significantly improves visibility of an officer on scene.
- Communicate – be clear and concise
 - Confirm location
 - Number, type, and condition of vehicles
 - Is tow truck needed?
 - Relay special circumstances – is the vehicle in a ditch, overturned, if lanes are blocked, etc.?
 - When possible send pictures. This quickly provides information to towers on what type of vehicle will need to be dispatched to the scene.
 - Apparent injuries
 - What lanes/roads are blocked
 - What you need – e.g. detours
 - How others should approach
- Render aid
 - Check for injuries, provide emergency medical assistance until support arrives.
- Investigate
- Coordinate and maintain the scene
 - Coordinate with other responders as they arrive on scene.
- Restore traffic flow

¹ International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), They Don't See You (August 2014).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtUrLV7eutg&feature=youtu.be>