Accessibility and Disability Policy Webinar Series

November 21, 2019
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Texas Driving with Autism Initiative

presented by

Jennifer Allen, Asperger's 101
Skylar Hearn, Department of Public Safety
Jeremiah Kuntz, Department of Motor Vehicles
Driving with Autism

A Texas Initiative

The Driving with Autism initiative is a first-of-its-kind program out of Texas that is improving the interaction between law enforcement and drivers diagnosed with a communication challenge.
The Driving with Autism initiative is a first-of-its-kind program out of Texas that is improving the interaction between law enforcement and drivers diagnosed with a communication challenge.
Welcoming Remarks from Governor Abbott

https://youtu.be/wp3l5tfQT_0
Jennifer Allen

Founder & Executive Director @Aspergers101 and Driving with Autism Initiative
Jeremiah Kuntz
Director of Vehicle Titles & Registration at the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
Skylar Hearn

Lt. Colonel Hearn is one of three Deputy Directors for the agency and oversees the Law Enforcement Services Branch of Department of Public Safety.
Driving with Autism

Jennifer Allen
Executive Director & Founder
Aspergers101 & Driving with Autism Texas Initiative
Overview

**Concept:** With the goal of creating better communication between law enforcement and citizens with a communication impediment such as Autism/Asperger Syndrome, the “Driving with Autism” initiative was developed by a mother who was fearful for her son—diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome—driving, and the challenges he certainly would encounter if pulled over by an Officer of the Law.
Driving with Autism

Went to my State Representative

June 22, 2015

Mr. Joe Peters
Assistant Director, Drivers' License Division
Texas Department of Public Safety
P.O. Box 4087
Austin, TX 78773

Dear Mr. Peters:

Thank you for your work on behalf of our great state. I'm writing to request that the Department of Public Safety develop and implement a plan to have a designation on Texas driver licenses that indicates that the license holder has autism.

My office has been working with a constituent whose son has high-functioning autism and who is well-versed with high-functioning autism and Aspergers Syndrome. She is a dedicated advocate for helping parents of those who have high-functioning autism learn how their child can become more independent. She notes that one of the key ways to gain independence is for a person with high-functioning autism, who meets medical standards to be able to drive, obtain a driver license. However, she often hears that parents are apprehensive to pursue a license for their child due to concerns about problems that may arise from a traffic stop if law enforcement is unaware their son or daughter has certain impediments. After consulting with physicians and a number of experts in the autism field, she has indicated that there are many who think such a designation would be helpful to both the driver and law enforcement.

During a traffic stop, an officer interacting with a person who is autistic may not know that the individual they are interacting with has a sensitivity to light or sound, communication impediments, or trouble making eye contact, for example. If the designation were on the driver license, an officer would be alerted to the condition, and be able to adjust their approach to interacting with the individual as appropriate.

The constituent my office has been working with on this issue is very interested to working with DPS to develop this designation and provide any expertise, or answer any questions you may have. She is also interested in working with the Department to get the word out to folks about the designation once it's made available. Her contact information can be found below:

Best,

Lyle Larson
Driving with Autism

Presented a Low-Cost Solution!

- Bring “Communication Impediment with a Peace Officer” to the forefront
- Define the term
- Legislation
- Law Enforcement Training
- Keeping Diagnosis Private
- Awareness: Let People Know!

Texas Department of Public Safety Driver License Division meets with Aspergers101
Driving with Autism

Three Components

1. Driver License & State ID Optional Code: Communication Impediment with a Peace Officer. Statewide Marketing Effort

2. Law Enforcement Training: Understanding “Communication Impediment”

3. Communication Impediment offered as option when registering vehicle with Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. This alerts the officer of the diagnosis prior to approaching the vehicle in a traffic stop. (TLETS)

Bonus: Driving with Autism Camp
Driving with Autism

#1

Driver License & State ID
Optional Code: Communication
Impediment with a Peace Officer
& Statewide Marketing Effort
What Constitutes a Communication Impediment?

A communication impediment is any disorder that affects an individual's ability to comprehend, detect, or apply language and speech to engage in discourse effectively with others. The delays and disorders can range from simple sound substitution to the inability to understand or use one's native language.

Common challenges associated with communication impediment:

- Autism
- Asperger Syndrome
- Mild intellectual disability
- Deafness
- Hard of Hearing
- Speech & languages disorders (Mute-ism, Stuttering)
- Down Syndrome
- Brain Injury
- Parkinson’s disease
Samuel Allen, at Texas Capitol Press Conference, explains why the option of “Communication Impediment” code is so important to him.

https://youtu.be/rwqWhkvJtJk
HB 1434

Texas House Bill
Relating to displaying informational materials and videos in driver's license offices.
Driving with Autism

85th Texas Legislative Session – HB1434

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bills Filed</th>
<th>Bills Passed</th>
<th>Vetoed</th>
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<td>1,211</td>
<td>50</td>
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Summary of Enactments, 85th Legislature
Published by the Texas Legislative Council
Driving with Autism

Press Conference: TX Governors Press Room State Capitol
Monday, April 25th, 2016

Mr. Joe Peters/Asst. Director Texas DPS Driver License Division
Introduces Texans to “Driving with Autism” initiative

https://www.youtube.com/embed/Zm3ij1LPcfI?start=59&end=119
Driving with Autism - Marketing

Framed posters placed in all Texas DPS Driver License Offices
English & Spanish Languages
Driving with Autism - Marketing

Tri-fold Brochures placed in all Texas DPS Driver License Offices
English & Spanish Languages

Tips for those driving with Autism

1. Practice driving in a remote location, as often as possible.
2. Practice a role-play scenario as if an officer of the law were approaching your vehicle. Practice the steps of rolling down the window, then keeping your head in view of the officer in good place (in the steering wheel). Once the officer asks for your driver license, let the officer know that you are now going to reach for your purse or wallet to get your license.

“Anxiety can often be reduced (for the driver with Autism) by lots of driving practice in a safe remote location.”

Temple Grandin, Ph.D.
Professor of Animal Science, Inventor, Autism Activist

Tips for the Parents

1. Take your time. Just because driving ed is offered (around age 15-16) at Public High School does not mean your child with an ASD should begin at that time. Typically the emotional side takes a couple of years or longer to catch up with the physical part. Each child is different but knowing your child’s emotional state and when to launch is important to keep up.
2. Practice, practice, practice! Allow your son or daughter the opportunity to get behind the wheel in a remote setting. The sooner the better! Driving for someone on the spectrum takes a lot of sensory and memory activity and the more you can practice (in the country or abandoned parking lot), the better. Taking a driver’s education class, the greater the chances are for success.
3. Get familiar with the driving instructions. Chances are the instructor has been trained to work with people with impairments, however, they never assume this and schedule a meeting 3-4 days at the district level and bring a handout explaining your child’s challenges and diagnosis. This will save the time for your child by preparing all instructors how to best communicate during instruction.
4. Keep driving reviews as easy as possible. Once the license is obtained and your son/daughter begins driving, find the easiest, least congested route to school, college and work. Keeping it simple and a consistent, as possible lessens anxiety for the two of you.
5. Driving is not for everyone, for some with ASD the anxiety of getting behind the wheel is too great and you should consider getting familiar with other means of independence such as a consistent mode of public transportation.

At the Department of Public Safety, we are uniquely aware that having a driver license can pave the way to independence for many, and we are pleased to provide the "Communication Impediment" notice on Texas driver licenses and ID cards. Protecting the safety of all Texans – on and off the road – is the keynote of our mission, and this driver license/ID card option provides vital information that can serve as a powerful communication bridge between this group of Texans and our officers.

Steven McCraw
Director/Texas Department of Public Safety

Brought to you by:

Aspergers101
Your Resource for High Functioning Autism and Asperger's Syndrome
aspergers101.org

In partnership with:

Jennifer Allen
Founder Aspergers101

Medical Reasons Why A Person Might Need The Restriction

Communication Impediment

In circumstances such as a traffic stop, an individual with Autism who displays these behaviors (see exceptions from DOT V columns below) are at risk for being misinterpreted by law enforcement officers.

A. Patricia Del Angel, MD, RAPAP

Rebecca de la Cruz, Ph.D., BCD, RAPAP

Lorene Primavesi, PNP, FACTA, OTR

Autism Community Network

Deficits in Social Interaction

A1. Deficits in social-emotional reciprocity

- Failure of normal back and forth conversation
- Poor eye contact

A2. Deficits in nonverbal communicative behaviors used for social interaction

- Poorly integrated verbal and nonverbal communication
- Abnormalities in eye contact and body language
- Deficits in understanding and use of gestures
- A total lack of social expressions and nonverbal communication

Excerpts from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5)
Driving with Autism – Marketing Statewide

:30 PSA: Autism

Airing on TV throughout Texas and Social Media

https://youtu.be/xOy0Gj763Fk
Driving with Autism – Marketing Statewide

:30 PSA: Deaf or Hard of Hearing
Airing on TV throughout Texas and Social Media

https://youtu.be/0b8K8vp-0u8
Driving with Autism

Marketing The “Driving with Autism” to Texas Citizens

- TV Interviews
- News Stories
- Radio
- Print
- Social Media
Driving with Autism

Skylor Hearn
Lieutenant Colonel
Texas Department of Public Safety
Driving with Autism

Driver License

• The addition of notification of “Communication Impediment” to a Texas DL or ID is a completely voluntary and simple process.

• When applying for a first time, renewal, or replacement DL or ID, the customer must check “yes” on the application form for the question, “Do you have a health condition that may impede communication with a peace officer?” and


• No other medical forms are needed for the addition of this notification.
• The “Communication Impediment” statement will be displayed on the back of DL or ID. The DL will also have the letter “P” on the face of the card under the restriction codes.

• Once the statement has been added to the card, it will remain there until the customer requests that it be removed.

• As of August 31, 2019, there were more than 9,700 Texas DL and ID cards with the “Communication Impediment” flag.
Driving with Autism

TLETS

- DPS facilitates access to both the Driver License database (DPS) and the Vehicle Registration database (DMV) for law enforcement across the state and nation through the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System – or TLETS.

- The “Communication Impediment” notification is visible to law enforcement on DL queries and will be similarly visible on registration queries.
Driving with Autism

DPS is working to enhance these returns by creating a banner at the top of the record return as depicted below that will draw immediate attention from the officer or communications operator.

**THE FOLLOWING RECORD INDICATES THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY HAVE A HEALTH CONDITION OR DISABILITY THAT IMPEDES EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION.**

**THE FOLLOWING RECORD INDICATES THE DRIVER OR OWNER OF THE VEHICLE MAY HAVE A HEALTH CONDITION OR DISABILITY THAT IMPEDES EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION.**
Driving with Autism

Jennifer Allen
Executive Director & Founder
Aspergers101 & Driving with Autism Texas Initiative
Law Enforcement Training: Understanding “Communication Impediment”
Press Conference: Announcing Texas “Driving with Autism” initiative – Training

Monday, April 25th, 2016

Major Jason Hester
Commissioner Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

https://www.youtube.com/embed/Zm3ij1LPcfI?start=141&end=218
Driving with Autism - Training

Training Texas DPS Trooper Recruits
Driving with Autism

Poster: Presented at Texas Psychological Association

2-hour ASD Training/ 3 Workshops/ 350 Participating Texas Trooper Recruits

Introduction

While driving is one of the skills necessary for being independent in young adulthood, successful driving can be a challenge for persons with mild Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In addition to knowledge of traffic rules, safe driving requires cognitive flexibility and the ability to react quickly and appropriately to unpredictable situations (e.g., distracted drivers on cell-phones weaving into your lane). Peace officers are trained to demand eye contact and expect appropriate interactions from people involved in a traffic stop. Because persons with mild ASD often struggle with understanding social cues and can become extremely anxious when placed in a stressful situation, there is significant potential for an ill-posed encounter during a traffic stop.

The collaborative effort between the Aspergers 101 organization, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio grew from a mother’s desire to assist her teenage son who has mild Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) with driving safety. Jennifer Allen worked with Charles Pulfer of DPS to develop the Driving with Autism State Initiative. This is a multi-faceted program which includes the optional placement of a restriction code (Communication Impediment with a Peace Officer) on the person’s drivers license. This communication code can be included on the driver’s license or state ID card for persons with ASD, Down syndrome or speech impediment. The second facet of this initiative focused on DPS Trooper recruitment training on mild ASD.

We assessed state Trooper’s knowledge and attitudes about ASD behavior, ASD stress reactions and potential for violence prior to and immediately following a 2-hour workshop. The workshop included short video clips from Temple Grandin and other experts discussing ASD behavior, stress reactions and application to traffic stop behavior. A teenager with ASD also shared his experiences with driving.

Materials and Methods

Prior to beginning the workshop each officer completed a short questionnaire designed to assess knowledge and attitudes regarding ASD behavior, knowledge of potential ASD reactions to stressful situations and their attitudes about potential for violence with this population.

Pre-workshop Questionnaire-L-kurt scale 1-5

How well do you understand the diagnostic and characteristics of high functioning autism or Asperger’s Syndrome (ASD)?

- 1 = above average one is understanding; 5 = not understanding

Are you familiar with the ways a person with ASD reacts to stressful situations?

- 1 = above average one is understanding; 5 = not understanding

Do you believe that persons with ASD often react violently to stressful situations?

- 1 = yes they always react violently; 5 = no, never react violently

Have you had personal exposure to persons with ASD?

- 1 = yes, had exposure; 5 = no exposure

Do you feel this program will be helpful for situations in your workplace?

- 1 = yes, it will be of great help; 5 = no added value

The 2-hour workshop included short video clips discussing the behavioral characteristics of ASD such as having difficulty understanding sarcasm (e.g., “Where is the flip?”) and problems with nonverbal communication (poor eye contact), and slow processing speed (needing more time to respond). The workshop also discussed possible stress reactions (panic) when being pulled over and a teenager with ASD shared his experiences of being a new driver. There was also time allotted for questions.

Each Trooper then completed a Post-workshop questionnaire. Four questions were the same as those on the Pre-workshop questionnaire. Three additional questions were asked: “Are you satisfied with this presentation on ASD?” “Do you feel you have gained a working knowledge of ASD that will aid you on the job?” and “Did you have your questions answered in this program?” Suggestions for improvement of the workshop were also solicited.

A total of 350 DPS Troopers completed both questionnaires across the three training sessions. A series of paired t-tests were generated for shared items. Results of a stand-alone pre-workshop question revealed that most troopers had some to little familiarity with ASD (N=742; SD = 1.60) on a 5-point kurt scale with 1 = most familiar to 5 = no familiarity. A few of the officers wrote that they had family members with ASD while others indicated they had no familiarity with the topic.

Conclusions and Next Steps

1. There was a significant difference in ratings for self-perceived knowledge of ASD in general and knowledge of ASD stress reactions. On the Pre-workshop questionnaire, officers indicated they had minimal knowledge of ASD and stress reactions while post workshop ratings reflected significant increases in knowledge about the two topics.

2. On the question regarding potential for violence, the majority of officers felt pre-workshop that there was a mild moderate tendency towards violence while post survey reflected a decrease in this perception. On average, persons with ASD were viewed as less likely to be violent when stressed than previously thought.

3.Officers were receptive to the workshop as indicated by their positive pre-workshop ratings and gave the workshop high marks post-survey. 99% of the officers saw the workshop as providing added value to their on-the-job work.

4. In answer to the question, “What would you suggest to improve this presentation?” Respondents indicated they wanted additional case presentations and simulated presentations of actual traffic stops with an ASD individual. Jennifer Allen and her son Sam have just completed filming a series of simulated traffic stops. These vignettes will be added to future training workshops.
Driving with Autism - Training

Poster Results

- Minimal knowledge of Autism Spectrum Disorders in pre-test ratings reflected *a significant increase* in knowledge after training.
- Prior law enforcement training on ASD gave a majority of those tested with the false knowledge of autism being an aggressive mental disorder. They believed that there was a mild to moderate tendency toward violence while the post survey reflected a decrease in this perception.

On average, persons with Autism were viewed as less likely to be violent than previously thought.
1) What constitutes a “Communication Impediment” designation? – Because it’s more than autism

2) What might it look like in a traffic stop

3) Methods to better handle situations
1. What constitutes a “Communication Impediment” designation?

Medically, each disorder lends itself to its own category. However, for law enforcement training purposes, we will proceed by categorizing “Communication Impediment” disorders into two groups to better prepare officers for a pullover scenario.

**GROUP ONE:** (Think of it as a Slower Processing Speed)
Autism, Asperger Syndrome, Mild Intellectual Disability, Down Syndrome, Parkinson’s Disease, Speech and Language Disorders and Brain Injury

**GROUP TWO:** (Think of this as a Different Language)
Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Driving with Autism

Group 1: Slower Processing Speed - Autism

What Autism (and others in Group 1) might look like during a traffic stop?

- Lack of eye contact or too much eye contact
- No expression/Seemingly bland behavior
- Unusual speaking patterns including direct (sometimes curt) short answers
- Physical display of coping mechanisms (from stress) such as repetitive body movements, crying, holding ears, yelling, singing or fetal position.
2. What Deafness (and others in Group 2) might look like during a traffic stop?

- A deaf person doesn’t respond to verbal directions
- Person may reach into his or her pocket to get a card that reads “I am deaf”, but the officer believes instead that he or she is reaching for a weapon
- They are probably more scared of a policeman or woman than a non-deaf person, at least in the beginning of an encounter because of their fear of being misunderstood
- They will make eye contact; eye contact is very important to effective communication for this population
3. Methods to better handle a situation

Texas Law Enforcement Training Video

Group 1: Slower Processing Speed/Autism
Group 2: Different Language/Deaf or Hard of Hearing

https://youtu.be/b2WnwHvjkSI

Produced in conjunction with Aspergers101 & San Antonio Police Department for TCOLE
To provide a consistent training to ALL Texas Law Enforcement Agencies, Aspergers101 is teaming up with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement to provide them with resources and information on Communication Impediment. TCOLE is reviewing this course and its content as a possible course for officers to utilize for continuing education hours.
Communication Impediment offered as option when registering vehicle with Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. This alerts the officer of the diagnosis *prior to approaching* the vehicle in a traffic stop. (TLETS)
Driving with Autism

86th Texas Legislative Session

SB 976: Option to place “Communication Impediment” in TLETS

SB 976 will allow a person with a Communication Impediment the option for disclosure when registering their vehicle through the Texas DMV. This will place the diagnosis privately in the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (TLETS) alerting the officer PRIOR to approaching the vehicle in a pull-over scenario. This might not only save lives, it will keep the diagnosis hidden from potential public scrutiny.
Samuel Allen Testimony to Senate Committee on Transportation on why passage of SB 976 might be important to persons with Autism

https://youtu.be/niAtktbtf7I
Driving with Autism

SB 976

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

relating to the notification of a peace officer through an indication associated with vehicle registration that a person has a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.061 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.061. REGISTRATION BY OWNER WITH CONDITION THAT IMPEDES EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION. (a) An application for registration must provide space for the applicant to voluntarily indicate that the applicant has a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with a peace officer. The department may request from a person who makes an indication under this subsection verification of a condition in the form of:

(1) for a physical health condition, a written statement from a licensed physician; or
(2) for a mental health condition, a written statement from a licensed physician, a licensed psychologist, or a non-physician mental health professional, as defined by Section 571.001, Health and Safety Code.

(b) The department shall provide to the Department of Public Safety the vehicle registration information of a person who voluntarily indicated on an application under Subsection (a) that the person has a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication. The department may not provide to the Department of Public Safety information that shows the type of health condition or disability a person has.

(c) The Department of Public Safety shall establish a system to include information received under Subsection (b) in the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System for the purpose of alerting a peace officer who makes a traffic stop that the operator of the stopped vehicle may have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication.

(d) The Department of Public Safety may not make information received under Subsection (b) available in the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System to a person who has access to the system under a contract unless the contract prohibits the person from disclosing that information to a person who is not subject to the contract.

(e) The department may not issue to a person without the person’s consent a license plate with a visible marking that indicates to the general public that the person voluntarily indicated on an application under Subsection (a) that the person has a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication.

(f) Except as provided by Subsection (d), information supplied to the department relating to an applicant’s health condition or disability is for the confidential use of the department and the Department of Public Safety and may not be disclosed to any person.

SECTION 2. A Department of Public Safety contract that allows a person to access the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System and that is in effect before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date on which the contract was entered into, and that law is not continued in effect for that purpose, except that the contract:

(1) continues only for the term of the contract; and
(2) may not be renewed unless the renewed contract

Filed February 21, 2019
Senator Bryan Hughes

Includes the prohibition required by Section 502.061(d), Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

.......

Jennifer Allen/Aspergers101
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Samuel Dale Allen has worked tirelessly to improve interactions between law enforcement and Texans with health conditions that may impede communication; and

WHEREAS, A San Antonio native, Samuel Allen was diagnosed with high-functioning autism as a child; he began advocating for others with autism as a student, and he has helped educate the public about the condition; moreover, he has raised vital awareness of the misunderstandings that can occur when an officer makes a traffic stop involving someone with autism, Asperger Syndrome, mild intellectual disabilities, deafness, speech disorders, or other impediments; his accomplishments earned him a Spirit of Giving Award from the San Antonio Business Journal; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen has been a strong voice in support of S.B. 976, which allows a person with a communication impediment the option to disclose this information when registering their vehicle through the Department of Motor Vehicles; this would place the diagnosis in the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunication System, ensuring that an officer is alerted prior to approaching the vehicle, while maintaining the privacy of the driver; and

WHEREAS, Through his dedicated efforts, Samuel Allen is helping to make encounters safer for officers and people with communication impediments, and his contributions have earned the respect and admiration of his fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby commend Samuel Allen for his civic engagement and advocacy for individuals with communication impediments and, contingent on the passing of S.B. 976, recognize Section 502.061, Transportation Code, as the Samuel Allen Law.

86R15779 BPG-D

By: Hughes

S.C.R. No. 52

Jennifer Allen/Aspergers101
Driving with Autism

86th Texas Legislative Session – SB976

The Samuel Allen Law

Bills Filed | Bills Passed | Vetoed
---|---|---
7,324 | 1,229 | 56

Summary of Enactments, 85th Legislature
Published by the Texas Legislative Council
Driving with Autism

Marketing The Samuel Allen Law to Texas Citizens

:  

https://youtu.be/2_QcwtxzHD4
Driving with Autism

Marketing The Samuel Allen Law to Texas Citizens

PSA Airing Across Texas

https://youtu.be/KI1uRmPCgmY
Driving with Autism

Marketing The Samuel Allen Law to Texas Citizens

- TV Interviews
- News Stories
- Radio
- Print
- Social Media
Driving with Autism

Jeremiah Kuntz
Director of Vehicle Titles & Registration
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
Adding a communication Impediment Indicator to a Motor Vehicle Record

- Adding a communication impedance indicator to your motor vehicle record is voluntary and easy.
- The indicator can be added to your motor vehicle record when applying for title or registration or at any other time.
- The indicator will add a remarks that is visible to law enforcement informing them that the driver of the vehicle may have a communication impediment.
- The remark is not available to anyone other than law enforcement.
Driving with Autism

Adding a communication Impediment Indicator to a Motor Vehicle Record

**Step 1** – Fill out Form VTR-216 and have your health care provider certify that you have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication. The form is available at [www.TxDMV.gov/forms](http://www.TxDMV.gov/forms).

**Step 2** – Bring sign form VTR-216 to your county tax assessor collector office.

**Step 3** – The county tax assessor collector office will add the indicator to your motor vehicle record and return the form VTR-216 to you.

*Note: You may keep your signed form VTR-216 for future use if you purchase a new vehicle.*
Jennifer Allen

Executive Director & Founder
Aspergers101 & Driving with Autism Texas Initiative
Driving with Autism Camp
Driving with Autism

Driving with Autism Camp

Aspergers101 teamed up with the Texas DPS Training Facility in Florence Texas to develop a prototype “Driving with Autism” Day Camp.

https://youtu.be/3cPkXwaW_4Y
Available Camp Forms

- Driving with Autism Camp – Itinerary
- Parent Application Form
- Driving with Autism Camp - Student Assessment
- Driving with Autism Camp – Vehicle Inspection
- Driving with Autism Camp – City Rural Observation
Driving with Autism

**Final Thoughts:**

“Driving with Autism initiative is a success because in our great state of Texas, you can take an idea from a citizen, empower that idea through our State Legislature, engage our great Department of Public Safety and Department of Motor Vehicles, gain total support through our Governors Committee on People with Disabilities, affirm it’s credibility through UT Health San Antonio and suddenly we have forged a program worthy to share. Let’s pass it on and have others build upon it.”

-Jennifer Allen
Driving with Autism

Q & A

ASPERGERS101

TEXAS GOVERNOR’S COMMITTEE
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

TxDMV

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY