

## Why a Policeman Can Improve Your Driving

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When you drive down the street and a police officer pulls in behind you, your driving improves. You might normally push the speed limit a bit, change lanes too aggressively or forget to signal a turn. However, when you know the eyes of the law are on you, you stop aggressive driving. The drivers who fail to pay attention or don't care are the drivers who tend to collect traffic tickets.

The same principle applies in business. When you know you are being supervised, you tend to pay more attention to what you are doing. The supervisor cares about quality. You understand you can't slack off, just like you don't step on the gas when the policeman is behind you.

In your business, it's a good reminder that you need to provide reasonable supervision for staff. Paul understood the importance of following up when he said "let 's return to each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are getting along." (Acts 15:36b, NLT)

When you are aware of staff distractions, like long personal phone calls during working hours; you can discuss these issues with staff promptly. I don't believe supervision should be confused with micro-managing or nitpicking every detail. Instead it should serve to encourage good, solid, diligent work.

Paul writes, "Now, a person who is put in charge as a manager must be faithful." (1 Corinthians 4:2, NLT) Part of being faithful is providing appropriate supervision.

Management in your business is like the officer whose presence keeps your driving in check so you don't get pulled over. Likewise, effective supervision should help staff stay focused on work and limit unnecessary distractions. When Paul returned to check up on the new believers, I'm sure he would have been very direct if improvement was needed in doctrine or ministry matters. Follow Paul's model to develop your team.

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