



# Pasadena Police Department

## Patrol's Corner



### 1st Amendment Rights

As law enforcement professionals, we pride ourselves on safeguarding the constitutional rights of all members of our community. If we respond to a call for service or encounter individuals filming around the police department, records lobby, or front parking area where there are no expectations of privacy (public place), community members may do so. These individuals **are not** obligated to provide us with identification, answer questions, or leave the premises **unless** a public offense has occurred.

While many individuals engage in filming with the intention of ensuring police departments adhere to constitutional and state laws, others adopt an antagonistic stance, seeking to provoke officers or City officials into verbal debates or physical altercations. It's crucial not to escalate these "1st amendment audits" into conflicts. If approached, kindly provide your name, badge/ID numbers, and promptly inform your supervisor of the encounter with a "1st amendment audit."

*Examples of "1st amendment audits" can be found on various YouTube channels.*

As a reminder please review the complete **Lexipol policy section 469 First Amendment Assemblies** for complete details.

See specific section:

#### **469.2 POLICY**

*The Pasadena Police Department respects the rights of people to peaceably assemble. It is the policy of this department not to unreasonably interfere with, harass, intimidate, or discriminate against persons engaged in the lawful exercise of their rights, while also preserving the peace, protecting life, and preventing the destruction of property.*

Lexipol Co-Founder Gordon Graham provides advice for police officers on first amendment audits. **"No matter what - whether you're being recorded or not - always be polite and professional. As police first amendment audits grow in popularity, the need to balance respect and officer safety grows."** To view Gordon Graham's advice on handling a 1st amendment audit, click here: [Today's Tip from Lexipol](#).

Thank you to FTO Corporal Jack Preston for his submission regarding this topic.