Instruction Card for Show-up Identification Attempt

Do not tell the witness that the police have stopped someone who fits the description.
Do not let the witness know whether he/she has selected the “right” person.
Do not show the suspect sitting in a cruiser or allow the witness to see handcuffs on him.

1. You are going to be asked to view some people.
2. The person who committed the crime may or may not be among those you are about to view.
3. It is just as important to clear innocent persons from suspicion as it is to identify the guilty.
4. Regardless of whether you identify someone, we will continue to investigate the incident.
5. When we are done, our procedures require me to ask you to state, in your own words, how certain you are of any identification.
6. If you do select someone, please do not ask us questions about the person you have selected, because we cannot share that information with you at this stage of the investigation.
7. Regardless of whether you select a person, please do not discuss the procedure with any other witnesses in the case or the media.
8. Do you have any questions before we begin?

If identification is made, ask “Without using a numeric scale, how certain are you?”

Miranda Warnings

1. You have the right to remain silent.
2. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law.
3. You have the right to an attorney and to have one with you during questioning.
4. If you cannot afford an attorney and want one, one will be appointed for you without cost to you.
5. Do you understand what I have told you?
6. You may also waive the right to counsel and your right to remain silent, and you may answer any question or make any statement you wish. If you decide to answer questions now without an attorney present, you may stop at any time.
7. Do you understand your rights?
8. Having these rights in mind, do you wish to talk to us now?