

BE ADVISED: THIS MINI ZINE WAS NOT WRITTEN BY LAWYERS.

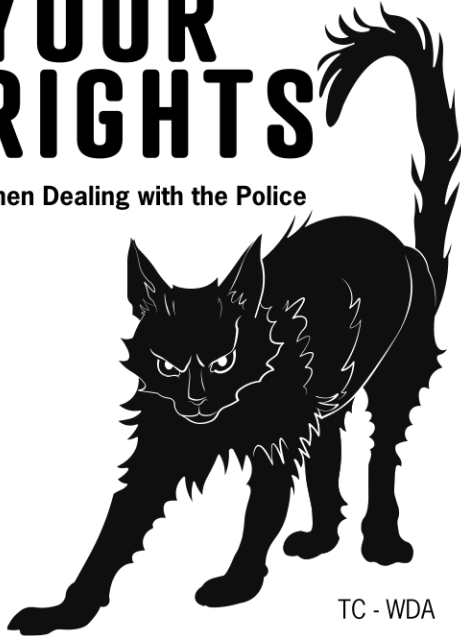
An injury to is an injury to all. We have an obligation to organize and defend our communities from the terror of police.

In Solidarity,
Twin Cities Workers Defense Alliance

Email:
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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

When Dealing with the Police



TC - WDA

AM I BEING ARRESTED?

If you are being arrested you have a right to know why - but police may not tell you. For your own safety, remain calm and cooperative, even if the reasoning behind the arrest seems bogus. Get the badge number of the officer who is arresting you and, if possible, yell your name and the officers badge number to any bystanders. **Ask to see a lawyer.**

The police can hold you at the station for up to 48 hours, unless you are on a probable cause hold, which can last up to 72 hours.

You have a right to make a local phone call to a lawyer, jail support, bail bondsman, relative, etc. The police may not listen in to the call if you contact a lawyer. They may not obey the law in this situation, so consider you words carefully.

I INVOKE MY RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT.

Anything you say to the police can and will be used against you. Try to answer any questions the police ask you with another question - for example:

Q: Do you know why I am stopping you?
A: No Officer, why are you stopping me?

You can also politely say:
"I am not obligated to give you that information"

If you are arrested say that you are invoking your right to remain silent until you can speak with a lawyer. The only information you are required to give after arrest is your legal name and address.

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

THE POLICE ARE TRYING TO COLLECT POTENTIALLY INCRIMINATING INFORMATION DURING EVERY INTERACTION.

TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY: DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

MAKE SURE TO GET THE NAME AND BADGE NUMBER OF THE OFFICER(S) WHO SPOKE TO YOU

This advice is specific to the state of Minnesota and is written with the knowledge that cops don't follow the law.

I DO NOT CONSENT TO BE SEARCHED.

During detention, police will ask you if you have any drugs/weapons. At this point, police are only legally authorized to pat you down. They cannot go through your personal property without probable cause or a warrant, unless you consent to a search. Never consent to be searched for any reason.

Police will try to get you to give up your right to privacy by making you feel you can "prove" your innocence to them or by intimidating you. Repeat that you do not consent to be searched. You do not have to explain yourself.

Police may still conduct a search without consent or a warrant, violating your 4th amendment rights. Any evidence found in an illegally conducted search cannot be used against you in court.

AM I BEING DETAINED?

"Am I being detained or am I free to go?"

If you are not being detained, you are free to leave. Leave as soon as possible. If you are not free to leave, ask why you are being detained.

During detention you are only required to provide your name. You are not required to show ID. You are not required to answer any other questions.

You can be held in detention for a "reasonable amount of time" but not indefinitely. You could be restrained during detention. Remain calm and do not give the police any information.