

SURVIVAL SKILLS

If You Are Arrested

A Product of the
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The police have the right to arrest:

- if they see someone committing a crime.
- if they have reason to think a crime has been committed and that the person arrested committed it. This is called “probable cause.”
- if they have an arrest warrant. An arrest warrant is a written order signed by a judge for the police to arrest the person named.

If you are arrested, do not resist the arrest. Resisting arrest is against the law. The police may use physical force if a person resists arrest.

If you are arrested, you have certain rights ...

- to talk to a lawyer before any questioning by the police.
- to make telephone calls until you reach a lawyer.
- to a lawyer’s services free of cost if you can not afford a lawyer.
- to see the warrant if you were arrested with a warrant. Ask to see it.

- to be told why you are being arrested if you were arrested without a warrant. Ask.

The police also have rights:

- If you are arrested, the police may photograph you and take fingerprints. They may also search you – “pat you up and down.” A public strip search is not legal.
- If you are arrested, the police may ask you questions but must tell you first:
 - of your right to remain silent,
 - of your right to have a lawyer present,
 - that your statements may be used against you in court. ■

