

Know Your Rights for the 2019 Climate Strike Week of Action

Calls from the public: 415-909-4NLG (4654)

If you're in jail: 415-285-1011 (Write on your body in case of arrest)

Call if you're arrested or have a legal emergency during the Week of Action (9/20-9/27). If an operator doesn't answer, the voicemail will be checked regularly. It is not staffed 24 hours a day unless prior arrangements have been made. It will be fully staffed on the 25th.

Don't Talk to the Police

- You never have to give any information to the police. If they try to speak to you, don't answer any questions. You can direct them to a police liaison if you have one.
- If the police stop you, ask: "**Am I free to go?**" If they don't let you leave, say: "**I am going to remain silent, I want to see a lawyer.**" You do not have to reveal your immigration status.
- If you get arrested, say: "**I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.**" Repeat this every time the cops question you. Don't wait for them to read you your rights—they probably won't.
- Police are supposed to stop questioning you when you ask for a lawyer. If and when they keep asking, repeat: "**I am going to remain silent, I want to see a lawyer.**"
- In California, you do not have to give your name or ID to the police. But having state ID will probably make the release process much faster.
- Your right to remain silent does not include booking questions like your name, address, and date of birth. Answering these questions may get you out of jail more quickly. Do not answer any other questions without talking to a lawyer first. It's easy to accidentally incriminate yourself and your friends.
- If you're arrested for a non-violent misdemeanor, police are required by California law to cite and release you if you identify yourself. (usually by showing picture ID, but they can accept less)

Don't Consent to a Search

- If police have a legal reason to detain you, they may do a pat search on the outside of your clothing and bags. They cannot search beyond this without a warrant or your consent.
- If the police ask to search you (or just do it), say: "**I do not consent to a search.**" This may not stop them but it can limit the evidence they use against you later. Do not physically resist a police search, as you can get charged with assault and beaten up.
- If arrested, police are allowed to inventory search everything on you. Do not bring anything you want to keep private to a protest where there may be arrests.

Arrest Warnings

The police usually have to give audible warnings and enough time to leave before arresting people for unlawful assembly. If they don't, the charges might be dropped later.

Police Misconduct

Police are allowed to lie and trained to manipulate suspects. Do not expect them to tell the truth or obey the law. If you believe your rights may have been violated, write a detailed account of what happened, take pictures of any injuries, then contact the NLG.

Free Speech

You do not need a permit to exercise your rights to freedom of speech and assembly. But the bigger, louder, and more obstructive your event is, the more the police will hassle you if you don't have a permit. Contact the NLG for details.

* This information is no substitute for specialized legal advice from an attorney about your situation.