



1-800-LAW-REP-4 · www.first-defense.org

I WILL NOT TALK. I WANT MY LAWYER.

MIRANDA WARNING

You have the right to remain silent. If you talk, anything you say will be used against you in court. You have the right to have your lawyer present during questioning. If you cannot afford an attorney, **call First Defense Legal Aid: 1-800-LAW-REP-4**. FDLA will send a free lawyer to the police station to help you.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Everyone has two very powerful rights when they are dealing with the police:

1. **The right to remain silent.** You do not have to say anything to the police. **Your silence cannot be used against you in court.** Everything else you say can be used against you. To use your right to remain silent, clearly say, **"I WILL NOT TALK. I WANT MY LAWYER."**

It does not matter if the police say you are a suspect or a witness. You should not say anything or answer any questions until you talk to your lawyer.

2. **The right to a lawyer.** You have the right to not be questioned by police without your lawyer there. Just say, **"I WILL NOT TALK. I WANT MY LAWYER."** Then, the police are not legally allowed to question you without your lawyer there.

Remember, everyone has these rights. It doesn't matter how old you are, what race or religion you are, or whether you are an immigrant or born in this country.

THE MAGIC WORDS

I WILL NOT TALK. I WANT MY LAWYER.

That is all you should say. **You cannot talk your way out of a case.** Police officers, detectives, and State's Attorneys can use what you say to send you to jail. Do not give them anything to use against you – no statements, no excuses, no witnesses.

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WHO PROTECTS YOUR RIGHTS?

Only you and your lawyer can protect your rights. You can protect your own rights by saying clearly **“I WILL NOT TALK. I WANT MY LAWYER.”** Then, **do not say anything about your case.**

Do not talk to the State’s Attorney. The State’s Attorney is a prosecutor who works with the police to send you to jail. **The State’s Attorney is not a lawyer for you.** The only person you should talk to about your case is your defense lawyer.

Do not talk to Youth Officers. It is not the job of the police to protect juveniles’ rights to remain silent or to get a lawyer. Juveniles can be questioned without a parent or guardian. A youth officer may be there, but a youth officer is still a police officer. The job of all police officers is to make a case and send you to jail. A youth officer will not protect you or help you. Anything you say to a youth officer can be used against you in court. **Do not talk to any police, including youth officers.**

HOW DO I GET A LAWYER AT THE POLICE STATION?

Call First Defense Legal Aid: 1-800-LAW-REP-4 (1-800-529-7374). FDLA provides free 24-hour legal help for people in Chicago Police custody. If you or someone you know is arrested by Chicago Police, call FDLA immediately.

DEALING WITH POLICE ON THE STREET

If the police stop and question you on the street, you only need to tell them four things: **Name, Address, Phone Number, Date of Birth.**

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING ELSE.
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANSWER ANY OTHER QUESTIONS.**

NEVER RUN AWAY:

It is never a good idea to run away from the police. You are more likely to get hurt when the police arrest you, and **you might be charged with resisting arrest**, even if you are not charged with anything else.

NEVER FIGHT BACK:

Even if you believe the police have no right to stop you or arrest you, **never fight back.** You may get seriously hurt, and **you might be charged with aggravated battery, a felony**, even if you are not charged with anything else.

REMEMBER

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