



# IF YOU'RE STOPPED BY THE POLICE

**NISHNAWBE-ASKI  
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# STATEMENTS FOR POLICE

- *Officer, if I am under arrest or being detained, please tell me so.*
- *If I am free to go, please tell me so. If I am not free to go, please tell me why.*
- *I wish to exercise all my legal rights including my right to silence and my right to speak to a lawyer before I say anything to you.*
- *I do not consent to being searched.*
- *I wish to be released without delay. Please do not ask me questions, because I am not willing to talk to you until I speak to a lawyer.*
- *Thank you for respecting my rights.*

## **What you are allowed to do:**

**1.** Stay Silent and refuse to answer questions **2.** Say “NO” if the police ask if they can search you or your things (if you are under arrest, the police can search you and your property if it is nearby without your permission). **3.** You can leave unless Police say that you are being detained or arrested. **4.** Police must tell you why you are being arrested or detained. **5.** You have a right to speak to a Lawyer without delay and for free. **6.** You can only be strip-searched in private by an officer of the same sex. **7.** You can report a Police officer who abuses you, swears at you, or violates your rights.

**These are your rights!**

## POLICE ARREST: Silence is Golden

If you are stopped by police for any reason ask “**AM I BEING DETAINED?**” If the answer is no then you can leave and do not need to provide them with any information.

If the answer is yes, you are **ONLY** required to give the police your name, birthdate, and address or show I.D. After you share this information, **STAY SILENT!** You do **NOT** need to say anything else to the police. The police will get you in contact with a lawyer for **FREE** and the lawyer will tell you what to do.

To speak to a lawyer or if you think your rights were violated call:  
Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services at 1-800- 465- 5581