

When you are stopped by the Police:

If the cop only talks to you, ask:
AM I FREE TO GO?

If the cops DETAIN you: the cop will not let you go and will keep you right there. **They may pat you down only**, be clear you DO NOT CONSENT to any further search
To protect your rights only say: **I choose to remain Silent, and I want to see a lawyer.**

If the cop wants to search you, repeat:
I do not consent to a search. I choose to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Write down what happened A.S.A.P.

“Know Your Rights” & ModestoCopWatch are Valley Improvement Projects

For more info contact us at:

valleyimprovementprojects@gmail.com
facebook.com/valleyimprovementprojects
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(209) 589-9277

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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

What to do when stopped by The Police in your Car:

Upon request show them your driver’s License, registration and proof of insurance. In certain circumstances, your car can be searched without warrant as long as the police have probable cause. To protect yourself later, you should make it clear that you **DO NOT CONSENT** to a search. It is **not** lawful for police to arrest you simply for refusing to consent to a search.

If you are given a ticket, you should sign it, otherwise you can be arrested. You can always fight the case in the court later.

If you are suspected of drunk driving (DWI) and refuse to take a blood, urine, or breathe test, your license may be suspended.



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When the Police come to your Home:

If the police knock and ask to enter your home, **YOU DONT HAVE TO ADMIT THEM unless** they have a warrant signed by the Judge, with your address and date.

However, in some emergency situations (like when a person is screaming for help inside, or when the police are chasing someone) Officers are allowed to enter and search your home without a warrant. If you are arrested the police can search you and the area close by. If you are in a building “close by” usually means the room you are in.

You do not have to consent to any search of yourself, your car or home. If you DO consent to a search, it can affect your rights later in court. If police say they have a warrant, ask to see it.



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If you are Arrested or Taken to the Police Station:

You have the right to remain silent and talk to a lawyer before you talk to the police. **Tell the police NOTHING** except your name and address.

*Ask if you are under arrest, if you are, you have the right to know why.

*Don't give away any explanations, excuses or stories. You can make your defense later, in the court, based on what you and your lawyer decide is best.

*Police can search you and your car when you are under arrest.

Ask to see a lawyer immediately. If you can't pay for a lawyer you have the right to a free one, and should ask the police how the lawyer can be contacted. Don't say anything without a lawyer. Within a reasonable amount of time after your arrest, or booking you have the right to make a local phone call to a lawyer, a bailman, a relative or any other person. The police may not listen to the call to the lawyer.

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