

# STATEMENT TO POLICE



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**Officer, please, tell me if I am under arrest or if I am free to leave.** If I am not free to leave, please tell me why. I wish to exercise all of my rights now.

I will not answer any questions until you let me speak to a lawyer. Please do not ask me any other questions. I do not consent to any search, unless I am under arrest.

If you have concerns about police conduct or require legal supports:

**Native Counselling Services of Alberta**  
**Northwest Regional Office: 780-532-9359**

## I KNOW MY RIGHTS:

1. Police must tell me if I'm being arrested or free to go.
2. Silence is my right. I can refuse to talk to police or answer police questions. If I am in a bar, driving a car, or police say I broke the law, I must give my name, birthdate and address.
3. If I am not under arrest, I can say "NO" if the police ask to search me or my things. Saying "NO" does not mean I have something to hide.
4. I can leave unless I am being detained or arrested.
5. If I am being detained or arrested, I have the right to a free lawyer as soon as possible.
6. I can only be strip-searched in private and by an officer of the same gender. If I self-identify as 2Spirit or Trans-person, I may choose the officer's gender.
7. I have the right to know a police officer's name and badge number.
8. I can report a police officer who abuses me, disrespects me, or violates my rights.