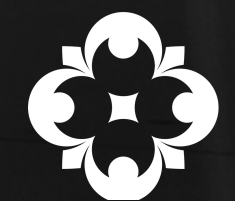


CAIR-CA PRESENTS

PROTESTER KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

*What You Need to Know About
Protesting and Engagement from Law
Enforcement*



CAIR
CALIFORNIA

RIGHTS WHILE ATTENDING A PROTEST

- Stick to "traditional public forums" like sidewalks, streets, etc where you will have the most strength.
- The government cannot restrict freedom of speech on your property or on property you have permission to be on.
- Counter protestors cannot physically disrupt the protest they are against, and police must treat protesters and counter-protesters equally.
- When in public spaces, you have the right to photograph or video record anything in plain view, and they cannot be confiscated without a warrant.

WHAT IF THE POLICE STOP ME?

- **Stay calm.** Make sure to keep your **hands visible. Don't argue, resist, or obstruct the police**, even if you believe they are violating your rights.
- If you are stopped, **ask the officer if you are free to leave.** If the answer is yes, calmly walk away.
- If you are detained, **ask the officer what crime you are suspected of committing**, and remind the officer that taking photographs and videotaping is your right under the First Amendment and **does not constitute reasonable suspicion** of criminal activity.
- You are **allowed to ask the police why you are being searched.** Police must have reasonable suspicion to conduct a search.
- Ask what their **reasonable cause for searching you is**, and if they cannot answer then it is an unlawful search.
- You **never have to consent to a search of yourself or your belongings.** If you do explicitly consent, it can affect you later in court.
- Keep phone numbers on your person in case you are detained and arrested. You are **allowed to make up to three local phone calls** if you are arrested.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR RIGHTS HAVE BEEN VIOLATED

- When you can, write down everything you remember, including the officers' badge and patrol car numbers and the agency they work for.
- Get contact information for witnesses.
- Take photographs of any injuries.
- Once you have all of this information, you can file a written complaint with the agency's internal affairs division or civilian complaint board.