

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS PROTESTING

The right to protest is a fundamental human right guaranteed by the First Amendment.

- You don't need a permit to protest in response to breaking news.
- The right to protest includes public areas like sidewalks, parks, and streets, it does not include private property.
- If you don't have a permit police officers can ask you to move to the side of a street or sidewalk to let others pass or for safety reasons.
- When in any public space, you have the right to photograph anything in plain view, including police.
- If officers issue a dispersal order, they must provide a reasonable opportunity to comply, including sufficient time and a clear, unobstructed exit path.

IF STOPPED BY POLICE

- Ask if you're free to go. If they say yes, calmly walk away.
- If you get arrested don't say anything. Ask for a lawyer immediately. Don't sign, say or agree to anything without a lawyer present.
- 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.
- You have the right to make 3 free phone calls. The police should not listen if you call a lawyer. If you call anyone else they are likely to listen.

First Defense Legal Aid: 1-800-529-7374



Know Your Rights Protesting:
www.aclumontana.org/know-your-rights/protests

Legal Help
action.aclu.org/legal-intake/mt-legal-intake

PROTEST TIPS

- Write important phone numbers on your body.
- Identify an emergency contact and protest buddy.
- Turn your phone on airplane mode when not in use.
- Disable your phone's Face or Touch ID and use a passcode.
- Be mindful of posting photos and videos of other protesters.



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Cut out card



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Fold card in half

Fold lower third of the card up

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Fold top third of the card down



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS PROTESTING
 ACLU Montana