

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



What Do You Say to the Police?

Stay calm **1**

If you want to leave, ask:

"Am I free to go?"

If the police's answer is "Yes,"
then you have **the right to go**.

2

If you are not free to leave, ask:

"Am I under arrest?"

If "Yes," ask why

3

If you are under arrest, say:

"I have the right to remain silent.

I have the right to speak to a lawyer."

Give your name and address if the police
ask. Get as much information from the
police as possible: name, badge number,
police sergeant's name.

4

**If you are not under arrest,
but you can't leave, ask why.**

Get as much information from the police
as possible: name, badge number,
police sergeant's name.

5

**If you feel you have been unjustly
treated, you have a right to file a
complaint or even seek legal action**

6

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How to File a Complaint

To file a complaint about a police officer, visit your local police station or contact the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner.

1

If you do not want to visit the police station, you can contact **the Police Complaints Commissioner** by phone: **902-424-3246** or email: **polcom@novascotia.ca** or by mail to:

2

The Police Complaints Commissioner's
Office
1690 Hollis Street, 3rd Floor
PO Box 1573
Halifax, NS B3J 2Y3
Phone: 902.424.3246
Web: www.novascotia.ca/opcc/

Information taken from Angela Simmonds,
"Racial Profiling: Know Your Rights,"
available at [https://www.legalinfo.org/
legal-information-topics/racial-profiling](https://www.legalinfo.org/legal-information-topics/racial-profiling)

For further information, contact:
LEGAL INFO NOVA SCOTIA (LINS)
at **(902) 455-3135** or **1 (800) 665-9779**

<https://www.legalinfo.org/>
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID
<https://www.nslegalaid.ca/>

