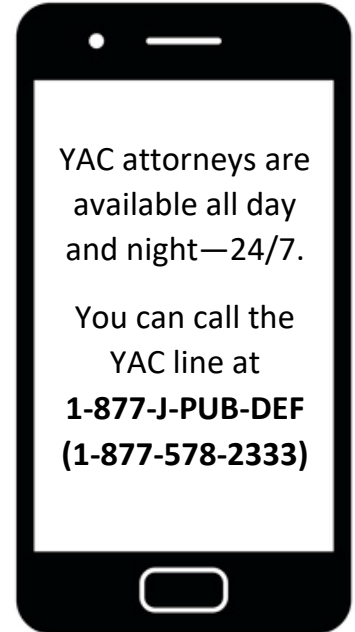


KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

What Youth Need to Know When Stopped by the Police

Did you know? Youth (under 18) have special rights when stopped by police officers. A new law created an on-call lawyer service just for youth who are under investigation by police officers. It is called the **Youth Access to Counsel (YAC) Line**. Police have to call a YAC lawyer for you before they can question you about a crime (in most cases) or when they want permission for a search, but you can also call the line or ask them to call for you.



1. Keep Calm

When you come into contact with police, it is important to **STAY CALM**. Follow the officer's commands and keep your hands where police can see them.



2. Am I free to go?

Ask this question when approached by police. If 'YES', then you may walk away. Otherwise, you do not need to respond to questions (other than providing your true name and birthday when asked).



3. I am going to remain silent. I want a lawyer.

You should not give information to an officer without first speaking with a lawyer. Ask the police officer to call the YAC Line.



4. I do not consent to a search.

If you tell the officer you do not consent to a search, you make it clear you do not agree to anything you don't have to. Be aware that some searches you do not have a choice about. Ask for a YAC Attorney for advice.



You can call the YAC line at 1-877-J-PUB-DEF (1-877-578-2333)



Washington State
Office of
Public
Defense