

Disclaimer: this is not legal or medical advice it is general information for education purposes. You will need to consider what you need for your situation and obtain relevant individual representation or assistance.

## **YOUR RIGHTS IF YOU'VE BEEN ARRESTED AT THE PEACEFUL PROTEST IN WELLINGTON**

If you are arrested:

- Make sure you are courteous to the Police, but do not speak or attempt to explain your side of what happened.
- You will be charged. That will need to be dealt with in the future. It can't be done when you are being arrested, in custody or being processed.
- From the time you are arrested on Parliament grounds, every officer and person you come into contact with will try to get you to make admissions. **DON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE INCIDENT.**
- **Anything you say can and will be used against you.**

### **What you can say:**

Give your contact details such as name, address and the like. But do not engage with them about the incident at all!

If you are asked about the incident at any time: you say "no comment" or "I want to speak to a lawyer" or "I am not speaking to you until I have talked to a lawyer. YOU DO NOT NEED TO SAY ANYTHING – they will try to pressure you but stick to your guns – you are in control.

Talking to a lawyer:

- You can ask to speak to a PDLA (Police Detention Legal Assistance). If you know a lawyer, ask to talk to them. The Police are obliged to give you this opportunity.
- If the Police say they can't get hold of one – this is a ploy and tactic. You say that you can and will wait.

### **Charging, signing your bail bond and fingerprinting:**

You will likely be charged and fingerprinted. You cannot get around this. Just go with it.

Sign your bail bond and any other administrative documents – do not sign any admissions.

You will be summonsed to appear in a Wellington District Court anytime from a couple of days or weeks. If you choose to defend the charge, you will not be able to get the case moved to a place convenient to you. It will be in Wellington.

**Police brutality:**

If you have been hurt by the Police during your arrest and ordeal, go immediately to a doctor and get them to independently verify your injuries.

Make it an ACC claim as that is what it is.

Have the GP examine you, recording your injuries on a body report sheet, taking X-rays and photos.

Write down what happened as quickly as possible to have a contemporaneous file note of the incident.

**Eye witness account and video footage:**

Make contact with anyone that might be an eyewitness or have video footage, photographs or other evidence.

Any footage can be uploaded here: <https://voicesforfreedom.co.nz/evidence>

Get any people's names and contact details of people that may have witnessed your incident, have them make a statement for you of what happened, and ask for the footage.

If you can get the name or details of the Police officer/s, then do so.