

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Education is a **Right**, Not a Privilege.



## → If You Are Suspended or Expelled:

- Contact your **parent/guardian** and ask for them to be with you in any meetings with the principal, vice-principal, or other school officials.
- Request a **report of the incident**, all disciplinary and educational files, and all school assignments that will be missed. (*Discipline letters/notices must be provided in your parents' native language.*)
- If you are facing expulsion, you have the right to **request a hearing** to protect your rights.
- If you have a **disability**, or an **IEP** or a **Section 504 Plan**, you may have additional rights and protections!

## KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- You **DO NOT** have to write down or make any statements about what happened.
- You **DO NOT** have to sign any documents (before speaking with advocate/lawyer).
- You **CAN** ask police or school resource officers (SROs) if you are **free to go**.
- You **CAN** tell police or SROs that they do not have your permission to search your body, things, or phone. (If a search occurs, then it is *without* consent.)
- You **CAN** remain silent, ask to talk to your parents/guardians and/or a lawyer.
- **Only** your parent/guardian has the right to withdraw or transfer you to another school.

## → If You Are Stopped/Arrested By Police:

- First, ask if you are **free to go**.
  - If "no," you must stay.
  - If "yes," you can calmly walk away - **for your safety, do not run!**
- If you are told you are **not free to go**, respond by saying:
  - "I want to remain silent."
    - (*Name and DOB still must be given.*)
  - "I want to talk with my parents or guardians."
  - "I want to talk to a lawyer."
  - "I do not consent to a search of me, my things, or my phone."
  - "Can I reach into my pocket/purse for my ID?"
- If you receive a ticket or notice of a court date, get a lawyer.
  - (*You may qualify for a court-appointed attorney if you are in District Court.*)

WE  
WANT  
TO HELP!

Colorado Juvenile Defender Center, (303) 435 - 7232, [cjdc.org](http://cjdc.org)  
Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center, (303) 692 - 1165, [childlawcenter.org](http://childlawcenter.org)  
Movimiento Poder, (303) 458 - 6545, [movimientopoder.org](http://movimientopoder.org)