



# Article Series

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## 5 Things Everyone Who is Arrested Must Know

*By Stephen D. Barnhill, Brinkley Walser, PLLC*

Most of us will never be arrested. But if you are, there are some key things you should know:

1. Be polite and courteous to the arresting officer, Magistrate, and jail personnel.
2. Follow all instructions given by law enforcement officer and judicial officials.
3. Tell the arresting officer you want an attorney before answering any questions other than biographical information (name, address, birth date, etc.).
4. If arrested, you will be taken before a Magistrate, who will set a bond. The Magistrate will authorize your release upon execution of (a.) a written promise to appear; (b.) custody release; (c.) electronic house arrest; (d.) an unsecured bond; or (e.) a secured bond in some dollar amount.
5. The Magistrate can also set restrictions or conditions you must follow upon your release from custody. For example, if you are arrested for an assault charge, the Magistrate can set a restriction that you not have any contact with the purported victim.

It is important that you take advantage of your right to counsel. An experience criminal defense attorney can ensure your rights are protected.

### About the Author

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