

COPWATCH OF EAST ATLANTA

WHO ARE WE?

Copwatch of East Atlanta is a group of civilians organized to protect our communities from police abuse.



WHAT DO WE DO?

We monitor police stops, using video cameras to document any brutality or violation of rights. We also educate people about their rights and how to file complaints about mistreatment by the police.

WHY DO WE DO IT?

Monitoring the police puts them on notice that they cannot get away with abuse, and creates evidence which victims of illegal police actions can use in demanding justice.

HOW CAN I HELP?

We need many "eyes on the street" to stop police abuse. If you have ideas about where copwatching is needed, information about police abuse, photos, video, or any advice, let us know! Anonymous tips are welcome.

WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT! IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS OR ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT, PLEASE CONTACT US!

678-390-0393 CopwatchOEA.org

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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

WHEN DEALING WITH THE POLICE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS	YOU DON'T HAVE TO ALLOW A SEARCH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All you have to tell the cops is your name and address. • It's almost always a bad idea to talk to the cops, even in casual chats or arguments. • They can use anything you say to get you or other people in trouble, whether or not you did anything illegal. • Say "I'M GOING TO REMAIN SILENT, I WANT TO TALK TO A LAWYER" and the police have to stop questioning you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cops may try to search you, your car, or your house when they don't have the right to. • Don't empty your pockets, open your trunk, or help them search in any way. • If the cops ask or try to search you say clearly and repeatedly "I DO NOT CONSENT TO A SEARCH." • If they search you anyway, don't cooperate but do not physically resist - it could get you in more trouble.
COPS CAN & DO LIE	"AM I FREE TO GO?"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cops use all kinds of tricks to scare us and get us in trouble. • They make up laws, say you have to answer questions or allow searches when you don't, even claim they have evidence against you when they don't. Don't believe them. • If a cop acts like they're trying to cut you a break, it may just be a trick to get evidence against you - even if you haven't broken the law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a cop approaches you, you can leave at any time unless they're "detaining" you. • Say "AM I BEING DETAINED, OR AM I FREE TO GO?" If the cop doesn't give a clear answer, ask again. • Being detained means you can't leave, but you still don't have to answer questions or allow searches. • Keep asking if you're free to go until the answer is "yes".

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