



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS – Camping Tickets

The Boise Police are giving out tickets for sleeping outside. They say sleeping is against “camping” and “disturbing the peace” laws.

You have rights. **Know your rights!** Doing these things can help you protect your rights:

- **Check with Sanctuary** every day to see whether they have any beds.
- **Do you have a disability?** If a disability makes it hard for you to stay in a shelter, ask the police for something called a “reasonable accommodation.” This could keep you from getting a ticket or help you beat the ticket in court. You can ask a social worker at Sanctuary, CATCH, El Ada, or Terry Reilly for help with this. Or you can just ask the police for a reasonable accommodation on your own.
- **Always make a video or audio recording** every time the police talk to you! You can probably do this with your phone. If you do not have a phone or any other way to make a recording, try to find someone who does.
- **You do not have to talk to the police.** Ever. They will use what you tell them against you. There is only thing you would want to say if a police officer might give you a ticket for camping or sleeping. You should **explain the reasons why you cannot stay anywhere else**, including in a shelter.
- You have a right to privacy even outdoors. If the police want to look inside your bags or pockets, tell them you **do not consent to their search**.
- **If you do get a ticket** for camping or disturbing the peace:
 - Go to Idaho Legal Aid Services located at 310 N. 5th Street in Boise. Ask them to make a copy of your ticket for attorney Howard Belodoff. Tell them the best way to get in contact with you.
 - Go to the Ada County Courthouse on Front Street across from Winco. Go to the clerk’s window and tell them you plead **not guilty** and that you want a lawyer.

Do you want to know more about your rights? Did the police or the government violate your rights? Call the **ACLU of Idaho** at (208) 344-9750, then press 1205, and the **Intermountain Fair Housing Council** at (208) 383-0695.