

# Consent to Search: How to Decline Politely

A one-page guide by Reed Nolan Legal Education (educational only; not legal advice).

## How to decline:

- "I don't consent to any searches."
- If asked again, repeat once calmly.
- Do not physically interfere; counsel can challenge it later.

## Why it matters

---

- Consent removes the need for a warrant and can broaden the search.
- Once given, it's hard to 'take back' what is found.
- Declining consent is a right; it is not an admission.

## Further reading

---

[Understanding arrests \(reednolanlaw.com\)](https://reednolanlaw.com/understanding-arrests.html) -> <https://reednolanlaw.com/understanding-arrests.html>

[Arrest rights — next steps \(reednolanlaw.com\)](https://reednolanlaw.com/arrest-rights-next-steps.html) -> <https://reednolanlaw.com/arrest-rights-next-steps.html>