

## Conversation 1

A: What's the problem here?

B: My car was stolen last night.

A: What kind of car was it?

B: A black 2003 Honda Accord. It had four doors.

A: What was the license plate number?

B: [thinking] It was 2B3 Z5A.

A: Thank you. We'll try to find it right away. What's your phone number?

B: My phone number is 555-8765. Thanks for all your help.

A: We'll try as hard to get your car back.

## Conversation 2

A: What is your first and last name?

B: [Say your name]

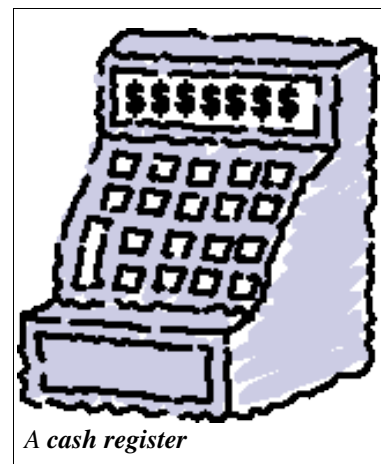
A: Your boss said you took money from the *cash register* at work. Is that true?

B: I can't speak English very well. Please give me a translator.

A: It sounds like you speak English ok. I just need you to answer a few questions.

B: No. I need a translator. I won't talk if I don't have one.

A: Ok, we'll get you a translator. Thanks for talking with us.



*A cash register*

## Conversation 3

A: Good morning. How are you doing today?

B: I'm fine. Look, someone broke into your neighbor's house last night. Do you know who did it?

A: No, I don't.

B: They took lots of money, a TV and a stereo. Where were you last night? Your neighbor says you need money.

A: I don't want to answer your questions.

B: Your neighbor says you took his money. Did you do it?

A: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

B: Why won't you answer my questions? Did you steal the money?

A: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

B: Did your neighbor lie to me? Are you saying he's a liar?

A: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

B: This makes you look bad. What did you do last night?

A: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.



## Conversation 4

Officer Jones: [very angrily] Joe, why did you steal the car! Answer me!

Officer Smith: [worried] Please don't be angry, Officer Jones! I know Joe's a good person!

Joe: [calmly] I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Officer Jones: Tell me you stole the car. If you don't, you'll go to jail for 20 years!

Joe: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Officer Smith: Joe, Officer Jones is very angry. Just tell him you stole the car. If you say you did it, you can go home tonight. If you **don't** say you did it, you'll go to jail for a long time. You'll never see your family again. I want you to see your family again, Joe!

Joe: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Officer Jones: Where were you last night? What were you doing?

Officer Smith: Please answer his questions, Joe! I think he'll hurt you!

Joe: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.



## Conversation 5

*Andy and Joe are friends. Andy and Joe were arrested for stealing money. Now Andy and Joe are in two different rooms, and can't talk to each other.*

Officer Jones: We talked to Joe. He says you took your neighbor's money.

Andy: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Officer Jones: Joe says you did everything. Is that true? Did Joe take some money, too?

Andy: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Officer Jones: Andy, Joe is going home right now. Joe is **not** your friend. Now, if you tell me Joe took some money, we will let **you** go.

Andy: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

Officer Jones: Tell us Joe took some money or he'll go home and you will go to jail. Do you want to go to jail, Andy?

Andy: I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer.

# Know Your Rights

If you have a problem where someone broke the law, you can call the police. Many times, people call the police because someone stole their car or hurt them. The police have a difficult and dangerous job.

But some day the police may think that you broke the law. You must be very careful when the police ask you questions. If you can't understand the police officer, you can ask for a translator. When the police give you a ticket, you must tell the police your name. If the police ask you more questions, you don't have to answer them.



In America, you have the right to remain silent. "Remain silent" means you don't say anything. The police can't make you answer their questions.

You should always say, **"I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer."** This means that you will not answer any more questions. If the police want to ask you anything, they must get a lawyer for you. It's ok if you don't have a lawyer, or you can't pay for one. They must stop asking you questions.

If the police ask you more questions, just repeat, **"I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer."** Do not say anything else.

If you're arrested, the police will take you to a police station. They'll ask you many questions. They can also lie to you. Just repeat, **"I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer."** Don't say anything else.

In court, what you said to the police can get you in trouble. If you said many things, there are many ways you can go to jail. You may also have to pay lots of money. You can also get deported – even if you have a visa. It's almost always better to say, **"I am going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer."**

## Questions

1. When do you have to answer the police's questions?
2. If you can't understand the police, what can you ask for?
3. What can you say if you don't want to answer their questions?
4. What do you say if the police ask you more questions?