

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WHEN TRAVELING



CAIR-New York urges all members of the community who will be traveling to consider the following guidelines & keep them in mind when on your trip. If you are unsure about these guidelines, or your specific circumstances, please call our office or consult with an attorney.

TSA SCREENERS AT THE AIRPORT

WHAT AGENTS CAN DO

- Primary screening AND body scanning by machine or (if you chose instead) body pat-down.
- Law enforcement may detain you BRIEFLY if they believe you are a security risk and ask questions about your travel.

WHAT AGENTS CANNOT DO

- Target you for additional screening based on your religion, race, or ethnicity.
- Ask you questions beyond the details of your travel (i.e. your religious or political views, your associations).
- Ask general questions or detain & strip search you without probable cause.



CUSTOM & BORDER PATROL AGENTS (Land or Air)

WHAT AGENTS CAN DO

- Ask questions regarding citizenship & purpose of travel.
- Search all of your luggage & temporarily confiscate electronics.

WHAT AGENTS CANNOT DO

- Target you for additional screening & questions based on your religion, race, or ethnicity.
- Ask you questions beyond the details of your travel (i.e. your religious or political beliefs, associations).
- Conduct a strip-search without "some level of individualized suspicion." If you believe you were subject to an unjustified encounter with law enforcement officials, contact CAIR and file a complaint.



This is a guideline providing educational information. This is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship and should not be substituted for attorney consultation.

To find out more about CAIR-New York, contact us at info@cair-ny.org, 212.870.2002, and follow us online at cair-ny.org, & on FACEBOOK and TWITTER

WHAT CAN I DO IF I AM SINGLED-OUT BY AGENTS WHILE TRAVELING?

As a passenger, you are entitled to courteous, respectful, and non-stigmatizing treatment by airline & security personnel. It is illegal for law enforcement officials to perform any stops, searches, detentions, or removals based solely on your race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, or gender.

If you believe you have been treated in a discriminatory manner, you should
POLITELY EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Ask for the names & badge numbers of all persons involved in the incident- Take your time in writing down every detail.
- Ask to speak with a supervising agent and ask for an explanation- Write down the response.
- Ask witnesses present if they would be willing to provide their names and contact information.
- Write down a statement of facts immediately after the incident including the flight information, date, witnesses, and time.
- Request that the agents allow you to call your attorney.
- Contact your local CAIR office to file a report. If you are leaving the country, leave a detailed message with the information above, or go to our website to file a report.
- We will never effectuate change in policies that target Muslims unless we report & document every instance for reference when we discuss these issues with our elected officials.

PLEASE REPORT YOUR CASE TO CAIR!

CAIR-NY is a local chapter of the nation's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, & build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

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