



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS  
PRE-PETITION INTERVENTION LEGAL SERVICES  
ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

1. You have the right to have an attorney before you speak to Dept. for Children, Youth, and Families.
2. If you are the subject of the investigation, you have the right to be informed of the allegation(s) being investigated
3. Unless under a Court Order, you are not required to speak to any representative of the Dept. for Children, Youth and Families  
**\*Note: Any statement you do make may be used against you or any parent or caretaker under investigation in an administrative proceeding and many Court proceedings!**
4. You are entitled to have the advice of any attorney and to have an attorney present when the parent or caretaker is being questioned by a Children, Youth and Families representative
5. No parent or caretaker is required, unless Court ordered, to permit any representative of Children, Youth, and Families to enter their residence
6. The parent or caretaker is not required, unless Court ordered, to allow a Children, Youth and Families representative to interview a child.
7. Unless under Court order you are not required to sign a release of information, take a drug or alcohol test, or submit to a mental health evaluation.  
**\*Note: If a representative of Children, Youth and Families believes a child's life or health is in jeopardy, and there is insufficient time to obtain a Court order they may take action to protect the health or safety of a child, which may include removal from your home.**

FOR PRE-PETITION INTERVENTION  
LEGAL SERVICES, CALL  
ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER  
HOTLINE  
518- 694-3560