

EJECTED FROM THE SUBWAY?

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

New Subway Rules

Beginning May 6th, the NYC subway system will be closed for cleaning each night from 1 to 5 a.m. When subway trains arrive at the end of the line stations after midnight, police will escort all riders off the trains.

ALL riders will be required to exit subway trains and stations, whether or not they are sleeping.

In addition, no one is allowed to stay in a station or on a platform for more than one hour when the subways are running. No one is permitted to bring a wheeled cart that is longer than 30 inches into a subway station or onto a subway train.

The MTA chairperson says that the purpose of the new rules is not only to clean the subways but also to prevent riders from spending the night on them. Coalition for the Homeless and The Legal Aid Society are advocating for the City to offer every person sleeping in the subway system and on the streets a hotel room until the coronavirus pandemic ends.

Your Rights

You do not have a right to remain on the subway. If you do not leave a subway car or station when directed, you may be arrested for trespassing or the police can use force to eject you. After you leave the subway train or while you are on a subway platform, you may be approached by a police officer and/or a social worker who should offer to bring you to a shelter. You have a right not to go to a shelter. You are not under arrest. You may leave the subway station and choose to go somewhere that you feel is more appropriate for your health and safety.

You may be issued a summons if you have violated a subway rule. If you are arrested or removed from the subway system, the police must safeguard and respect your property. They must give you time to gather your property and carry it away. If the police take anything from you, they must give you a receipt that explains how to reclaim your property.

Keep this flyer with you. If you need assistance, please call the Coalition for the Homeless at 212-776-2177 and leave a message with your name and telephone number. A free Legal Aid Society attorney may be able to help you:

- Answer a summons.
- Reclaim your property.
- File a civilian complaint against the police.

