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CALENDAR -- insert spreadsheet from here

[http://radicalreference.info/M19\\_NYC/schedule](http://radicalreference.info/M19_NYC/schedule)

## LEGAL INFORMATION

Civilian Complaint Review Board <http://www.nyc.gov/html/ccrb/home.html>  
212.442.8833 (within New York, can reach through 311 or call 1-800-341-CCRB)

National Lawyers Guild <http://www.nlg.org>  
212.679.6018 (New York Office) 212.679.5100 (National Office)

### **Know Your Rights:**

If you're pressed for time and can't sit down with this manual for an hour – read and memorize this checklist. Remember that if police or other government agents confront you, you have the right to remain silent and the right to verbally decline a request to be searched. (People with irregular immigration status may not have the same rights if arrested. Please refer to the section below on immigration, or contact an immigration lawyer).

- You NEVER have to speak to police. You ALWAYS have a right to remain silent. You do not lose this right just because you started talking to police.
- You are not required to carry ID in D.C. unless you are driving.
- You can ALWAYS ask if you are being detained. IF police are NOT detaining you, you can ALWAYS leave.
- You can ALWAYS tell police you DO NOT consent to a search. However, apart from refusing consent, interfering with a police search can result in VERY serious charges.
- ALWAYS remember what witnesses were present during a confrontation.

Note: Remember that the rights you have under the law do not always mean that you will enjoy those rights in reality!!! Do not expect police to honor your legal rights!!! The only "right" that you can really count on is your right to remain silent, because whether you speak to police is up to you. You can expect police to threaten you with stiff sentences, lie to you, and otherwise try to manipulate you into talking, but other than identifying yourself (if you choose to: see the section on jail solidarity), it is usually very wise to keep quiet until you have had an opportunity to discuss your situation with a lawyer. However, knowing your rights can help you in criminal court.

Know Your Rights complete manual: [http://www.j20legal.org/J20\\_LegalManual.pdf](http://www.j20legal.org/J20_LegalManual.pdf)

If we cannot afford a lawyer the courts must appoint one. Conversations with anyone who is not our lawyer or working for her or him may be used against us or someone else. If booking questions go beyond name, address and date of birth, ask for a lawyer to be present. If you ask for a lawyer to be present, they should stop questioning you. They are allowed to lie to you and often do. Having a reliable local address and ties to the community help us get little or no bail at arraignment (it

helps to have a person they can call who can verify the name and address you give them).

Remember that a "not guilty" plea can be changed later but a "guilty" plea cannot.

### **Local Laws**

1. Sticks are illegal for signs by regulations, and most often result in confiscation and sometimes arrest. Use cardboard tubes instead.
2. Megaphones are legally not allowed in marches, but often the cops let us use them nonetheless (you need a sound permit to use a megaphone here, and they say that they don't give out "moving sound permits"). However they have been used in the past as an excuse to arrest folks, especially targeted folks like Black blockers, people of color, etc.
3. The so-called "Mask Law" (which is actually part of the Loitering Laws onf NYC) is in a bit of limbo currently (3/2003). A recent State Appeals case in support of the KKK's right to wear hoods/masks seems to suggest that people now have the right to wear to masks at protests. However, the MayDay 2000 case dealing with anarchists wearing masks has yet to wind its way through the appeal system and the District Attorney's Office is continuing to fight it.
4. You have a constitutional right to pass out handbills/literature in public spaces (parks, sidewalks, etc.). You should keep at least 1/2 the sidewalk or entrance open for "free use". You do not need a permit or notify anyone before doing this.

### **Dos & Don'ts if You are Arrested**

1. Ask the attorney representing you to show you the WHOLE FILE. You never know when the person who created the file might have screwed up. Even the smallest screw up could potentially be used in your favor. The people who fill all those forms out are human, they make mistakes just like the rest of us. The computers, of course, make mistakes too. They run your name and physical characteristics thru all these databases looking for matches. Look at the whole thing. I had a case a few weeks ago in which my client had similar physical characteristics to a man wanted in another state for burglary and domestic violence. It wasn't him, but can you imagine stepping up before the judge and then hearing the prosecutor trying to nail you for other crimes as well as the one you are currently charged with??
2. When you are in front of the judge, and are asked/ordered to make a decision about something and you feel pressured and don't know what the hell to do, turn to your attorney and ask/DEMAND a "second call." Say to your attorney, "I need time to think about this, please ask for a second call." This will give you more time to think about any decisions you have to make. The court officer will escort you back to the holding cell. If the attorney tells you to decide right there yourself, ask the judge. Don't cave in to the pressure they put on you.
3. Don't take a plea if you don't want to. If you want to fight the charges, tell your lawyer. If it's a charge for disorderly conduct or parading without a permit or something like that, most lawyers will probably go for an ACD and wrap it up right there. Consider carefully this option.

### **How to Get Your Stuff Back from the NYPD**

The most important thing you need is a **VOUCHER** listing every single thing the cops took from you. This you should have gotten at the precinct when you were arrested. **HANG ON TO IT!!!** Take the voucher and a valid I.D. to the Property Clerk Office of the borough where you were arrested (see list below). Also, if you go get your stuff within 48 hours or so of your arrest, it might still be at the precinct. Call the precinct in advance and get their property clerk on the phone, or just go there.

**IF YOU DON'T HAVE A VOUCHER**, go to the precinct of your arrest and demand a copy of it from the property clerk. Try to bring with you your arrest date, arrest number, and name of your arresting officer (your lawyer has all this). If the cops refuse, try to at least get your voucher number. Whenever you get your voucher—at the time of arrest or later—do not sign it unless absolutely ALL of your stuff is listed on it. The cops are supposed to let you look it over and add anything you think is missing.

If Your Stuff is Being Held as Evidence, you'll need to get a Release letter from the District Attorney's office at 100 Centre Street, 7th floor. Usually you can only get this after your case is over. Once you get a release letter, take it and your voucher and an I.D. to the Property Clerk Office in your borough.

**WHEN THINGS GO WRONG...**If your stuff is missing or damaged, tell your lawyer about it, file a complaint with the city & with the CCRB, tell the NYPD Internal Affairs Bureau, call PLC, etc. If the cops call it contraband (illegal in itself, eg pot), you won't get it back. If they say it aided your 'crime' (maybe a gasmask), they'll institute forfeiture proceedings and you'll have to fight them on it. Or they'll just throw it away. Either way, ask for your stuff back & do it quickly. There are statutes of limitations.

All this is governed by the city's Rules & Regs, Title 38, Chapter 12: "Return of Property from Property Clerk Division," in the NYC Charter. Don't let the cops walk all over you.

### **PROPERTY CLERK OFFICES:**

Manhattan 1 Police Plaza 646-610-5906

Bronx 215 East 161st St. 718-590-2806

Brooklyn 301 Gold St. 718-875-6675

Queens 47-07 Pearson Place 718-433-2678 (also keeps large items for all 5 bros)

Staten Island 1 Edgewater Plaza 718-876-8413

### **LEGAL AID SOCIETY, CRIMINAL DEFENSE DIVISION**

49 Thomas Street, NY, NY 212-298-5000

### **CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD**

800-341-CCRB; also check out their website

### **NYPD INTERNAL AFFAIR BUREAU**

315 Hudson Street, 3rd floor, NY, NY 212-741-8401

**TO POST BAIL:**

ROOM 128: "CASHIER'S OFFICE" just outside Arraignment parts. Here you can POST BAIL and PAY FINES imposed by the court.

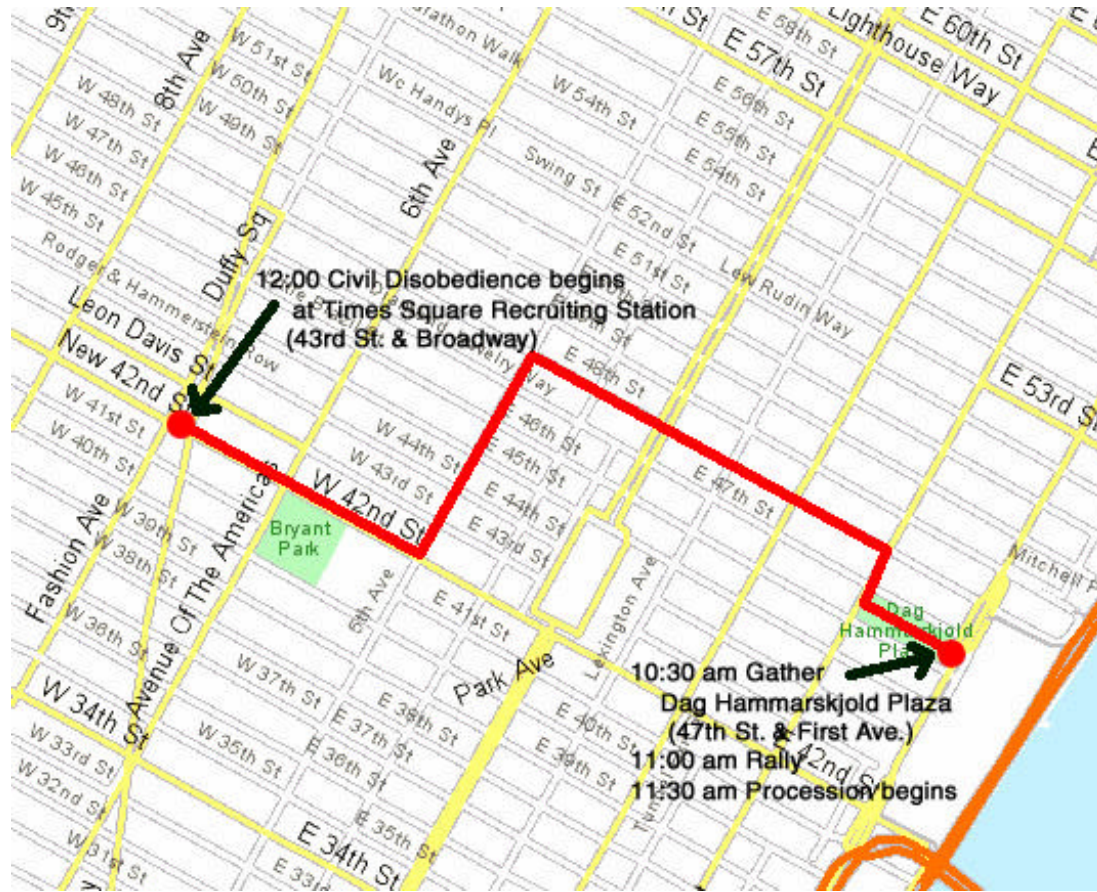
After 5 pm you can post bail at 125 White Street. Don't worry it's not far away – just walk out the main entrance, go right on Center Street (North) and take a right at the end of the court building, under the skywalk. 125 White Street is actually a side entrance on the same building.

To the left on White Street – on the other side of the skywalk is a glass entrance with a tiny waiting area – this is where people who didn't get released in the courtroom get released after posting bail.

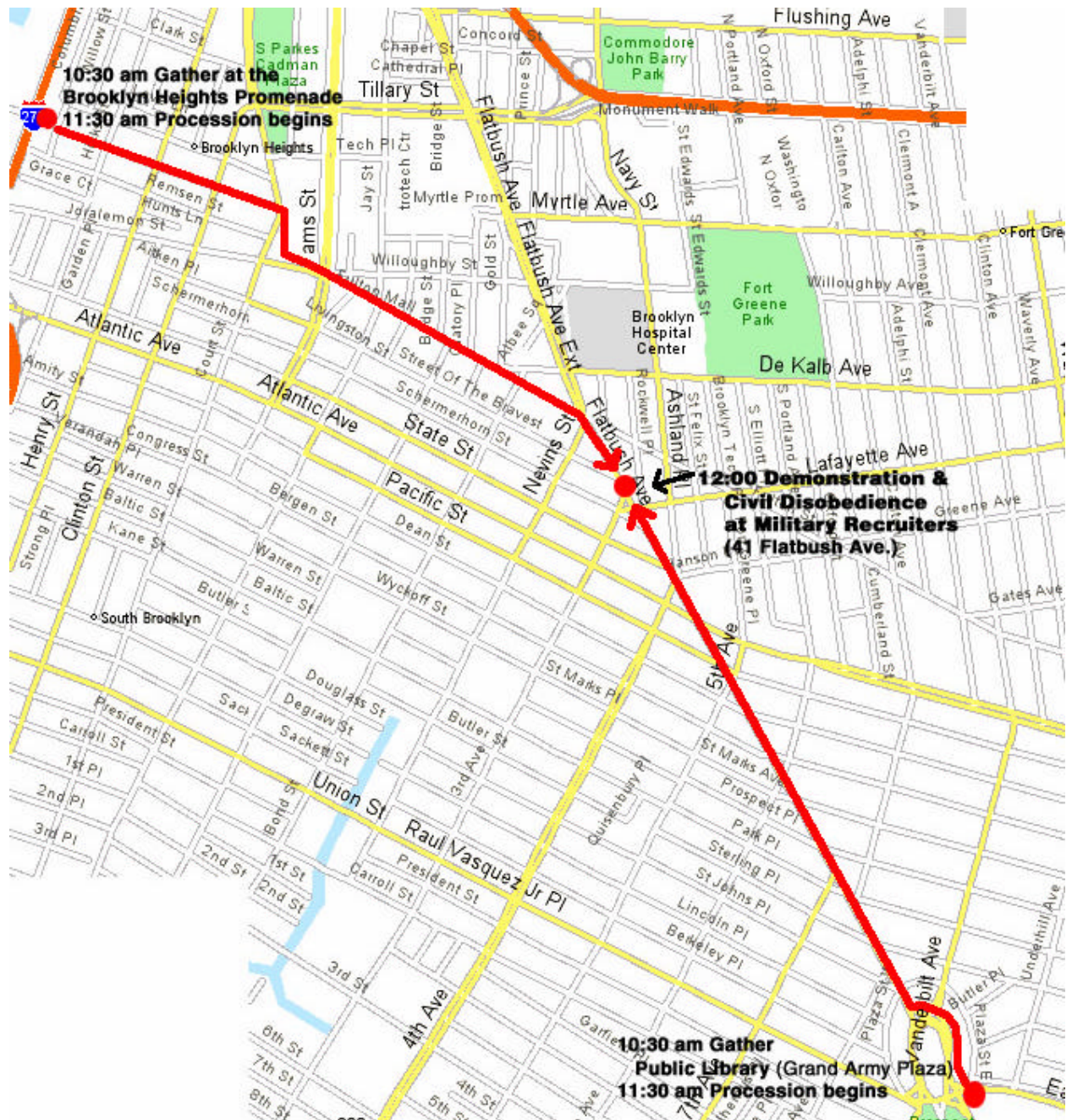
# MAPS

map of Manhattan march

<http://www.warresisters.org/images/midtownManhattan.jpg>



Map of Brooklyn march <http://www.warresisters.org/images/downtownBrooklyn.jpg>



[http://www.east-harlem.com/images/mg\\_park.gif](http://www.east-harlem.com/images/mg_park.gif)



See also the wonderful, but perhaps a little out of date RNC Guide <http://www.rncguide.com>

## POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS

- ANSWER Coalition 212-633-6646, [iacenter@iacenter.org](mailto:iacenter@iacenter.org), <http://www.iacenter.org>
- Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War 917-693-9427.
- [ChelseaNeighborsUnited@yahoo.com](mailto:ChelseaNeighborsUnited@yahoo.com)
- Direct Action Tendency Thomas Good [tmgood@socialistpartyusa.net](mailto:tmgood@socialistpartyusa.net)  
<http://www.actiontendency.net> 347.524.5631
- National Employment Law Project, Brennan Center for Justice. Info NELP  
212-285-3025, [cruckelshaus@nelp.org](mailto:cruckelshaus@nelp.org)
- NYCLU <http://www.nyclu.org>
- Times Up <http://www.times-up.org> 49 E. Houston St. ride line at 212.802.8222
- Troops Out Now! <http://www.TroopsOutNow.org>
- United for Peace 212-868-5545 <http://www.unitedforpeace.org>
- War Resisters League <http://www.warresisters.org> [nycwrl@att.net](mailto:nycwrl@att.net)

## BOOKSTORES, INFOSHOPS, AND FREE SPACES

- 6th Street Community Center 638 East 6th St, between Avenue B and C. An organization interested in food issues like community supported agriculture. 212-529-9720
- ABC No Rio 156 Rivington near Suffolk. A community space in the Lower East Side with a computer lab, photo development lab, silkscreening room, zine library, & art gallery.
- Bluestocking Radical Books and Activist Center 172 Allen Street (Just south of Houston) 212-777-6028. info@bluestockings.com.
- Brecht Forum-Forums on political and activist issues 451 West St (btw Bank & Bethune St) [www.brechtforum.org](http://www.brechtforum.org) 212-242-4201
- Housing Works Books 126 Crosby Street between Houston and Prince.
- La Pena Cultural Center 226 E.144 Street, Bronx, Phone: 718-402-9411. Latino cultural and community center which does support for political prisoners and their families.
- Mayday Books 151 1st Ave. between 9 & 10th streets in the *Theater for the New City*. 212-777-8169. All volunteer anarchist bookstore.
- St. Marks Books 31 Third Avenue 212-260-7853. They have a good selection of anarchist titles here, not to mention the great selection of other lefty titles. Independent bookstore.
- Times Up <http://www.times-up.org> 49 E. Houston St. ride line at 212.802.8222

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

### Preparation for arrest—do this stuff AHEAD OF TIME

- Think about how you will cope with the stress of being arrested. This is true for everyone, but especially people who have anxiety, panic attacks, claustrophobia or something similar. Also, police are likely to target people of color, LGBT folks and anyone that looks different from their narrow definition of normal, so these folks should be prepared for extra abuse.
- Think about the health effects of detention, especially if you have a disability, diabetes, asthma, HIV/AIDS or any other serious medical condition. In jail you may not have access to your medications, assistance devices or medical care even if you have a life-threatening emergency.
- Have an outside support person—someone who will not be arrested. Give this person a list of your emergency contacts, medications, medical conditions, phone calls that should be made if you are arrested, and anything else that needs to be taken care of (pet care, appointments, etc.).
- If you have legal support have the phone # written in indelible ink [sharpie or permanent marker] somewhere on your skin. Have other #s you might need written on you, as long as you don't mind the police seeing them.
- Decide on whether you want to give the police your true name or practice jail solidarity (see <http://www.indybay.org/news/2001/03/2218.php> for info on solidarity). If you plan to give your name have a government issued ID with you.
- Consider carrying enough cash or a credit card to pay the standard fine/bail bondsperson fee for a misdemeanor in your area. A legal support person (someone trained in legal assistance for activists) should be able to tell you the usual fee. [S27 ranged from \$50 to \$100+ (for a misdemeanor) but different charges will carry different fees.]
- Have medications in original containers with a 2 copies of a doctors note stating you must take them. Give one copy to your outside support person. The letter will only help if the name you give police and the one on the container are the same.
- If you use personal assistance devices such as canes and braces, consider bringing them (and a doctor's note saying you need them). It's better to have them and not need them than be without.
- When you go to do civil disobedience, don't carry anything you can't replace or anything you don't want the police to see. They can, and probably will, search your bags and pockets. [Do not carry any sharp objects or knives, even small 'pocketknives.' They can be treated as weapons. If you have any sort of video or still camera, expect it to be possibly permanently seized and any film or video confiscated.]

### If arrest seems imminent...

- Your bag will probably be taken from you, so be sure that ID, meds and money are on your person. You will probably get your stuff back, but there are no guarantees. If you can, consider giving your bag, house keys, and car keys to someone who won't get arrested.

- You may not be searched for a while so consider having the following on your person (not in a bag): cell phone (beware of any sensitive phone numbers in memory), food, extra clothes, pen, paper. [take your keys with you too!]
- If you want to get anything past a search, this is the time to hide it. Pens, phones, and meds can fit nicely in the front of your underwear or bra.

### **If you are put in plastic handcuffs**

- Plastic cuffs have caused some people long-term nerve damage. If you have pain, numbness or tingling in your hands at any time immediately request that looser cuffs be put on. If one officer refuses, ask another and don't stop asking until they change the cuffs.
- Try not to move around too much, as this can tighten the cuffs. Consider requesting that your hands be cuffed in front. Ask if anyone in your group can demonstrate how to contort yourself so that you can get the cuffs in front.
- If after the cuffs are removed you experience pain, numbness or other unpleasant feelings have these symptoms documented ASAP by a medical professional and get in touch with your local street medic organization. Also check out <http://action-medical.net/library/aftercare/handcuffs.htm>

### **If you have a medical problem before or during detention**

- If you have a medical condition that could cause problems while you are being held consider telling the police ahead of time. This may encourage them to respond more quickly if you start to have problems. If you or anyone in your group starts having a medical problem tell the police ASAP (with the person's consent), and request immediate professional medical attention. Do this early, as it may take a long, long, long time for the police to do anything. If you don't get a response initially keep asking until help arrives. Consider using chanting or other group tactics to get the police to respond.
- If you have a potentially dangerous medical condition (asthma, diabetes, seizures), wear a "medic-alert bracelet." You should be able to get them at most drug stores. This will make the police and jail staff take you much more seriously if you start to have difficulties. The only way to ensure receiving medication while in jail is to bring four copies of a recently-dated doctor's letter that explains your requirements. Keep one copy of this letter on your person, leave one copy with your affinity group supporters, and leave copies with your legal and medical teams. Obviously, these letters may disclose your identity, which interferes with the solidarity tactic of withholding information. One way to handle this is to give your doctor a photo of yourself to go with the letter, and have the doctor refer to you as "the patient in the attached photograph," rather than by name. -- [Katya Komisaruk, Just Cause Law Collective](#)
- While you are detained stay as calm as you can. The police may try to unnerve, dehumanize and generally stress you out. Try yoga, singing, meditation, sharing stories with fellow detainees, etc.
- Remember, police may lie and manipulate. They may tell you things that aren't true (that your friends have blamed you and are getting out, that you'll get out in an hour, etc.).

- Think about what good can come of your arrest. Can you do a skill-share with your cell mates? Learn new songs? Talk about favorite books? Tell jokes?
- If police are abusive in any way (emotional, physical, violating your rights, etc.) note the officer's name and badge number. Try to remember as many specific details of the event as you can. If you have a pen, write it all down!

### **When you get out**

- Release can be paradoxically stressful—suddenly you have to deal with the outside world again.
- Try and talk about your experiences before you go to sleep, ideally with the people who were with you. If possible, recount what happened and how you felt about it. If you don't feel comfortable talking, listening to others talk about what happened can help. Research shows that if people sleep before talking about traumatic experiences they have a higher incidence of long-term problems.
- Try and be gentle with yourself. Sleep (after talking), eat healthy food, relax.

### **Don't go through this alone!**

- If your regular friends aren't sympathetic, find fellow activists or group that can help. Some medics are trained in counseling, or you can call the International Critical Incident Stress Hotline at 410 750-9600
- Try different options for stress management, including herbal therapy, counseling, massage, Reiki, etc. See <http://www.geocities.com/healingtrauma/index2.html> for more info.
- Even if you don't feel terribly stressed you may have nightmares, a short temper or other reactions to your experience. This is normal, and may also be a sign that you could benefit from some more formal processing of your experience.

### **For more information**

- <http://www.action-medical.net> - street medic site with lots of good information on plastic handcuffs and other health issues
- [http://g8-binder.emmett.ca/papers/legal\\_tips.html](http://g8-binder.emmett.ca/papers/legal_tips.html) - even more descriptions and suggestions for arrestees
- [http://www.bc.edu/bc\\_org/hvp/programs/stress/handout.html](http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/hvp/programs/stress/handout.html) - info on coping after a stressful event

This (modified) document produced by the [Boston Area Liberation Medic \(BALM\) Squad](#). 1/09/2003

**Local hospitals/medical centers:**

**Beth Israel Medical Center - Petrie Division**

First Avenue at 16th Street

Tel: 212-420-2000

**Beth Israel Medical Center - Singer Division**

East End Avenue between 87th and 88th Streets

Tel: 212-870-9000

**Beth Israel Medical Center - Phillips Ambulatory Care Center**

Union Square East between 14th and 15th Streets

Tel: 212-844-8000

**Beth Israel Medical Center - Kings Highway Division**

Kings Highway between East 32nd Street and New York Avenue

Tel: 718-252-3000

**Chelsea Clinic of St Vincent's**

365 W 25th St

**Park Lane Medical Ctr**

134 W 32nd St

212-613-9013

**St Vincent's Midtown**

426 W 52nd St

212-586-1500

**New York Presbyterian Hospital**

119 W 24th St # 1

212-746-7200

**St Lukes Roosevelt Hsptl Ctr**

1000 10th Ave # 6C-01

212-523-4000

**DOCS at New York Healthcare**

55 E. 34th St.

212-252-6001

**Health Outreach to Teens (medical and dental care)**

Callen-Lorde Community Health Center

356 W. 18th St.

212-271-7212



## RADICAL REFERENCE CONTACT INFO

Write your numbers down here. (They're not included in the online kit for obvious reasons.)

### Street Librarians:

Gabriel Farrell

Jenna Freedman

Theresa Tobin

Cherie Yadek

### Home Support:

James Jacobs

Shinjoung Yeo