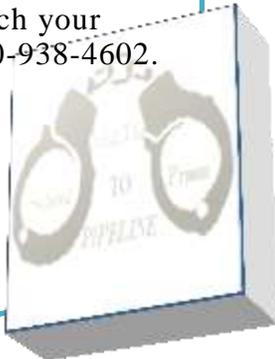




## **Are you dreading going to court?**

Have you received a Juvenile citation? Do you have a Juvenile warrant you need to clear? Receiving a violation of municipal ordinance can seem like a much scarier situation than it is. AKYR assess the needs of each client to make available the necessary educational groundwork for an informed defense and positive choices in the future. AKYR is not a legal advice service, but we are a team of researchers that can help you research your options. Call us 720-938-4602.



**AKYR**

P.O. Box 390334  
Denver, Colorado 80239

<http://akyr.org/self-advocacy>

**Adolescent's**

**Know**

**Your**

**Rights**

**The Self-Advocacy Project**

*Know Your Voice, make an informed choice!*

**Research Assistance**

**Hotline:**

**720-938-4602**

## Know Before You Go!

There is time between when you received your citation and your court date. You have a great chance of reaching a positive or satisfactory outcome, if you prepare a strong defense.

AKYR's self-advocacy project is a gift economy option which offers mentoring and research methods assistance so you can learn about the charges associated with their citation, possible conviction ramifications, how to obtain evidence against them, and plea options. AKYR will provide the tools of basic comprehension, along with social etiquette support to enable a successful defense.

- You will stand before a County Court Judges in a courtroom setting similar to courtrooms seen on television.
- You will be required to speak into a microphone and all of your words will be recorded.
- You will be given an option of submitting one of three pleas in response to the statute violation you are being accused of. Not Guilty, No Contest, or Guilty.
- You have the right to view any evidence that is being used against you.
- You have the right to a trial.

There are processes associated with all of the rights previously discussed. AKYR can both discuss these processes with you and walk with you through the process.

### Making it go away is not always the best choice

Your plea is your choice. Even if fighting the charge is going to be a long drawn out battle, against people that may seem more capable, you can learn how to effectively fight for your truth. Nationwide "94 percent of state cases end in plea bargains, with defendants pleading guilty in exchange for a lesser sentence."-Ron Wright

You are not alone AKYR is here to help you through the process.

### Appearance expectations

When appearing in courtroom 4F of the Lindsey-Flanigan Courthouse there will be a minimum standard of dress, tone, and etiquette expected.

Be on time!

To the best of your ability, you should be clean with no distinguishing odors.

1. Choose clothing that is considered business casual or professional.
2. Listen quiet and attentively, and make eye contact.
3. Think about what you are going to say before you speak.
4. When responding, use complete sentences that are clear and direct.

### Research your Charges

After you are charged, you may be given, or receive by mail a citation. Sometimes it can be difficult to read and understand this document. You should carefully go through these documents to understand what offence you have been charged with, the allegations against you,

what you have to do next. Some important things to notice are;

- date and time you have to go to court
- what court you have to go to
- the name of the police officer or authorized officer
- what you have been charged with.

**Type what you are being charged with directly into your internet search bar to learn more!**

### Plea Options

Before you go to court, you need to consider whether to plead guilty or not guilty to the charges. For more information, see Pleading not guilty, guilty or no contest.

Pleading **not guilty** means exactly what it sounds like—you claim the charges against you are false, and you are completely innocent.

Pleading **guilty** means you admit the charges, you have no defense for your actions, and the court can go ahead and with punishment.

The purpose of entering a **no contest** plea is often to avoid being sued civilly for essentially confessing to a crime, which is the basis of a guilty plea. Pleading no contest or nolo contendere means you admit no guilt for the crime, but the court can determine the punishment.

### Program purpose

The objective of AKYR is to provide increased knowledge of individual rights to reinforce positive behaviors. With knowledge, and understanding, we can hold the scales of justice in our hands.