

Assault and Resisting Arrest

It was a Thursday night and I had not gone out all semester because I was trying to concentrate on my studies. I went out with a few of my friends to The Thirsty Scholar. When I was there I saw many of my friends and classmates from school and was enjoying the night. Afterwards, when I was on the dance floor, it looked as if there was a conflict between my friend and the bouncer. I noticed the bouncer escorting my friend out. As they passed by me, I stopped the bouncer to ask what was going on. When the bouncer turned around, I was knocked over and I threw the pitcher of beer out of my hand. This happened by the doorway where I had not noticed that Campus Police officers were standing. It was dark and I could not see well. I got into a **physical conflict with a Campus Police officer** and I pushed him away. My mistake was that **I refused to surrender when asked and I resisted arrest**. I guess I felt I had done nothing wrong at the time.

As a consequence of my actions, I was embarrassed, injured, and had to spend a **night in a cold holding cell at Windsor Police Service**. I was released in the morning, hungry, tired, and with no cash for a cab or bus. I walked about 2 km on a cold February morning with no winter jacket, all the way home. In addition I was left with two criminal charges and a \$60.00 provincial trespassing ticket. The two charges were for resisting arrest and assault on a peace officer. I could not sleep that morning when I reached home, so I lay on my bed and thought about the previous night and realized that **for one small action there could be so many consequences**. With midterms coming up, I was overwhelmed with a lot of studying and assignments to complete. I had to find a lawyer and deal with the tasks that lay ahead.

After going to court many times and my lawyer bargaining with the Crown Attorney, they negotiated a settlement. I would have to make a donation to the University of Windsor of \$500.00 in addition to other conditions. As well, I had to go through the academic integrity office at the university because the incident happened on campus. This resulted in an **additional penalty**. It seemed that with all the additional running around for court and sacrificing so much time, it was like taking an additional course.

If I am to go anywhere, not just to the Thirsty Scholar, I have **learned that there are consequences for my actions**. I advise everyone that for something that seems harmless at the time, it could be very **costly and time consuming** in the end. If I was to do that whole night over again I would not have gotten myself involved in a situation that led to such severe consequences.

- Second Year Student
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