

WARRANTS

**Warrants do not expire after a certain period of time.
They exist until you deal with them.**

An arrest warrant means that there are outstanding charges against you.

If the police stop you

Usually, any police officer can arrest you and transfer you to the Ontario city that issued the warrant, although they may not do this.

For warrants from other provinces, the Toronto police can hold you to see if the out-of-province police will come and get you. If not, they must let you go.

Any police officer in the country can arrest you on a Canada-wide warrant.

Dealing with warrants

- For warrants in Toronto (or GTA), turn yourself into the police. It is best to do this at 7 a.m. Monday to Thursday and to contact a lawyer first.
- For warrants outside Toronto and in other provinces:

Pleading guilty: you can request a transfer of your charges to Toronto. If your charges are transferred, you will receive your sentence in Toronto. You should not plead guilty to offences that you did not commit or to which you have a legal defence. Speak to a lawyer if you are unsure.

Pleading not guilty: you must return to the city that issued the warrant and turn yourself in.

**Lawyer referral service: GTA (416) 947-3330
Elsewhere in Ontario: 1-800-268-8326**

**Justice for Children & Youth: GTA (416) 920-1633
Elsewhere in Ontario: 1-866-999-JFCY (5329)
www.jfcy.org**

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