

Interviewee Bill of Rights

You have the right to:

- Know the topic
- Know the format
- Schedule the interview (you don't have to jump into an interview without preparing)
- Clarify misstatements
- Use notes (except for television interviews)
- Record the interview

You do not have the right to:

- Edit the story
- Expect your view to be the only view

What you can ask for, but may not get

- Know the questions in advance
- To change your quotes
- To see the story in advance

Before the interview:

- Do your homework. Get to know the reporter, publication or program, interview format and audience.
- Respect the deadline, and then prepare. When the reporter calls, feel free to ask if you can call them right back. Then take time to prepare your messages.
- Be ready for the tough questions. List all the toughest questions you can imagine, and be prepared to answer them.
- Relax! Take a few deep breaths and have your messages in hand.