

Name: _____ Date: _____

Understanding Our Criminal Justice System

Q1. What is a FIR? Explain.

Ans.

Q2. What are D.K Basu Guidelines?

Ans.

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Q1. What is a FIR? Explain.

Ans. FIR stands for First Information Report. It is with the registration of an FIR that the police can begin their investigations into a crime. The law states that it is compulsory for an officer in charge of a police station to register an FIR whenever a person gives information about a cognizable offence. This information can be given to the police either orally or in writing. The FIR usually mentions the date, time and place of the offence, details the basic facts of the offence, including a description of the events. If known, the identity of the accused persons and witnesses is also mentioned. The FIR also states the name and address of the complainant. There is a prescribed form in which the police registers an FIR and it is signed by the complainant.

Q2. What are D.K Basu Guidelines?

Ans. The Supreme Court of India has laid down specific requirements and procedures that the police and other agencies have to follow for the arrest, detention and interrogation of any person. These are known as the D.K. Basu Guidelines and some of these include:

- The police officials who carry out the arrest or interrogation should wear clear, accurate and visible identification and name tags with their designations;
- A memo of arrest should be prepared at the time of arrest and should include the time and date of arrest. It should also be attested by at least one witness who could include a family member of the person arrested. The arrest memo should be counter-signed by the person arrested.
- The person arrested, detained or being interrogated has a right to inform a relative, friend or wellwisher.
- When a friend or relative lives outside the district, the time, place of arrest and venue of custody must be notified by police within 8 to 12 hours after arrest.