

# Overview:

## This Pamphlet Covers:

- Who to contact to get your property back.
- When you can contact them.
- What conversion is.
- How to know if conversion has happened to you.
- What kind of lawyer you need to bring a conversion claim.
- Basic preparation for court.

## This Pamphlet *Does Not* Cover:

All aspects of camp sweeps.

**This is a jumping off point for anyone in Portland experiencing sweeps.**

**Property is Often Thrown Out In Sweeps, Always Keep Essentials**

### On Your Person:

- ID, passports, social security cards
- any medication
- cash, credit or debit cards
- phones, or other electronics

**They should stay on you *at all times***

## Legal Resources:

### American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon

1-888-527-2258  
[www.aclu-or.org](http://www.aclu-or.org)

### Legal Aid Services of Oregon (Portland Regional Office)

Call: 503-224-4086  
Toll-free: 800-228-6958  
Hours: 9am-12pm, 1-4 pm, Mon.-Fri.  
520 SW Sixth Ave., Ste. 700  
Portland, OR 97204  
[www.lasoregon.org](http://www.lasoregon.org)

Visit

[www.streetroots.org/rose-city-resource](http://www.streetroots.org/rose-city-resource)  
for more resources!

## CONTACT US

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# AFTER YOUR CAMP IS SWEPT

## Your Options After A Sweep

Getting Your Property  
Back And Navigating The  
Legal Options



**SISTERS OF  
THE ROAD**

# THE FIRST STEPS:

## Who Swept Your Camp?

In Portland, Oregon, the City has contracted Rapid Response BioClean to sweep homeless camps and manage property taken in the sweeps.

The location where your seized property is stored changes often. *Call* to ask for the current location.

## What Is The Timeline For Retrieving Belongings?

You have to wait 24 hours after the sweep for your items to be processed before you can retrieve them. You may be asked to provide proof of your property. Items are often thrown away.

## How To Contact Rapid Response?

**Call: (503) 387-1336**

**Monday - Friday: 8am - 4:30pm**

**or**

**Saturday: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm**

**IF YOUR PROPERTY HAS BEEN  
THROWN AWAY  
THAT IS CONVERSION**

# WHAT IS CONVERSION:

## What Is Conversion?

Conversion is when *a party takes property from another with the intent to deprive them of it.*

Basically, if someone takes or destroys something you own, they are depriving you of it - whether or not they know the item has an owner.

With conversion, *intent* doesn't mean just stealing, it is still conversion even if they believe the item has no owner.

## How Do You Know If Conversion Happened To You?

If your property has been thrown away, destroyed, given to another person, or they refuse give to you your property, that is conversion.

## What Is Your Next Step?

Conversion is a tort law. This means you have a 2 year time frame to file your claim, get a tort lawyer and sue to recover your property or be compensated.

**IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A CLAIM,  
GET A LAWYER**

# PREPARING FOR COURT:

## What Should You Expect?

The court systems is tough and its important to know that going into it. If you lose you may be on the hook for the defense's attorney fees. That does not mean you shouldn't go to court, but you should be prepared.

Make sure to discuss preparation for trial with your attorney.

## How Should You Prepare?

**DO NOT REPRESENT YOURSELF,** get a lawyer.

**ALWAYS** show up to court dates, you will automatically lose if you don't show up.

**IF YOU NEED ONE,** remote trials hosted online or on a call are available if you don't want to be in the same room as the defendant or can't conceivably make it to court.

**ALWAYS** keep your attorney's info on you. If there is a emergency and you can't make it to court, you need to tell your attorney ASAP or you will default.

**IF YOU WIN YOU DON'T PAY ANYTHING.** for small claims under 10,00 dollars, if you we the defense pays your attorney fees

**LEGAL RESOURCES ON THE  
BACK PANEL**