

# Legal Observer Training

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## Protecting the Right to Dissent

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# What is a Legal Observer?

- Non-participant
- Trained witness
- Help ensure that people's right to protest is not unduly interfered with



# When do we need Legal Observers?



- Generally, we dispatch observers at request of organizers
- More demand since the election
- More locations
- Places that are not necessarily used to protest activities

# What do Legal Observers do?



- Document interferences with people's right to protest
- Bring a small notepad and pen, and a fully charged phone with camera
- Write down details including names, badge numbers, times and locations of incidents
- Take photos and videos, but only when necessary

# 🚫 What Legal Observers Should NOT Do 🚫

- Do not get arrested
- Do not intervene with police activities
- Do not engage with the press much
- Do not get arrested



# Our Plan



- Dependent on type and size of demonstration
- Work with a partner
- Keep in touch with coordinator
- Take good notes

# The Day of the Action

- Wear comfortable, weather appropriate clothing, not associated with any political or social movement
- Bring your phone, notepad and pen
- Meet up with the coordinator at the designated place and time. Keep in contact throughout and check in before you leave
- Wear the stylish vest that you are given





WE THE PEOPLE  
DARE TO CREATE  
A MORE PERFECT  
UNION

ACLU

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