

Legal Observer Training

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
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⊘ 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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