



ROD

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Presents

PROTEST MUSTS **Do's & DON'TS**



A PROTEST ISN'T A DAY AT THE PARK. IT'S A DEMONSTRATION OF POWER, BUT IT'S ALSO A TEST OF ENDURANCE.

BE READY.

ABSOLUTE ESSENTIALS:

ID (IF SAFE TO CARRY) – SOME PLACES REQUIRE ID FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT OR IF YOU GET DETAINED. IF YOU ARE UNDOCUMENTED OR AT RISK, CONSIDER LEAVING IT BEHIND.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO – WRITTEN DOWN. MEMORIZED. DO NOT RELY ON YOUR PHONE.

PRE-PROTEST PHONE PREP – USE A VPN, PLENTY OF FREE ONES OUT THERE, DO THE RESEARCH FOR WHAT YOU WANT. PUT IT ON AIRPLANE MODE WHILE NOT IN USE. REMOVE ALL UNLOCKS EXCEPT PIN ACCESS.

A CHARGED PHONE & BACKUP BATTERY

– DOCUMENT EVERYTHING. IF THINGS GO SOUTH, YOU WANT PROOF.

CASH – FOR FOOD, TRANSPORT, OR EMERGENCY NEEDS. NO CARDS—DIGITAL TRACKING IS A THING.

A SMALL, SECURE BAG – KEEP IT LIGHT. KEEP IT TIGHT. IF YOU HAVE TO RUN, YOU DON'T WANT TO BE WEIGHED DOWN.

HEALTH & SAFETY:

WATER & SNACKS – HYDRATION ISN'T OPTIONAL, AND A PROTEIN BAR COULD BE THE THING THAT KEEPS YOU GOING.

FIRST AID KIT – BANDAGES, ANTISEPTIC WIPES, AND ANY PERSONAL MEDICATIONS YOU NEED.

MASK & GOGGLES – PROTECT YOURSELF FROM TEAR GAS, PEPPER SPRAY, OR AIRBORNE SURVEILLANCE. TEAR GAS SUPPRESSOR JARS YOU CAN MAKE YOURSELVES.

COMFORTABLE CLOTHES & SHOES – THIS ISN'T A FASHION SHOW. WEAR LAYERS, AVOID ANYTHING THAT CAN BE GRABBED, AND STICK TO CLOSED-TOE SHOES.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:

EDUCATE YOURSELF. THE ACLU HAS A KNOW-YOUR-RIGHTS GUIDE THAT BREAKS DOWN WHAT YOU CAN AND CAN'T DO AT A PROTEST. READ IT. MEMORIZE IT. PRINT IT IF NECESSARY.



Do's & Don'ts: How to Protest Smarter

DO:

STAY AWARE – KNOW THE LAYOUT OF THE AREA.

IDENTIFY EXITS, SAFE SPACES, AND POTENTIAL HAZARDS.

STICK WITH A BUDDY – NEVER GO ALONE. HAVE A CHECK-IN SYSTEM IF SEPARATED.

FOLLOW THE ORGANIZERS – IF THIS IS A PLANNED PROTEST, THERE IS A STRATEGY. DON'T BE THE LOOSE CANNON.

RECORD POLICE INTERACTIONS – IT'S YOUR RIGHT. JUST DON'T INTERFERE PHYSICALLY.

KNOW THE LEGAL NUMBERS – HAVE A LAWYER'S NUMBER WRITTEN ON YOUR ARM. IF ARRESTED, CALL THEM FIRST.

DON'T:

ENGAGE WITH COUNTER-PROTESTERS – STAY FOCUSED. THEY WANT TO PROVOKE YOU. DON'T GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT.

BRING ILLEGAL ITEMS – NO WEAPONS. NO DRUGS. NO EXCUSES.

POST YOUR LOCATION IN REAL TIME – LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OPPOSITION GROUPS TRACK SOCIAL MEDIA. SHARE DETAILS AFTER THE EVENT.

SIGN ANYTHING WITHOUT A LAWYER – PERIOD.

ARREST IS ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY. IF IT HAPPENS, HERE'S WHAT TO DO:

STAY SILENT. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT—USE IT. SAY, “I AM INVOKING MY RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT AND WANT A LAWYER.” REPEAT AS NECESSARY.

DO NOT RESIST. EVEN IF THE ARREST IS UNLAWFUL, RESISTING WILL ONLY ESCALATE THE SITUATION.

REQUEST MEDICAL ATTENTION IF NEEDED. DOCUMENT ANY INJURIES THE MOMENT YOU ARE ABLE.

MEMORIZE LEGAL HELP CONTACTS. GROUPS LIKE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR PROTESTERS.



DISABLED PROTESTERS: YOUR RIGHTS, YOUR SAFETY, YOUR STRATEGY

PROTESTING IS FOR EVERYONE. BUT LET'S NOT PRETEND THE SYSTEM TREATS EVERYONE EQUALLY. DISABLED PROTESTERS FACE UNIQUE RISKS—BOTH FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FROM THE ENVIRONMENT ITSELF. PREPARE ACCORDINGLY.

MUST-HAVES FOR DISABLED PROTESTERS

MEDICAL ID & EMERGENCY PLAN – WRITE DOWN YOUR CONDITIONS, MEDICATIONS, AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS.

EXTRA MEDICATIONS & SUPPLIES – BRING MORE THAN YOU NEED, IN CASE THINGS TAKE LONGER THAN EXPECTED.

ACCESSIBLE EXIT STRATEGY – KNOW WHERE RAMPS, ELEVATORS, AND SAFE ZONES ARE BEFORE THE PROTEST BEGINS.

PROTEST BUDDY WHO UNDERSTANDS YOUR NEEDS – SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP ADVOCATE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO DO SO.

DO:

DO COMMUNICATE YOUR NEEDS – IF YOU NEED A QUIETER AREA OR AN ACCESSIBLE SPACE, LET ORGANIZERS KNOW.

DO CARRY A LEGAL STATEMENT ON YOUR RIGHTS – COPS ARE OFTEN UNAWARE (OR PRETEND TO BE) OF DISABILITY RIGHTS.

DO HAVE A BACKUP PLAN FOR MOBILITY DEVICES
– SCOOTERS, WHEELCHAIRS, OR ROLLATORS MAY GET DAMAGED. PLAN FOR IT.

DON'T:

DON'T ASSUME LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL ACCOMMODATE YOU
– THEY ARE NOT LEGALLY OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE ACCESSIBILITY IN CUSTODY.

DON'T RELY ON VERBAL ADVOCACY ALONE – WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN LEGAL SITUATIONS.



IF YOU ARE ARRESTED AS A DISABLED PROTESTER

CLEARLY STATE YOUR MEDICAL NEEDS. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ACCOMMODATIONS UNDER THE ADA (AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT).

DEMAND ACCESS TO MEDICATIONS OR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT. DO NOT ACCEPT NEGLECT.

ASK FOR A DISABILITY RIGHTS LAWYER. STANDARD LEGAL COUNSEL MAY NOT BE WELL-VERSED IN THESE RIGHTS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCATES FOR LEGAL RESOURCES TAILORED TO DISABLED INDIVIDUALS.



FINAL WORDS: THIS IS MORE THAN A PROTEST—THIS IS A MOVEMENT



THIS IS NOT A DRILL. THIS IS NOT A TEST.
THIS IS A BATTLE FOR THE VERY FOUNDATION
OF OUR RIGHTS.

IF WE DO NOT FIGHT, WE LOSE.

BE PREPARED. BE SMART. BE SAFE.

AND ABOVE ALL ELSE—SHOW UP.

