

How to **Support** Protesters and Other Resources

June 2020

In this guide, you will learn:

- ▶ **How to prepare** if you plan on attending a protest
- ▶ What your **role as a non-black ally** should be while protesting
- ▶ **What you can do to help** if you are unable to attend a protest

What are we protesting for?

- ▶ We are protesting for **a conviction and full sentencing** for the ex-cop who murdered George Floyd.
- ▶ We are protesting for **conviction of the other 3 cops** complicit in his murder.
- ▶ We are protesting for **all cops guilty of police brutality to be charged** and convicted of their crimes.
- ▶ We are protesting for **police reform and dismantling of racist policies** and systems that disproportionately affect black citizens.

How to prepare

- ▶ Try to **avoid bringing your own vehicle**. Use public transportation, or park farther away and walk to the protest site.
- ▶ Don't go alone if you can help it — **go with friends or a group**.
- ▶ Don't talk to the **press**.
- ▶ Write **emergency contact info** on your arm — a number for a lawyer, friend, or crew who can post bail for you or other protesters.
- ▶ **Be mindful** of the mental and emotional state of those in your group. Know when to ask someone to stay home, and know when it may be time for someone to return home.
- ▶ Know **contact info** and any **legal or medical issues** for everyone in your group, and what to do in case of an arrest.
- ▶ To **ensure privacy**, turn off cellular data, FaceID, and TouchID on mobile phones.

What to wear

- ▶ We are still in the midst of a global pandemic — **wear a mask** and gloves.
- ▶ **Do not wear contacts.** If you are exposed to pepper spray or tear gas, having contacts in could make the damage worse.
- ▶ Wear **neutral colors** (preferably black), and nothing that will make you stand out.
- ▶ Protests are being filmed, and law enforcement is reviewing footage and arresting protesters after the fact. Your dress should make you as **unidentifiable** as possible.
 - ◆ Wear a hat and full face covering if you can, or sunglasses.
 - ◆ Wear two layers or bring a change of clothes. If necessary, you can remove the first layer.
 - ◆ Wear sneakers or running shoes.
 - ◆ Wear comfortable clothing that will allow you to run.

What to bring with you

- ▶ **Milk** and a **wash cloth** if you can.
 - ◆ If you are exposed to tear gas or pepper spray, wash eyes with milk, or soak a cloth and hold it against your eyes. Tear gas is hot — wear gloves while doing this.
- ▶ Plenty of **water** and packable **snacks** — energy bars or bananas are good.
- ▶ Any necessary **medical supplies** (inhaler, epi-pen, insulin, etc.)
- ▶ **Identification** and enough cash for food and transportation.
- ▶ A **phone charger**.

For “documentarians”

- ▶ First, **challenge the idea** that you are the one who needs to be on the ground taking pictures and filming. Many people are doing that already.
- ▶ **Give space** to other people.
- ▶ **Pay attention** to your surroundings.
- ▶ Safety rules about **sharing** any photos or video you capture:
 - ◆ Blur faces
 - ◆ Blur identifiable tattoos, scars, or features on protestors
 - ◆ Delete non-blurry photos
 - ◆ Do not share photos or videos that include identifiable faces of other protestors on social media.

Role of non-Black allies

- ▶ The role of white and non-black allies at protests should be one of **support for black folx.**
- ▶ You are there to **protect** Black folx and Black bodies.
- ▶ You are there to **uplift and amplify** Black voices.
- ▶ You are NOT there to **center yourself** in conversations.
- ▶ You are NOT there to **instigate violence.**
- ▶ You are NOT there to loot or **cause damage.**
- ▶ You are NOT there to **fight** with Black folx.
- ▶ You must prioritize the **safety of Black lives** over property.

Role of non-Black allies CONT'D

- ▶ Be the one to **bring milk, water, and snacks** to pass out.
- ▶ When you see someone being arrested, **ask for their name and birthdate** so that someone has their information when they need to be bailed out.
- ▶ **Be the shield** between Black bodies and police. Be ready to form a line around Black and brown folx if asked by protest organizers.
- ▶ **Be accountable** for other non-Black protestors. Stop them from vandalizing or looting. Their actions will be placed on Black folx, and they will suffer the repercussions.
- ▶ **Do not bring children or animals.**
- ▶ Question **teenagers' motives** for wanting to attend.

Unable to protest?

THERE ARE MANY ROLES TO BE PLAYED IN PROTESTING INJUSTICE.
NOT ALL OF THEM REQUIRE YOU TO BE ON THE GROUND!

- ▶ If you are able, show up to the area where protesters are meeting to **offer or leave cases of water, bags of snacks, milk, etc.**
- ▶ Offer to **pay for supplies** for protesters.
- ▶ **Share information** of planned protests on social media.
- ▶ Find out protester's demands and **contact the offices** of district attorneys and elected officials to ask that they be met.
- ▶ **Donate** to relevant funds or to election campaigns of Black candidates.
- ▶ **Vote** in national, state, and local elections.

CT District Attorneys & Legislators

- ▶ **Connecticut Judicial Districts and State's Attorneys**

<https://portal.ct.gov/DCJ/About-Us/About-Us/Judicial-Districts-and-States-Attorneys>

- ▶ **Find your elected officials**

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp>

Donate to bail funds

Connecticut

- ▶ <http://www.ctbailfund.org/>

Atlanta

- ▶ [Atlanta Solidarity Fund](#)

Boston

- ▶ MassBailFund.org

Charlotte

- ▶ CharlotteUprising.com

Detroit

- ▶ [Detroit Justice Center](#)

Houston

- ▶ [Restoring Justice Community Bail Fund](#)

New York

- ▶ LibertyFund.NYC
- ▶ [Brooklyn Community Bail Fund](#)
- ▶ [Free Them All 2020](#)

Venmo to **bailoutnycjune**

Louisville

- ▶ [Louisville Community Bail Fund](#)

Minneapolis

- ▶ [Reclaim The Block](#)
- ▶ [North Star Health Collective](#)
- ▶ Minnesota Freedom Fund has **paused donations**, but has provided [a list of worthy orgs here](#).

Donate to affected families

- ▶ **George Floyd**

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/georgefloyd>

- ▶ **Tony McDade**

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/in-memory-of-tony-mcdade>

- ▶ **Ahmaud Arbery**

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/i-run-with-maud>

Sign petitions

- ▶ [Justice For George Floyd](#)
- ▶ [Justice for Breonna Taylor](#)
- ▶ [Justice for David McAtee](#)
- ▶ [Justice for Tony McDade](#)
- ▶ [Justice for Ahmaud Arbery](#)
- ▶ [Hands Up Act](#)
- ▶ [More Petitions to Sign \(via BLM\)](#)

Have questions?

Email info@westportplayhouse.org