

## PLAN AHEAD

### SAFETY PLAN

Find a trusted friend or family member who will not be at the protest who can check in with you and make sure you've left safely. Make sure they know your full legal name and birth date.

### PREPARE FOR POLICE ENCOUNTERS<sup>1</sup>

**Cell phones:** turn off geo-location services and communicate via Signal (messaging app available on iOS and Android). Put a password on your phone to protect against searches. Memorize (or write on your arm) numbers for your family, your lawyer, and jail support. *National Lawyers Guild San Francisco support line: (415) 285-1011*

**Risking arrest?** Carry cash and 3 days' worth of any essential medication, in its original bottle.

**Not a U.S. citizen?** Know your immigration number ("A" number) if you have one. Visit [nipnl.org/tools](http://nipnl.org/tools) for additional guidance.

**Undocumented, under court supervision, or have a record?** The risks associated with arrest may be more severe for you. If possible, consult with a lawyer to discuss potential consequences.

**A person with a disability, special medical needs, or limited English?** Carry a card or wear a bracelet to explain your situation.

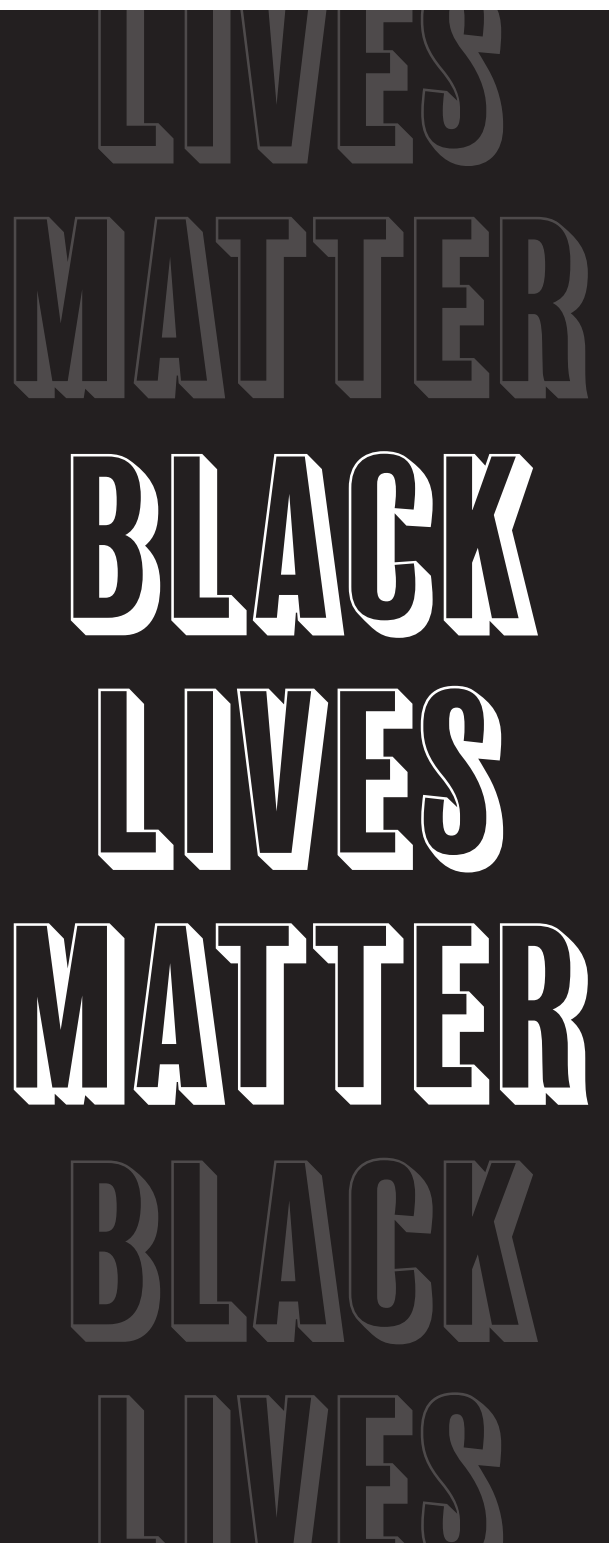
**Tear gas and flash bangs** happen rarely, but it's very important to be prepared. In your kit, there are ear plugs to reduce flash bang noise and water to rinse out your eyes immediately after exposure. Spray from the inside going out, with the head tilted back and slightly towards the side being rinsed.

Sources:

1 ACLU "Know your Protester Rights" 2017

2 *Handschu v. Special Services Division, NLG 2004*

3 ACLU DC "Do's and Don'ts" 2020



WE ARE MENTAL  
HEALTH WORKERS  
AND EDUCATORS  
TAKING  
ACTION

YOU HAVE A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO **DEMONSTRATE**. MORE PEOPLE ARE USING THEIR FREEDOM TO DEMONSTRATE, AND WHILE RARE, ARRESTS ARE HAPPENING. IT PAYS TO **BE PREPARED**.

THIS **COMMUNITY ACTION GUIDE** CAN HELP.

# SPOT THE COPS

Oakland police and federal police can be distinguished based on the badge they wear on their arms. Get familiar with how the badges look so you can recognize them out in public.



OAKLAND  
POLICE



BART  
POLICE



IMMIGRATION  
OFFICER

## IDENTIFYING UNDERCOVER COPS<sup>2</sup>

Undercover cops will attend meetings and take part in activities pretending to be activists, using false names, personal histories and wearing clothes intended to help them fit in with other activists. The National Lawyer's Guild notes that it is illegal for police to do undercover attendance at lawful political meetings except as part of an authorized investigative activity. **If you believe someone to be an undercover cop: document with photos and videos, share, and stay away from them!**

WHEN BLACK LIVES ARE UNDER ATTACK,  
WHAT DO WE DO?

STAND UP,  
FIGHT BACK!

# LAW ENFORCEMENT<sup>3</sup> DO'S AND DON'TS

## WHEN INTERACTING WITH POLICE

- **Do** keep your hands in plain view
- **Do** feel free to videotape officers; police will lie and ask you to stop filming. Focus on filming them and avoid filming other protesters. Edit out faces before posting.
- **Do** ask: **"Am I free to leave?"** If the officer says yes, calmly and silently walk away
- **Do** ask (if not free to leave): **"Am I under arrest?"**
- **Don't** make sudden movements/point at an officer
- **Don't** touch the officers or their equipment
- **Don't** yell or otherwise escalate the situation

## WHEN BEING QUESTIONED

- **Do** say, **"I wish to remain silent"**
- **Do** try to memorize the officer's badge number
- **Don't** say anything other than your name and address
- **Don't** reveal information just because the police have made a promise to you; they can lie to you
- **Don't** lie to the police or provide fake documents
- **Don't** share your immigration status, but do show your immigration papers if asked by an immigration agent

## WHEN BEING SEARCHED

- **Do** say, **"I do not consent to this search"** if the police ask to search you/your belongings or your car
- **Don't** physically resist a search or struggle; if you do, you can be charged with an assault

## WHEN BEING ARRESTED

- **Do** say **"I wish to remain silent. I want a lawyer"**
- **Do** give your name and address if asked
- **Do** know that police can lie to you (ex: they promise you will get out faster if you answer questions)
- **Don't** resist, even if you believe the arrest is unfair
- **Don't** give explanations or excuses

# IF YOU ARE ARRESTED<sup>1</sup>

**Booking** may happen at the local precinct, Oakland police headquarters, or the Lakeshore courthouse. You will be either:

1. cited (given a court date) and released; or
2. allowed to "post and forfeit" (pay to have case dropped, arrest will remain on record but without conviction), amount depends on charge but usually \$25-100 for demonstration-related offenses; or
3. detained until brought to court

**Signing papers:** Read everything. Ask for an interpreter if you need one. Don't write or sign a confession or waiver of rights. If you are given a "waiver" card, check the box that you will not answer questions without a lawyer.

**Phone calls:** You'll get a phone call only if held overnight.

**Charging:** Prosecutors decide, during business hours, either to charge you or "no-paper" the case (let you go).

**Arraignment** is when you learn the charges against you, and whether you'll be released pending your next court date. Arraignment is not trial. Visit [acgov.org/defender](http://acgov.org/defender) for arraignment dates and times, and general information.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**Community Response Team:** led by the Anti Police-Terror Project. Emergency response alternative for calling the police. (XXX) XXX-XXXX

**People's Breakfast Oakland:** providing bail relief funds for Alameda county residents. (510) 333-3333

**SF National Lawyer's Guild:** for any Bay Area jail, call if you are arrested and sent to jail. (415) 285-1011

**Public NLG Hotline:** to report arrests, view status of arrested folks, cops gathering in large numbers, and report police misconduct. (415) 909-4654

**Alameda County Crisis Support Line:** providing mental health and crisis services. (800) 309-2131

**La Clinica:** free COVID-19 testing by Fruitvale Bart, no insurance or documentation required. (510) 535-3370