ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
[ALL HIGHLY RECOMMENDED]

ALL OF US OR NONE
www.allofusornone.org

COMMITTEE AGAINST POLITICAL REPRESSION
This is the go-to spot for up-to-date info about the grand jury resisters in the Pacific Northwest.
nopoliticalrepression.wordpress.com

DENVER ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS
www.denverabc.wordpress.com

EAST BAY PRISONER SUPPORT
eastbayprisonersupport.wordpress.com

GRAND JURY RESISTANCE PROJECT
www.grandjuryresistance.org

GREEN IS THE NEW RED
This website focuses on how animal rights and environmental advocates are being branded "eco- terrorists" in what many are calling the Green Scare.
www.greenisthenewred.com

IF AN AGENT KNOCKS
An exhaustive know your rights guide focusing on FBI harassment and repression tactics.
ccrjustice.org/ifanagentknocks

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL LAW COLLECTIVE
This website has a number of resources from "Know your Rights" documents to how to set up your own legal action group.
http://midnightspecial.net

PINK AND BLACK
This is a good resource on writing folks in jail by a queer and trans prisoner support and network group.*
www.blackandpink.org/guidelines-for-pen-pals

PRISON ACTIVIST RESOURCE CENTER
www.prisonactivist.org

PRISONER HUNGER STRIKE SOLIDARITY
prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com

STAY CALM
A pamphlet with more advice on simple things you can do to prepare for repression.
www.bayofrage.com/from-the-bay/stay-calm-some-tips-for-keeping-safe-in-times-of-state-repression/

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REPRESS THIS!

WAYS TO BE YOUR OWN ANTI-REPRESSION COMMITTEE

WHO WE ARE

Originally formed to support Occupy Oakland actions, the Bay Area Anti-Repression Committee (ARC) stands against political repression and in solidarity with all those who challenge the state, capitalism, and other forms of systemic oppression and domination. We provide support for actions that are anti-patriarchal, anti-racist, anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist. Our support work comes primarily in the forms of education, information and referrals. We also manage an anti-repression bail fund for those who do not have the resources to bail out or bond themselves. We are a first resort for education and information on solidarity, and a last resort for financial support.

If you would like to know more about who we are, what we do, and our bail policy, visit oaklandantirepression.wordpress.com.

Contact us at antirepressionbayarea@riseup.net.

REPRESS THIS!
VERSION 2: MARCH 2014

antirepressionbayarea@riseup.net
oaklandantirepressioncommittee.wordpress.com
facebook.com/AntiRepOO

In response to the Oakland gang injunctions, a large coalition developed to oppose the injunctions proposed by the city attorney. Due to the massive campaign launched against the injunctions, only two of the eleven proposed have been able to be put into effect. The campaign also caused the city attorney to reduce the number of people named by the injunctions, and make the injunctions somewhat less restrictive, though we see any gang injunction as a gross abuse of state power and sanctioning of police abuse. The coalition made it clear that these injunctions are based entirely on the word of police/parole/ probation officer intelligence, which is tainted by racist assumptions of black and brown "gang" culture and also specifically targets men who have won lawsuits against the OPD for harassment. Also, numerous men targeted by gang injunctions have been incarcerated in the past, and this fact is used against them in court to prove that they need to be enjoined. Thus, the gang injunctions employ a type of double jeopardy, using past crimes as justification for limiting civil liberties when many of the targeted men are trying to get work and live healthy and sustainable lives in their respective communities.

Mayor Quan's stay-away orders are another gang injunction-like tool used to repress and punish those expressing dissent. The stay-away orders have specifically targeted more than twelve people who have been arrested at Occupy Oakland protests and are based purely on the word of the OPD and the DA. These individuals have not been convicted of any crime, yet a judge has imposed orders that take away their First, Fourth, and Fifth Amendment rights. These orders represent the ongoing political persecution of people who are protesting against extreme economic inequality, corporate control of the government, and police state practices used to uphold this oligarchy. The stay-away orders and other political attacks on our communities show that instead of working to provide real solutions to economic disparity, racism, and police brutality, the city uses fear tactics and repression to eliminate political dissent. City officials continue to talk out of both sides of their mouths, saying they sympathize with the Occupy Wall Street movement's goals of challenging corruption and economic inequality, while sticking riot cops and cruel weaponry on local Occupy Wall Street protesters. City officials often speak in favor of alternatives to incarceration and repression such as "restorative justice," while concurrently using the court and prison system to instill fear among protesters. It is clear, however, where their cards lie. We must learn from the fight against gang injunctions that the only way to stop stay-away orders in their tracks is to pack the courts and target those officials who are pushing for them with public shame. We cannot let the police, city, and DA impose any more gang injunctions or stay-away orders, and we must fight to eliminate ALL the existing gang injunctions and stay-away orders.

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RESPECT YOURSELF, ANTI-REP YOURSELF!

The Bay Area Anti-Repression Committee (ARC) is proud to present this little zine to guide you through the nuts and bolts of defending yourself and your comrades from the repressive arm of the state. We strongly believe that communities in struggle for dignity, liberation, sovereignty, anarchy, communism, or even basic survival, must give careful consideration to the tactics that the state uses against us.

This zine is meant to give you and your loved ones practical insights and suggestions for basic actions and precautions. As a committee, we want to demystify the work we do so that all of you can feel more empowered to engage in solidarity work. Many of us have noticed through our participation in Occupy Oakland and other social struggles that the work of supporting arrestees and organizing against repression often falls on a small segment of the movement. Although many of us within this segment are more than happy to do the political work we do, we hope that we can engender a deeper and more diffuse practice of solidarity spread far beyond ourselves and immediate comrades. It is important that the bulk of the anti-repression activity and organizing does not fall solely on "support people" such as the ARC, Occupy Legal, Oakland 100 Support Committee, and the great number of people and collectives on which we've come to rely. We should all strive to take on some of the less sexy anti-repression and legal work that is so crucial to our movements. Everyone's well-being should be everyone's priority.

Solidarity is the bedrock of any healthy and strong political movement or community. It should be of special concern to everyone at all levels of organizing. The state has an endless array of tools and tactics to use against us. We can and should continue to find ways to creatively push our projects and actions forward in spite of this; but perhaps more important, we must foster the strongest culture of solidarity we can muster. Solidarity is a responsibility we have to one another when we

JOINT STATEMENT BY ARC AND STOP THE GANG INJUNCTIONS COALITION

written February 2012

The City of Oakland and Alameda County are actively trying to circumvent constitutional due process protections in the established criminal "justice" system to target activists and communities of color. They are using the courts to impose gang injunctions against those they call "gang members," and more recently against "occupy protesters" via stay-away orders. Both types of court orders are police state practices, which misuse the court system for political purposes to criminalize individuals and communities, without actually proving any criminal violations.

Gang injunctions and stay-away orders are being used against a person or group suspected of being involved in a gang, protest, or other state-identified "nuisance". While the gang injunctions and stay-away orders are different in many aspects, they both serve to punish our community members and violate our rights to assemble without actually convicting anyone of any violation of the law. Gang injunctions use the civil courts and stay-away orders use criminal courts; both expand on what is considered criminal, thus giving a corrupt police force further discretion, and more power to arrest and harass people who have been enjoined or ordered to not be in certain areas or with certain people at certain hours. Because of the civil nature of gang injunctions, there is no attorney (such as the public defender) appointed on the defendant's behalf, and thus legal fees are placed on the defendant. If a civil gang injunction defendant lacks resources to hire an attorney, they risk a "default," and the injunction will take effect without allowing the defendant to legally defend themselves.

In the case of occupy protesters, Mayor Jean Quan's stay-away orders are issued without factual findings and before many people have an attorney. The stay-away orders are being given to restrict where people can be— in this case prohibiting them from being within 100 or 300 yards of Oakland City Hall. In the case of the North Oakland and Fruitvale gang injunctions, those named cannot be in large "safety zones" at certain times, nor can they be with other individuals named in the injunctions, among other restrictions. Both gang injunctions and stay-away orders unconstitutionally deprive our community members of liberty to engage in basic life activities, like associating with friends and family. Gang injunction curfews restrict defendants' ability to work, and stay-away orders restrict defendants from airing grievances at city hall, taking BART from the 12th Street station, or participating in civic life in the central public plaza.

don't struggle to address these power dynamics along with racist, sexist, and other attitudes within our political movements, groups, and relationships, we severely weaken our fight against these institutions.

Beyond this, the state (and its corporate media) has learned well how to hone in on these divisions and uneven power dynamics, and exploit them to further weaken our projects. Therefore, it is not only our responsibility to struggle to destroy these structures as wells as consistently address and work to unlearn all the ways we maintain white supremacy and patriarchy and other ingrained oppressive ideologies, but also not play into the state's manipulative tactics to divide us along race, gender, sexuality, or class lines.

Sometimes, however, we decide that a division is politically useful. If a political group or movement has proved to be unwilling to engage in anti-racist, feminist, or queer organizing, and/or make room for such organizing to flourish, some people might, and rightfully so, decide to leave that group or movement (perhaps to start another) so they can better devote their energies rather than be consumed by internal struggles. Conflicts within political formations are always hard, but sometimes are necessary in order for political projects to mature and become more revolutionary. It is important to note the difference between a split generated from a group or individual's self-determination, and one promoted by state and institutional powers because they fear the political potential generated from groups that have solidarity with one another across race, gender, and class distinctions.

ANTI-REPRESSION IS SOLIDARITY

We have focused on these different faces of repression so that we can more effectively withstand and resist them, by drawing on our best tool of anti-repression: solidarity.

One year ago, hundreds of cops in riot gear launching their chemical and "less than lethal" weapons didn't keep us from the plaza. That kind of courageous standing up to repression is part of what made Occupy Oakland capture the national imagination. If that kind of overt violent repression didn't stop us, what does it say about the power of these more insidious forms of repression that they appear to have such an immobilizing impact on our community? Let us continue our legacy by standing up to repression in all its faces.

We will not be broken, we will not be baited.
In solidarity,

ARC

struggle together. It can take many forms— actions (like demos at the jail), or material and emotional support— but what matters most is that people feel like their comrades really have their backs.

The content of this zine is mostly based on the experiences and observations of members of ARC. We also borrowed some preexisting texts, links to which can be found on the back of this zine. Consider everything in these pages to be suggestions that may or may not be relevant for you, depending on a number of factors. We hope you find it to be a helpful tool as we all make solidarity a more central aspect of our organizing.

IF YOU THINK YOUR PLAN IS PERFECT... THINK AGAIN

KEEPING REPRESSION IN MIND WHEN ORGANIZING AND PARTICIPATING IN AN ACTION

Here are some questions and thoughts to consider as you plan your next action. Considering the following pieces of information may decrease the likelihood that you'll end up in the clutches of the US judicial system.

INFORMANTS

• Paid informants have set up dozens of Muslims, environmentalists, animal rights activists, members of Black liberation movements, and anti-imperialists in the United States. Some of these government targets have received sentences of several decades in prison. More recently, anarchists have also come under attack, as federal paid informants have joined their scenes and groups, and deliberately convinced and in some cases coerced their new "friends" to take illegal actions. This is called entrapment, and although it is technically illegal, it has still resulted in prison time for the unfortunate folks who made friends with informants.

• If you are planning an illegal action, make sure you know and trust everyone in your group. Is your action plan something you all decided on together, or is someone in your group pressuring the rest of you to do something you have apprehensions about? Trust yourself and your instincts. Do you know the history and/or family of everyone in your group? Keep in mind that someone who is not currently an informant or snitch could become one in the future.

• Aside from the setups of illegal actions, informants and undercover government cops and agents can be threats to political groups in a number of ways. They can deliberately create divisiveness by spreading lies, rumors, and generally breeding mistrust. With this in mind, it's important to remember that more often than not, we do not have the ability to determine who is and is not a cop or informer. A false accusation against a comrade can sometimes be more destructive to political communities than having a cop among us. As far

that it's really only a small group of troublemakers that it's coming down on, the bad-protester-turned-criminal; that repression is reserved for the criminal and not the lawful, good protester. This logic structures DA Nancy O'Malley's justification of stay-aways: she declared that those with stay-aways "were not rallying on behalf of Occupy Wall Street, or even the greater Occupy Oakland movement. Rather, they advertise themselves as 'militant, anti-government, anti-police, and anarchists,' with a mission to destroy the community fabric of Oakland through the use of violence." This same line, this same attempt to isolate and root out a small group of violent troublemakers threatening the community, is echoed in the recent attacks on the Oakland Commune as a "vanguard clique" "operating in the shadows of Occupy Oakland" (http://hellaoccupyoakland.org/occupy-oakland-media-collective-statement-on-the-oakland-commune/)

This type of profilejacketing does not come without severe and devastating consequences. We see this in the recent FBI raids and grand jury investigations of those deemed as anarchists in the Northwest, the arrest of those deemed as part of a black bloc during the anti-Columbus Day march in San Francisco, and in the ways that this narrative continues to draw divisive lines within our movements that distract from real work and criminalize those who fit the profile. This profile of the outside agitator and anarchist has been used over and over by the state, dating back to the early twentieth century when anarchists were deemed terrorists. Let us not do the work of the state by criminalizing our comrades and buying into the state's narrative and profile of the so-called "bad protester."

The state has to generate some level of consent for the violence it seeks to unleash on us. This profile is one of the means of doing so. When we help the state consolidate that profile, we assist it in doing its violence to us, all of us.

STRUGGLING TOWARD SOLIDARITY ACROSS RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER

For countless generations, the structures of white supremacy, patriarchy, colonialism, and classed society have worked to keep us divided for the purpose of those in power to stay in power. The workings of these complex and terrible systems play out in obvious forms like police violence, environmental racism, and poverty, but also creates cultures that normalize violence against and marginalization of groups of people (people of color, indigenous people, women, trans people, poor people, etc.), and has taught us all to reinforce these structures through cashing in on privileges we may gain through these systems and even repressing others who might threaten our privileges. This is to say that these oppressive systems are perpetuated by institutions we generally agree are bad, but also by ourselves. When we

of anarchists to divide movements in the United States.

PROFILE JACKETING

We are deeply concerned by the increasing demonization of "anarchists," the "black bloc," and "outsiders" now being conflated under the term the "Oakland Commune". This is occurring in flyers, social media communications, and manifestos. We see this demonization as being a clear expression of the state's current strategy of presenting a profile of Occupiers as a dangerous, outsider, white anarchist "criminal street gang" bent on irrational destruction. It doesn't matter whether these attacks are being made by individuals who are directly tied to the state as agents or provocateurs. The important thing is that this narrative directly mimics the state's campaign of repression— one currently being used to jail and charge us with conspiracy. By perpetuating this narrative, one is perpetuating the state's repressive script.

The state's script involves claims of violence and threats to public safety, and manufactures an organization out of loose political affinity (people together in the streets for an unpermitted march or unsanctioned action) in order to criminalize both the alleged behavior and association itself. In a recent press release, the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) transfigures a tactic (black bloc) into a criminal organization, making reference to "members of the criminal street gang, Black Blok [*sic*]"(https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B4pdvMvLhJfdbm9XX0dZYmJpX1E/edit?pli=1).

Similarly, the piece "Fuck the Oakland Commune, Hella Occupy Oakland" takes what was an affectionate name that some used to refer to the camp and community created at Oscr Grant Plaza— the Oakland Commune— and makes it into a discrete thing, a shadowy organization, comprised of a "group of ideological extremists" who seek to "foment chaos and destruction," and who have cost Oaklanders their "sense of safety."

Labeling something a threat to public safety is a key way that the state justifies its repression. We see it in the SFPD press release noted above, and we have seen it repeatedly used against Occupy Oakland. The camp was evicted because it was deemed a threat to public safety. Occupiers were given stay-away orders in the name of public safety, to constrain "those intent on using violence against the community" (http://www.sfgate.com/opinion/article/Occupy-Oakland-tamed-with-stay-away-orders-3341492.php).

But what we also see in these examples is the way that the state claims

as illegal direct actions go, they should only be organized with people you trust *deeply*. But for other groups that are not engaging in these kinds of activities, when people "act like cops," it frequently matters less if they're a cop, and more that their behavior is problematic and needs to be addressed. See "Confronting the Many Faces of Repression" found on page 40.

• Also see: stopfbi.net, freedomtogive.com, supporteric.org, supportdaniel.org, pbs.org/pov/betterthisworld, and cleveland4solidarity.org

POLICE TACTICS

• How have police responded in the past to actions similar to the one you are planning? Were arrests made? What did the media say about the action and police response? What does this tell you about their potential response this time? How does your knowledge of police tactics in your region affect decisions you make?

• By posing these questions, we hope folks will take time to consider the advantages that the police have over us and how we might make our actions more strategic. For example, if you know the Oakland Police Department has shifted its tactics to include more snatch and grabs*, what kind of contingency plans could your affinity group make to evade these snatches? We shouldn't let the state's tactics scare us out of organizing, but we should be mindful to not ignore their tactics either.

**A police tactic where officers run into crowds or grab people from the edge of crowds or marches and place them under arrest, seemingly at random.*

THE POLICE STATE IS FAR BIGGER THAN THE POLICE IN UNIFORM

Often undercover officers and (media) cameras are recording all of our protests. Even some people who identify themselves as part of the movement are streaming video to Web sites in real time. These facts should always be kept in mind when planning your action. Key things to consider are: How well is your identity concealed? When and where do you mask up and de-mask? Will a mask make you stand out more or less to police and cameras? And how, when, and where should you (and your comrades) exit the demonstration? There have been several instances when protesters have been picked up by police hours after an illegal act takes place, usually when protesters are leaving the area or crowd, because an informant or undercover kept an eye on them throughout the demonstration and pointed them out to uniformed police. There have also been many instances where no one was arrested on the day of a protest, but pictures taken of them led to the district attorney (DA) issuing warrants that came to the protesters' houses in the weeks and months following. Extreme caution should be used in posting pictures or video of a demonstration.

wounds and disputes in our community to become a playground for the state's campaign of repression.

VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

One of the issues that has been divisive within our community is the question of property destruction and how violence should be defined. While many of us in ARC would dispute a definition of violence that includes property destruction (and instead restrict our definition of violence to those acts that cause harm to living things), we also recognize that many within our community see property destruction as an act of violence. We do not all need to agree on this point, but our disagreements on this question need to be expressed in a way that is not harmful to others in our community. For a while, the Bridge Caucus provided a model and forum for dialogue among people with differing definitions of violence and views of property destruction. Such discussion and debate on this issue, and questions of tactics and strategy more generally, should be welcome.

What we as a community cannot accept is threats, intimidation, and acts of violence directed against one another. In recent weeks, a number of individuals have been subject to different forms of threats and intimidation. Some have received threatening personal messages. Some have been harassed and made to feel unsafe on the streets. That such behavior coming from people who identify as part of Occupy Oakland is entirely unacceptable should go without saying. But we draw attention to these recent threats because we need to recognize the way that they further the state's goal of repression, regardless of who is behind them, by making us more insular (turning inward to the safety of a small group of loved ones and trusted comrades) and cautious (afraid to reach out and take the risks necessary to make the changes we desire).

Since November 2011, the anarchists among us have been especially targeted with threats and vigilante violence. We saw this on the anti-capitalist march during the November 2nd general strike when those engaged (or perceived to be engaged) in property destruction were tackled, had sticks and chairs brandished at them, or their masks removed and photos taken— all in the name of nonviolence. And we are seeing it now. Flyers have surfaced calling for people to arm themselves with bats and weapons to "beat the shit out of anarchists/vandals" and thus "defend" Oakland against "their divisive & violent message." Again, we must underscore the worrying irony of calling for violence against a group of people— ostensibly identifiable by race and dress— in the name of nonviolence and stress that any such threats, whether coming directly from agents of the state or not, do the state's work, and play into a long history of the state using the scapegoating

CONFRONTING THE MANY FACES OF REPRESSION

written October 2012

RETHINKING REPRESSION

Over the past year, we have experienced many forms of overt police repression, from the camp eviction and night of tear gas on October 25th, to raids on the vigil, to snatch-and-grab squads on May Day. We have come to expect the riot-clad police, with their batons and chemical weapons, although repression comes in other forms as well. As a community, we have not been sufficiently attuned to these other faces of repression. As ARC, we too have focused primarily on the overt police violence on the street along with its counterpart in the jails and courts. We have spent countless hours in communication with people in jail, working with NLG folks to secure lawyers when possible, doing and mobilizing court support, and providing commissary and other forms of support for our comrades who remain locked up. We have also held workshops to talk about some of the other forms that repression can take— and ways that we as a community can keep one another safe— but we have not done enough as a committee to address these other faces of repression. We feel that as a community, we need to shift our thinking about repression to recognize the subtler more insidious forms that it takes and the ways that it targets our sources of strength as well as plays on existing conflicts and divisions in an attempt to weaken, distract, and consume us. This does not mean that we should become mired in trying to identify state infiltrators and agents. We may never know who the infiltrators are, and ultimately, whether individuals are directly working for the state when they engage in disruptive and divisive behaviors is not the point. We need to instead focus on behaviors. If behaviors support and consolidate state campaigns of repression then they do the state's work of repression.

PETTY FORMS OF REPRESSION: PERSONAL ATTACKS, RUMORS, GOSSIP…

Repression often takes quite mundane and petty forms like personal attacks or the spreading of rumors. The result of these behaviors is the targeting, exclusion, or silencing of individuals, and the creation of divisions and distrust within the community. These petty forms of repressive behavior slowly tear away at the bonds of community that serve as the backbone of our movement. They drain us of our energy and sense of solidarity. We are not suggesting that aggressive, violent or harmful behaviors by individuals should ever be tolerated or excused. Rather, we hope that we can find ways to collectively address these concerns without being pulled into patterns of behavior meant to divide and harm us. We refuse to allow the (real)

PLANNING YOUR OWN LEGAL SUPPORT

Repression can be unpredictable, and people can be arrested even when it's not expected. One of the most powerful ways to fight the state and its repressive tactics is to plan for repression. When we foster an ethic of anti-repression and create a network of support, we turn some of the most frightening and disempowering experiences into empowering ones that strengthen us.

INDIVIDUALS AND AFFINITY GROUPS

As we've already discussed, it is difficult to anticipate repression, but one way to ease the stress it can cause is to take care of some details before you participate in an action. This can be as simple as arranging with a close friend or family member who will not be at the action that you will call them if you are arrested. Have this number memorized or write it on your body with a permanent marker. All your possessions will be confiscated before you are allowed to make a phone call. Any medication you need regularly should be on you and in its original package with the prescription paperwork. It is important to note that you can be held for up to three court days without being charged, which does not count the day of your arrest or holidays or weekends. Be ready to communicate to your boss and/or teachers about your absence.

ORGANIZERS

Have conversations about repression in your organizing meeting. These discussions should take into consideration everything from promoting the demo or action (the police have Facebook too!) to preparing for the possibility that participants might get arrested, and some of them might need long-term legal support and solidarity.

We recommend the previous section "Keeping Repression in Mind" from pages 6-8 as a starting place for your group discussion, as well as the "Plan Legal Support" subsection on the following page.

PLAN LEGAL SUPPORT

• Set up and staff a legal hotline (see below).

• Organize jail and court support (see pages 20-21).

• Have people on the streets prepared to document names of arrestees and police misconduct. For more instructions on legal observing, see the Midnight Special Law Collective at midnightspecial.net.

• Consider fund raising options before or soon after the action if there is a need for bail money or legal fees.

• If you think you'll need help from existing infrastructure like the National Lawyers' Guild (NLG) or the ARC, contact them beforehand to ask for help.

SETTING UP A LEGAL HOTLINE

The legal hotline is an information lifeline in the aftermath of repression. A hotline is a number that people on the streets and in custody can call for information, and to communicate any issues that may come up. In the Bay Area many people use the NLG demonstration hotline. If you wish to have them set up a hotline for your action you can fill out its legal support request form here: www.nlgsf.org/form/legal-support-request

The NLG hotline is sometimes unavailable or already stretched to the limit. Your group should consider offering support to the hotline by taking a hotline training in order to help staff it or set up your own hotline.

Setting up your own hotline:
1. The hotline should be set up in a secure place where confidential information can be stored and should be on a landline (preferably one with multiple lines) that can accept collect calls.

2. Collect calls are monopolized by a company called Global Tel Link in most facilities. You will have to set up an account with it before the demonstration so that folks can call when they are arrested. For more on setting up an account with Global Tel Link, see page 28.

PRINCIPLE OF SOLIDARITY AGAINST POLICE REPRESSION

This proposal was passed at the Occupy Oakland general assembly on February 26, 2012.

Given the current climate of police repression against Occupy Oakland, and given that a key tactic of this repression is to foment and exploit divisions among us, we hereby collectively agree to stand in solidarity with one another, across all potential divisions.

We enact this principle of solidarity with one another by recognizing our individual and collective responsibility not to incriminate our fellow Occupiers, and hereby agree that:

1) We will not talk to the police about our comrades (This includes all levels of local, state, and federal law enforcement, jail staff, Immigration & Customs Enforcement, Internal Affairs, and the Citizens Police Review Board).

2) We will not post potentially incriminating information about our comrades
on the internet and social media (This includes any forms of information posted on Facebook, Twitter, blogs, email, etc.).

3) We will not post potentially incriminating video footage or photos of our comrades (this includes being attentive to the fact that even minor and unintended incidences can be used as the basis for criminal prosecution).

We also enact this principle of solidarity through the support and care we provide for one another in the face of repression. We hereby agree to express this solidarity by showing up for court support, doing jail runs and jail visits, writing letters, contributing to bail and/or commissary funds, and generally offering whatever support we are able to.

IN THE FACE OF POLICE REPRESSION—THE PRINCIPLE OF SOLIDARITY.

ANTI-REPRESSION COMMITTEE STATEMENTS

This section is devoted to a few statements that we wrote as a committee to help promote solidarity at various moments during the Occupy movement in Oakland. This includes, our "Principle of Solidarity Against Police Repression," "Confronting the Many Faces of Repression," and our joint statement with the Stop the Injunctions Coalition, "Against Stay Away Orders and Gang Injunctions." Although they were all written in response to specific forms of repression our movement was facing at that time, we feel the statements' insights and principles will be useful for movements to come. We have edited "Confronting the Many Faces of Repression" for length and clarity.

To read the original statement, visit: http://occupyoakland.org/2012/10/facesofrepression.

3. Make sure folks at the demonstration have the hotline number memorized or written in permanent marker on their body.

4. To keep track of information, you will need to take notes on the calls that come in and keep track of arrestees (first and last name), and will need to look out for folks in custody who may be on probation or parole, or have warrants. Some transgender and gender queer people may have concerns about their safety in where they're housed. Also, many demonstrators are not US citizens and might need specialized immigration legal support. If any of these issues come up, you will need to reach out for support. Ideally your support group would have already accounted for some of these possibilities.

5. Information about folks in custody can be found in different ways depending on the county. For example, in San Francisco, you have to call the jail (415-553-1430) and ask for information, and in Alameda County you can look up the information online using the inmate locator: www.acgov.org/sheriff_app.

GETTING ARRESTED AND GOING TO JAIL

Here is a list of some things you might experience while in state custody so you can be prepared. Please keep in mind that although these things (and more) happen on a regular basis throughout the prison system, they are not necessarily legal. It is often a surprise to first-time arrestees that the police often do not uphold prisoners' rights.

WHAT TO EXPECT

• Expect anything that you say can and will be used against you, so remember to stay silent. Remaining silent protects you, your comrades, and your community. Do not talk about what happened or what you saw to anyone. Assume the cops have been listening to everything you have said during the rally. They will certainly listen to and record everything you say from the moment you are arrested until you are released from custody and away from the jail. That includes inside their vehicles as well as inside the jails (whether or not you're in a cell).

• Expect hours of waiting in police vans or buses, handcuffed, and without access to a bathroom, food, or water.

• Expect even more hours of waiting in small, crowded cells, sometimes without room to sit or lie down. Hundreds of people arrested on January 28, 2012 in Oakland were held for five days. Some of them had tear gas on their clothes and were not given clean clothing to wear for that entire period.

• Expect intimidation and harassment by the police. The police are not your friends, and will not treat you with dignity or respect. The cops may continue to harass you until you are released from custody. This includes separating you from others during booking, calling you names and making fun of you. They can and often do act in racist, sexist, homophobic and/or transphobic manners. Don't let them break you.

• Police lie. They will lie to you to scare you, to have fun at your expense, and especially to extract information that they can later use to prosecute you and your comrades.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Limit your internet/electronic social networking interaction. Facebook, web sites, Twitter, blogs, emails, and so forth are becoming favored sources of evidence for the state when it seeks to destroy our networks. Do not air personal divisions online. See the RNC 8, Asheville 11, Latin Kings, & SHAC 7.

Another word to the wise: don't post pictures of actions on social media, even if you've blacked out or otherwise altered the photo to hide people's identities. Don't talk about arrests online, and definitely don't post names/charges of folks in custody online unless cleared by the individual/their lawyer/their legal support group. If your action or event is listed on Facebook, do your best to monitor exchanges on the wall and hide the list of attendees if possible.

COMPUTER ENCRYPTION

• Don't assume the absolute safety of encryption. There shouldn't be any directly incriminating information on your computer, encrypted or not.

• If you chat online, use encrypted instant messaging. For Windows and Linux, use Pidgin with the Off The Record (OTR) plugin. For Mac, use Adium.

• Use encrypted email. Install Thunderbird and the Enigmail plugin. Or set up PGP encryption, using GnuPGP for Mac OSX and GnuPG for Windows.

• If you can, full-disk encrypt your computer. It will help reduce the amount of useful evidence it gives in the case of it being seized by the police. Know, however, that if your computer is on when seized, the encryption is compromised. For Windows, TrueCrypt provides an easy utility for full-disk encryption. With Linux, LUKS is a built-in utility that encrypts the most sensitive information on your computer. Use Truecrypt to encrypt all or part of your hard drive (OSX or Windows) and overwrite the disc's free space at regular intervals (CCleaner for Windows and Disk Utility for OSX).

For a more thorough guide on computer security see pressfreedomfoundation.org/encryption-works.

PHONES

Recent leaks in the media have shown that probably all emails, texts, and cell locations are being recorded and stockpiled by US security agencies. Nonetheless, it is still worth taking any security precautions possible when using your phone.

• Lock your phone so it only opens to a code. Do not leave it open if there is any chance you will be arrested. If it has full or partial encryption, use it. Note that the state can probably get access from your provider, without a warrant, to any emails or texts you have sent. If your contact list is held by your provider for backup, that list is also available to the state, as is the GPS log on your phone. Delete your text messages regularly. Be careful in both the content and pattern of your phone calls, especially during or after actions, raids, and the like. Apps like TextSecure (for texting) and RedPhone (for VoIP— or "Voice over Internet Protocol" aka making calls over the Internet) may be useful end-to-end encryption tools for cellular communication. If you have an android phone, turn the USB debugging off.

• It may be worthwhile to turn off GPS services when not needed. The state might still be able to access the location of the closest cell tower if your phone is turned on, and possibly can track it as long as the battery is in.

• Never unlock your phone because a police officer or other government officer tells you to. Even if they can decode your phone eventually, if you open it for them you are giving them consent to search its contents.

• While it is not common, it is possible for cellular phones to be used to listen to conversations even when not being used. But don't let the absence of phones lull you into a false feeling of security. Houses, offices, and cars can also be bugged. It is meaningless to put away one's phone and still have a conversation indoors.

• Regardless of any encryption or anonymity, always assume that your phone's security can and will be compromised at some point. Accordingly, keep important information elsewhere and have sensitive conversations in person.

• You may be forced to take a TB test.

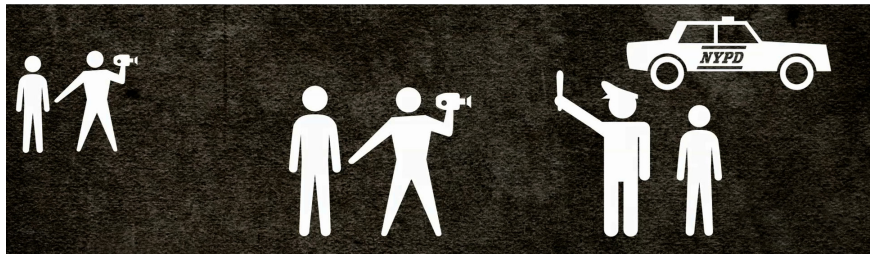
• If you are female assigned, you may be forced to take a pee pregnancy test.

• Your mouth may be swabbed for DNA.

• The police may withhold food for long periods of time. They may not accommodate your dietary restrictions.

• If you are supposed to take medication, make sure you write it down for your support group before an action. Can you arrange with your primary doctor to intervene if you are arrested? Tell the jail nurse exactly what you need. People are often denied their medications, even if you had it with you in a clearly marked prescription bottle at the time of arrest. People have been denied mood stabilizers, insulin, inhalers, and HIV medication.

• You may be strip searched when you are brought to jail. This includes spreading, squatting, and coughing. Be aware that Santa Rita Jail strip searches all inmates brought in.



IF YOU WITNESS AN ARREST

• Try to get the full legal name and birth date of the person arrested, as well as the arresting officer's name, badge number, and helmet number. If possible, try to ask the arrestee if they have any immediate needs or people they need you to contact urgently (such as a boss or family member).

• Police can arrest someone they believe is "interfering" with their actions. Maintain a reasonable distance, and if cops threaten to arrest you, explain that you don't intend to interfere but have the right to observe their actions.

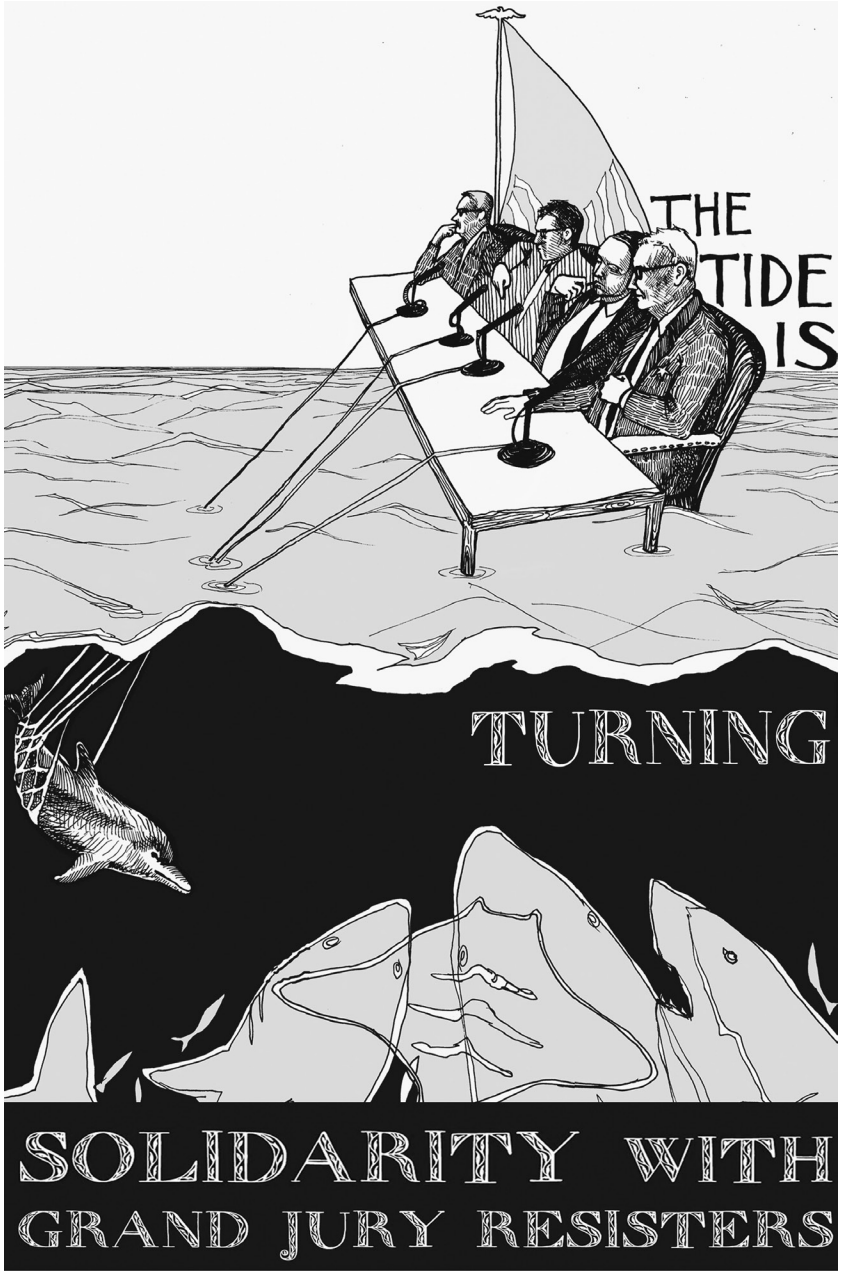
GET OUT OF JAIL, PROBABLY NOT FOR FREE

WAYS YOU CAN BE RELEASED FROM CUSTODY	1. BAIL 2. BOND 3. RELEASED ON YOUR OWN RECOGNIZANCE (OR) 4. CHARGES NOT FILED OR DROPPED

SOME NOTES ON WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR BAILING AND BONDING OUT

If a person is on probation or parole when they are arrested, they will have a hold placed on them, and you will not be able to bail or bond them out. *See the section on probation under Longterm Incarceration on page 30.*

People who have an Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) hold are also not able to be bailed or bonded. In 2012, ICE deported 409,849 people— more than any year before. California has had over 82,531 deportations as a result of the Department of Homeland Security's program Secure Communities (S-Comm)—more than any other state.

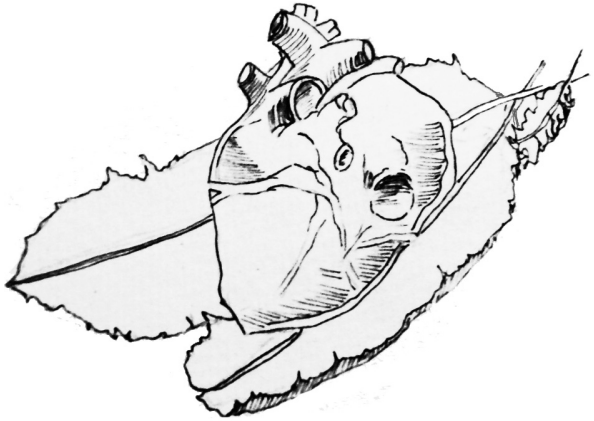


DE-ESCALATE CONFLICTS

Stop publicizing interpersonal conflicts, and de-escalate and/or resolve the conflicts within your circles. The state can snoop into our personal lives through the internet and our phones. Rumors, personal drama, and gossip have always been an exploitable tool of the state. Contradictions and tensions are obviously an important part of our shared political and social spaces, but let's not pick fights and draw out unnecessary divisions. Let's find ways to continue to explore our political differences, while acknowledging our common commitment to liberatory struggles against the state, capital, patriarchy, and white supremacy.

GRAND JURIES

Months and sometimes years after actions, people have been subpoenaed by a grand jury. The grand jury subpoena is a powerful tool used by the state to gather physical evidence and testimony to attack our comrades and movements. We must protect ourselves and each other by refusing to testify and supporting others who resist. To learn more about resisting grand juries and support grand jury resisters check out the Grand Jury Resistance Project at grandjuryresistance.org.



BAILING VERSUS BONDING

Example: a person is arrested and has their bail set at $10,000.

To post someone's BAIL means you would go directly to the jail and post the bail amount in full. In this example, it would be $10,000. You do not need a bondsperson to post bail.

The full bail amount will be returned when the case is resolved, which can take months or even years. So just remember, you might not see that money for a long time. If the arrestee does not show up for their court dates, you may forfeit the entire amount.

If the case has still not been resolved a year after arrest, the court requires the defendant to put up bail again.

To post someone's BOND means you would locate a bondsman and pay them a percentage of the bail amount, usually 10 percent.

In this example, 10 percent of $10,000 equals $1,000. So you would pay the bondsman a $1,000 bond. If the person has a private attorney, the bondsperson may offer you a lower rate, usually 8 percent. In this example, 8 percent of $10,000 equals $800.

Bonds are non-refundable. Unlike posting bail, you will not receive that money back, even if the case is resolved.

You need to have a cosigner for the bond. That means the cosigner will be responsible for the full bail amount if the defendant does not show up for their court dates. The cosigner must have an ID, and usually a check stub to show proof of employment. The bondsperson will take the cosigner's fingerprints and picture. Defendants are often responsible for checking in with the bondsperson after each court appearance. Bondspeople will track down cosigners for money if the defendant does not appear for their court dates.

RELEASED ON YOUR OWN RECOGNIZANCE

• If you are released on your own recognizance (OR), you don't have to pay bail or bond to be released from custody.

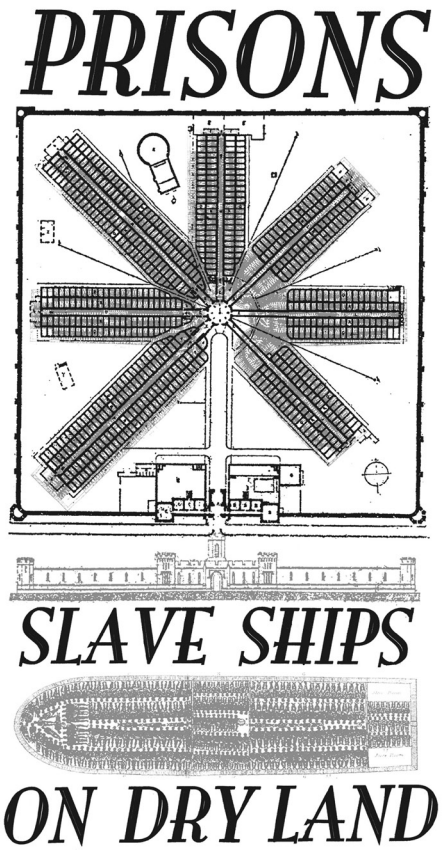
• The attorney can argue for the defendant to be released on OR if they can establish that you live locally, have ties to the community, and/or give a reason why you need to be out of custody (if you have a job, go to school, have children, are the primary caretaker for somebody, etc.). Regardless, you can still be denied OR, especially if you are charged with felonies.

• Sometimes people are given a "stay-away" order as a condition of being released on OR. (People, however, have been given stay-away orders at other stages of their case after having been released for sometime and not as a condition of OR.) This is essentially a restraining order, usually from the place where the arrest or alleged incident occurred.

• In order to determine whether you may be released on OR, a court employee (Pre-trial Services) will interview you, your family members, your employers, and people from your support group to establish whether you are a flight risk, have ties to the community, and will show up to your court dates.

• In preparing for a possible arrest, have a local address memorized, and a plan for what you will tell Pre-trial Services. You will be asked questions like: Where do you live? What's the address? How long have you lived there? Where do you work? How long have you worked there? Be ready to not only answer these questions, but also have your support people provide the same answers when they are questioned. This interview usually takes place at your arraignment.

white supremacy and patriarchy along with other ingrained oppressive ideologies, but also not to play into the state's manipulative tactics to divide us along race, gender, sexuality, or class lines.



Sometimes, however, we decide that a division is politically useful. If a political group or movement has proved to be unwilling to engage in anti-racist, feminist, or queer organizing, and/or make room for such organizing to flourish, some people might -- and rightfully so -- decide to leave that group or movement (perhaps to start another) so they can better devote their energies rather than be consumed by internal struggles. Conflicts within political formations are always hard, but sometimes are necessary in order for political projects to mature and become more revolutionary. It is important to note the difference between a split generated from a group or individual's self-determination, and one promoted by state and institutional powers because they fear the political potential generated from groups that have solidarity with one another across race, gender, and class distinctions.

PROTECTING OURSELVES
BEFORE WRECKING OURSELVES

Even when political energy is low and actions aren't happening we are still vulnerable to repression. Repression often takes quite mundane and petty forms like personal attacks or the spreading of rumors. The result of these behaviors is the targeting, exclusion, or silencing of individuals, and the creation of divisions and distrust within the community. It is important to address these concerns without being pulled into patterns of behavior meant to divide and harm us.

STRUGGLING TOWARD SOLIDARITY ACROSS RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER

For countless generations, the structures of white supremacy, patriarchy, colonialism, and classed society have worked to keep us divided for the purpose of those in power to stay in power. The workings of these complex and terrible systems take obvious forms like police violence, environmental racism, and poverty, but also produce cultural attitudes that normalize marginalization and violence against groups of people (people of color, indigenous people, women, trans people, poor people, etc.). Often we reinforce these structures through cashing in on privileges we may gain through these systems and even repressing others who might threaten our privileges. This is to say that these oppressive systems are perpetuated by institutions we generally agree are bad, but also by ourselves. When we don't work to address these power dynamics as well as racist, sexist, and other attitudes within our political movements, groups and relationships, we severely weaken our fight against these institutions.

Beyond this, the state (and its corporate media) has learned well how to hone in on these divisions and uneven power dynamics, and exploit them to further weaken our projects. Therefore, it is not only our responsibility to struggle to destroy these structures as wells as consistently address and work to unlearn all the ways we maintain

WHY YOU SHOULD WAIT UNTIL AFTER ARRAIGNMENT TO BAIL/BOND

• Bail amounts are usually lowered significantly after the arraignment because the DA may only file some of the charges. It has been a common police tactic to hold people on high charges with high bails, despite the fact that they know the original charges won't stick.

• Sometimes at the arraignment, the DA decides not to file charges and people are released after being held for a few days. If you have already been bonded out, you will never get that money back, even if some charges were dropped or never filed.

• If there is a chance that a person can be released on OR, they should wait until the arraignment so they can make that argument. You can always bail/bond afterward if OR is not granted.

• Generally speaking, when an arrest first occurs everything seems more dire than it actually is. Police are known to overcharge people to keep them in on higher bails. Charges are often lowered or dropped after arraignment. It's worth it to stay strong in there a few days until after arraignment, because it could save you and/or your loved ones and comrades thousands of dollars.

IF YOU ARE RELEASED WITH NO CHARGES FILED

• The Alameda County DA will frequently release people with no charges filed, but still have the option to file charges at a later date. In that event an arrest warrant will be issued for you to be taken into custody.

• The charges may have changed since you were arrested.

• The DA has up to a year to refile misdemeanor charges, and 3-plus years for felony charges, depending on what the charges are. To check if the DA has refiled charges against you after you were released, you or a friend can call the DA's office to check for you.

• This is a tactic that has been used in Oakland to discourage and scare people into ceasing their protest activity. The DA's office will warn arrestees that if they are arrested again, then the office will refile charges on the previous arrest. This is a trickier and more subtle form of repression. In recent history, however, the DA has not refiled many charges stemming from old arrests.

is a branch of the Department of Corrections (CDCR). In other words, you are still under the control of the prison system while you are on parole. Breaking parole for any reason usually means immediate reincarceration for at least a few weeks, and possibly being sent back to prison. If you are arrested you have the right to a lawyer, although your hearing will be at a prison in front of the parole board, not a judge in a courtroom. As a practical matter, the board is almost always going to side with law enforcement. If parole is revoked, you can be sent back to prison. Once you have done prison time, the state assumes you are a habitual criminal or troublemaker, and is prepared to bring you back to prison on the least excuse.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JAILS AND PRISONS?

JAILS Jails are operated by counties, and until recently were only to hold you until you went to court, or for sentences of less than one year, usually for misdemeanors or nonviolent crimes. While in jail, you have no work, really crappy food, and often no exercise. Note that many poor people, many of whom are people of color, are held for many months in jail because they cannot afford bail or bond before trial. People who do not have the option of bail or bond are more likely to take bad plea deals or plead guilty just so they can be moved out of the jail facility into prison.

PRISONS Prisons are operated by states or the federal government, unless they are private prisons, contracted by states or the United States. Prisons are typically where you are sent after conviction if the sentence is more than one year, usually for felonies. In prison, you generally have some access to work, slightly less crappy food, and exercise. "Realignment" has changed that. Because the State of California is under federal mandate to lower inmate numbers, you may now be held in county jails for more than a year. (This is a less expensive option for the State of California and is also being used as an excuse for counties to build more jails.)

SOME BASIC DEFINITIONS

Probation *and* ***Parole, Stay Aways*** *and* ***Gang Injunctions*** *are ways that the "legal" system keeps a leash on you outside of jail or prison.*

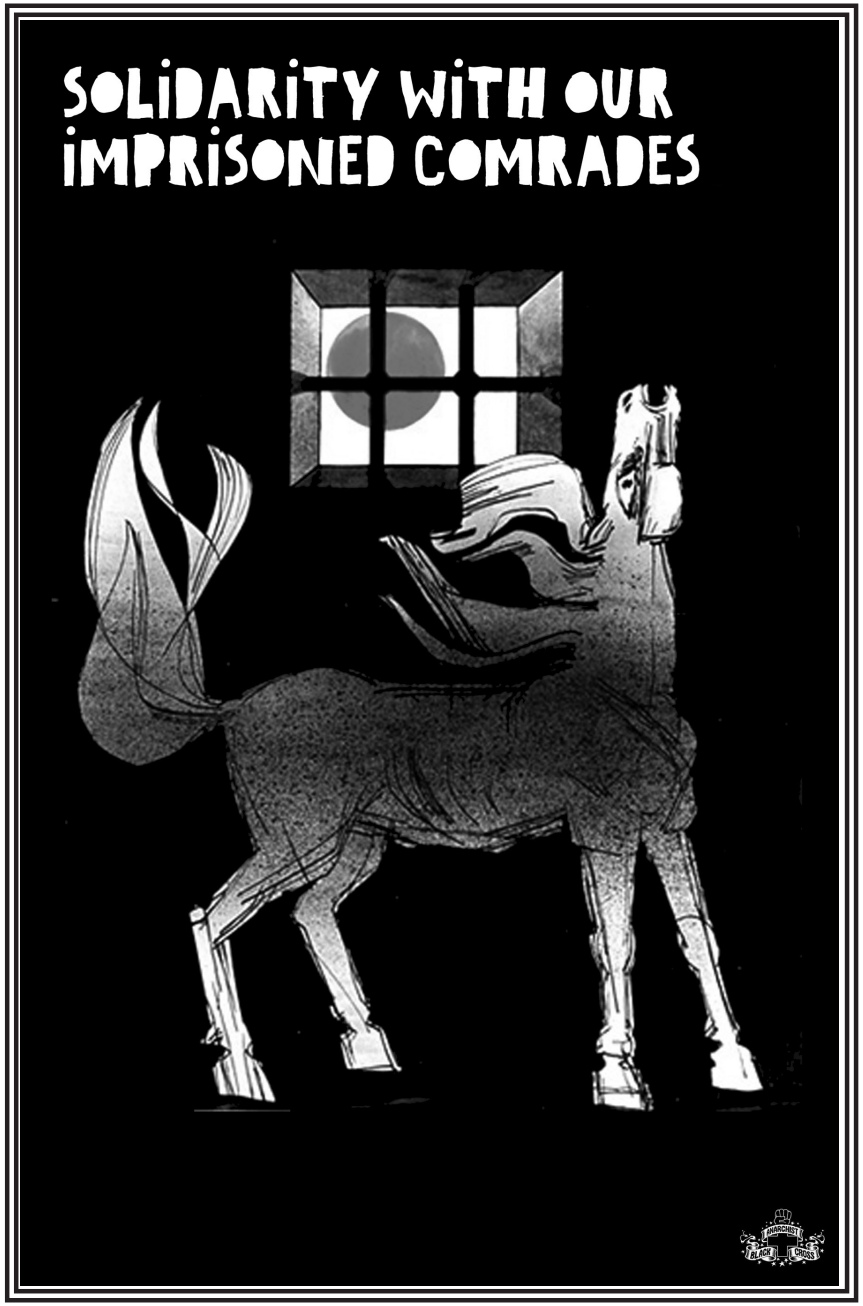
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROBATION AND PAROLE ?

PROBATION

The judge may give you probation instead of jail time if you cop a plea, or if you are convicted of minor offenses. This usually means months and sometimes years of having certain restrictions, including no "contact" with police (remember they can search and seize anyone on parole or probation without probable cause), making restitution payments, or restriction on who you can see or where you can go. These last restrictions, which do not have to be tied to probation, parole, or even arrest, are called stay-aways if used against individuals, or gang injunctions, if against groups (most often used against black and brown people). Being caught breaking restrictions may mean being sent to jail, and always means additional hassle and money. As always people of color tend to receive the harshest treatment by the courts. Misdemeanor probation is frequently unsupervised (AKA informal court probation). Felony probation is often supervised, meaning the defendant will have to report to a probation officer who works for the court probation department. If you get arrested while on probation, you have the right to a lawyer, to testify, and to have a lawyer present evidence and confront witnesses. You do not have the right to a jury (the judge is the fact finder), and the standard to revoke probation is preponderance of evidence (like 50.1 percent), rather than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. In practice, this means it is very easy to be found in violation of probation.

PAROLE

After you have finished a prison sentence, you are usually given months or years of parole. A parole board may decide to end the defendant's prison sentence early and release them from custody subject to a period of parole for "good behavior." Parole has similar restrictions to probation, often with added restrictions. Instead of a probation officer, you will have to report to a parole agent. Parole agents work for the Division of Adult Parole Operations, which



NOT ARRESTED? NOT OFF THE HOOK!

Being arrested and jailed is uncomfortable, inconvenient, and for many, a traumatic and terrifying experience, no matter how well someone is prepared. Often jailed comrades have little to no contact with the outside while they are incarcerated. Let them know they have not been forgotten. Support people by making sure they have money in their commissary fund, writing to them regularly, and arranging for phone calls when possible. Plan solidarity actions such as noise demos at the jails or welcome home events when people are released. Solidarity is the best anti-repression activity.

JAIL SOLIDARITY

• If you know of people being released, start organizing rides to bring them home from jail. Waiting for someone to be released can take many hours. Jail staff are usually unfriendly and unhelpful. Santa Rita has been known to give a release time, but hold people for several hours beyond that or even overnight.

• Be aware of anything you may have on your person or in a car. Anyone on jail property, even just sitting in a car, can be searched without reason.

• Bring warm clothes, drinks, food, and cigarettes.

• The food in jail can be so bad that people often skip meals. In places like Santa Rita, the water is so bad that many prisoners add sugar in order to drink it.

• Be prepared to give emotional support to released comrades and each other. Incarceration effects more than the person behind bars.

the calls must be the one to call initially to set up the account before you add money to the account. The person who will be receiving the calls needs to tell you their full name, phone number, and a passcode that the operator will give them. If possible, use a local phone number. The cost for minutes on an out- of-area-code phone are huge.

VISITING THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY THE STATE

Go see people stuck in jail or prison! Most likely they want to know what's been going on in their community and feel connected to what's going on outside the jail walls.

To make a visiting appointment, you will also need the inmate's name, PFN, and date of birth.

In Alameda County, visits are made by appointment only, and you will most likely have to make the appointments a few days in advance. In San Francisco, some visitation slots are first come, first serve, while others must be made by appointment. You can register for a visit at most jails online or over the phone (but be prepared to call several times before getting through).

Go to alamedacountysheriff.org/dc_srj_visiting.php to register online to visit someone in **Santa Rita**. Or call the visiting line (925) 551-6578 (8:00 am to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 to 5:00 pm).

Go to alamedacountysheriff.org/dc_gdj_visiting.php for information on visits in North County aka **Glenn Dyer.**

Go to sfsheriff.com/jail_visitor_info.html for visiting information in **San Francisco** jails.

• You cannot directly send books, stamps, food, or anything that is not a letter. Most of these things can be bought from the person's commissary fund. Books must come brand new, and directly from a publisher or amazon.com, but there are many restrictions that vary from facility to facility, so it's best to check first.

Addresses for some local jails are:

Inmate's Name and PFN#
Santa Rita Jail
5325 Broder Blvd.
Dublin, CA94568

Inmate's Name and PFN#
Glenn E. Dyer Detention Facility
550 6th Street
Oakland, CA 94607

There are several addresses for San Francisco County inmates. To determine which unit your friend or comrade is housed in, call (415) 553-1430. All addresses can be found at sfsheriff.com/jail_info.html

HOW TO RECEIVE PHONE CALLS FROM FOLKS IN JAIL

All calls from inmates in California are processed through a company called Global Tel-Link. You cannot give the person in jail a phone card, and they cannot buy one from the jail store. You have to use this company to add money on the phone that is receiving the call from jail.

The process involves setting up an account with a particular phone number (which is the only number that can accept calls) and then registering for particular counties - you can only accept calls from inmates in counties that you've registered for. The inmate will need to know the name on the phone account, the cell phone company you use, and the number. Set up an account online at www.offenderconnect.com or through an automated phone system at 1-866-607-6006.

The final part is purchasing time for the account (even if you have an account, you can't accept calls unless there is money on it at the time of the call). To determine rates go to http://btfy.me/twgfqh . There is also a minimum purchase amount of at least $25 when you try to add money to the account.

If you want to put money on someone else's phone, the person receiving

COURT SUPPORT

A really easy way to potentially help a friend and/or comrade's case— and definitely give them a morale boost— is to show up to court dates and sit in the courtrooms when they are called before the judge. Not only will your friend notice all the support, but the judge and district attorney will too. This is how we communicate to the judicial system that their attacks on our movements do not go unnoticed, and that we support each other through thick and thin.

Most court dates in Alameda County will be here:
Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse
661 Washington Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Sometimes they are here:
Rene C. Davidson Superior Court
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612

In San Francisco they are here:
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

You can find your friend's courtroom by looking up their name on the docket on the main floor of the courthouse or, if they're in custody in Alameda County use the inmate locator online (acgov.org/sheriff_app).

THINGS TO REMEMBER

• You will be going through a metal detector to get into the building. Do not bring knives, tools, or illegal drugs (or illegal anything). Do not come if you have a warrant out for your arrest, especially if it's in the county of the courthouse you are visiting.

• The bailiff is an officer of the court and, like police officers, will likely act tyrannical. They can and often will arrest people who antagonize them or the judge. Minor offenses, such as texting or reading a newspaper, can get you kicked out of the courtroom.

NEVER EVER EVER TALK TO THE POLICE. EVER

Not only is it your right to remain silent, it is your obligation to remain silent for the safety of yourself, your comrades, and the rest of the political movement you are a part of.

IF THE COPS STOP YOU

• Ask, ***"AM I FREE TO GO?"*** If not you are being detained. If yes, walk away.

• You are only required to give your name and address.

• When they question you, remember to use the magic words ***"I'm going to remain silent. I want to see a lawyer."*** They may persist, but continue to repeat these words.

• Some may act friendly and try to strike up conversation with you that seems harmless. Law enforcement officers are experts in gathering information. Do not talk to them, ever.

• You can also buy things for them directly from the store online using a debit card. Go to www.mycarepack.com. You must know the full name and PFN number of the jailed friend.

• If you do not know the PFN of the person you're giving money to use the inmate locator at acgov.org/sheriff_app or go to the Alameda County Sheriff's Department web site, alamedacountysheriff.org, look under the"quick site links" tab, and click "inmate locator." This will also tell you the person's charges, their next court date, and where they're being housed. Keep in mind people's privacy while doing support work, and do not circulate personal information without the consent of the incarcerated person or their direct support group.

LETTER WRITING

• Your letter can (and probably will) be read by correctional officers. Use discretion when including any information about your own or your friend's political activities, immigration status, history of incarceration, or mentioning anything that might incriminate you or your communities. Be aware that your letter may be censored as well.

• Many jails and prisons won't give the envelope to the person you're writing. If you want them to write you back, make sure your first and last name and mailing address are written legibly on the letter as well as the envelope. Be sure to date and number the pages of every letter to the same person so they are aware if a letter is "lost."

• Be sure to use their full government name and PFN on the envelope. Most prisons and jails won't deliver mail that isn't to the prisoner's legal name. When writing to someone you don't know for the first time, you may want to use their legal name in the letter as well, and ask them what name and pronouns they would like to use for future correspondence.

• Mail restrictions vary from prison to prison. Many facilities won't allow stickers, paint, glitter, or any other mail art. It's probably best to stick to white lined paper, black or blue ink, and a plain envelope for your first letter. If you continue corresponding with someone who is incarcerated, you can ask them about the particular restrictions at their prison or jail, or check the institution's web site.

AIN'T GONNA HOLD US DOWN!

SUPPORTING COMRADES THROUGH LONG-TERM INCARCERATION

People arrested during Occupy protests who were on probation, parole or otherwise "criminalized" by the system have had the harshest treatment by judges and DA's. These are the people who serve the longest sentences, and often, are the one's with the most severe charges with high bails or are denied bail altogether. **Here are a few basic ways to support people behind bars:**

COMMISSARY

A commissary fund is an account that each prisoner has so they can buy items from the jail or prison store. Jails and prisons do not offer adequate or nutritious food. They do not care if people have food allergies or other dietary needs. You can help people access more food as well as hygienic and personal items by putting money in their commissary fund.

Supporters on the outside must put money in the jailed comrade's commissary; the jail does not provide anything in the store for free. The store sells things like toothpaste, soap, flip-flops, snacks, etc. Putting money on someone's commissary fund is also sometimes called putting money on someone's "books."

How do you put money on someone's books in Alameda County?

• Go to the jail where your friend is being housed (Glenn Dyer Jail aka North County by the Wiley E. Manuel courthouse or Santa Rita Jail in Dublin, CA) and give them cash at the window. The jail does not give change. You must have a valid ID and the full name of the inmate. If the person is imprisoned at Santa Rita Jail, you can give money at Glenn Dyer, but you have to use an ATM-looking machine. The machine is blue and on the opposite side of the room from the info window. You must have your jailed friend's Personal Filing Number (PFN) and exact change. The jail will charge you a fee depending on your payment method.

DON'T LET THE POLICE TRICK YOU INTO SNITCHING!

The police use many tactics to get people to snitch on each other or incriminate themselves. The person snitching may not even be aware of what they are doing. Don't let them trick you!

POLICE LIE

• Agents can and will legally lie to get information from you

• The police may offer leniency, early release, or special consideration if you cooperate with them. They might frame their interrogations as an "opportunity" for you to tell your side of the story. Don't fall for it.

• They might even threaten harsh penalties for not talking. Don't be intimidated. They don't actually have the authority to do this. Remain silent; you are doing the right thing.

• Cops rarely read you your Miranda rights. They don't have to, so don't be fooled into thinking that whatever you say will be thrown out of court because these rights weren't read to you.

• If you are arrested with others, the police may isolate and interrogate you separately. If any of you talk to the police, they will use that against you or others. Say nothing!

• Officers may lie to turn you against each other. They may use information they already have to make you think a comrade has snitched on you. Don't be baited!

DON'T TALK TO THE CPRB

• All complaints filed with the Citizen's Police Review Board (CPRB) are forwarded to Internal Affairs (see next subsection).

• The police will gain access to CPRB testimony, and there's nothing to stop them from using that in an investigation.

• The CPRB doesn't have the power to grant immunity.

• The board does not have the ability to impose any consequences on the police.

DON'T TALK TO INTERNAL AFFAIRS

• Internal Affairs will say they are investigating police misconduct, but remember, **it is part of the police**.

• Internal Affairs may contact you even if you haven't contacted them. It may call you numerous times or even come to your house. Don't be intimidated! **You are not legally obligated to talk to Internal Affairs.** You should simply say, "I do not wish to speak with you," and end the contact as soon as possible.

• Anything you say to Internal Affairs can be used against you or others in court.

• It can and will share the information it gathers with the same police investigating you.

• Internal Affairs officers were among the same officers who raided the Occupy Oakland encampment on October 25, 2011. They were also in charge of investigating police misconduct that day. This is a clear conflict of interest!

MORE TRICKS

The police have used what activists call "Snitch Letters" to trick people into cooperating with them. People have received these letters months and even up to a year after attending an action. The letters state that "you have been identified as a possible witness to an incident" and to "come in for an interview with an investigator." There is nothing legally requiring people to cooperate with these letters, however tricky the wording might be. Do not respond. You can have your lawyer check the situation if you think it is necessary.

THE STATE IS HELLA RACIST

For those of us who have done prisoner support in the aftermath of protests and riots in Oakland (or just paid attention to the injustice of the judicial system), it is undeniable that the prison system— from the police to the judges and district attorneys, to the parole and correctional officers— is incredibly racist. Overwhelmingly it is black, Latino, and/or homeless people who serve the longest jail terms, and suffer from repeat arrests. The probation and parole system in particular traps many of our comrades in a perpetual cycle of going back to jail and doing automatic sentences even when their charges are dropped. Our support and solidarity must especially stay consistent and strong for these individuals.

Giving solidarity to those who the state criminalizes the most is a basic and practical assault on white supremacy, both within our movements and in society in general. In particular, we would like to encourage those who have organized and/or taken part in a political action where others suffered higher penalties or longer jail terms than themselves and their friends to be strongly in solidarity with these people.

The United States holds 2.5 million people captive. Five million more people are on probation or parole. Suicide is the number one cause of death in US prisons and second in jails. There were at least 32 reported inmate suicides in California in 2012, averaging one suicide every eleven days. To top off these stark statistics, over 70 percent of the prison population is made up of people of color. This mass incarceration and death of the people around us is why a lot of us find ourselves in struggles together against the state, capitalism, and white supremacy. The fascist prison system is obviously not for the safety of any of us. The stark racial demographic of US prisons, and the savagery of poverty and policing condemning whole populations to jail cells all reveal to us a larger trend in repression against communities that has nothing to do with their supposed threat to the public. Rather that the state fears these communities have revolutionary potential to change society. We see our anti-repression activity as a part of a larger struggle that includes anti-police (brutality) protests, cop watch, prisoner strikes, support of political prisoners who have actively fought against capitalism, imperialism, and for the natural world, and most important, the project of abolishing all prisons.