

Call for the 29th Annual National Day of Protest to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation on October 22, 2024



The urgency of the moment is palpable, and the responsibility before us is immense: Police brutality and terror have not diminished, violent suppression of dissent by both cops and right-wing vigilante thugs has escalated, and moves to institutionalize this repression in the form of “Cop City” counterinsurgency camps is taking root in urban centers large and small across the country. All this together against the backdrop of a fascist insurrectionist (Trump) being allowed to run again for president and threatening violence if things don’t go his way versus a law-and-order former prosecutor (Harris) creates heightened tension within which we must unflinchingly press for justice. The stakes are high, and we have to rise to the challenge.

Police killing continues unabated. According to [data from the Washington Post](#), 2023 was the most deadly year yet for police shootings, and 2024 is on track to be even worse. The Sonya Massey case is emblematic of the callous, murderous disregard of Black people, other people of color, people in mental and emotional crisis, and poor people by armed enforcers of state power. Reform efforts that began following the George Floyd uprisings have been allowed to wither while the Biden administration increased funding to put more cops on the streets nationwide, with no check on their use of deadly violence, and no reduction in the racism endemic to policing. In short, police violence is bolstered no matter who is in the White House.

Along with **brutalizing and terrorizing people** based on how they appear and what neighborhood they are in, law enforcement agents have also been given the green light [by the Supreme Court](#) to arrest and/or fine anyone sleeping outside, even when there are no other safe alternatives. **Attacks on immigrants** persist with repressive measures put into place by both political parties and threats of mass deportations being seriously discussed as part of presidential campaigns. Criminalization of dissent has been ramped up with long-lasting legal and political and even lethal consequences.

Crackdowns on protest against Cop City in Atlanta have led to dozens of activists being [charged with domestic terrorism](#) as well as the police murder of Manuel Esteban Paez Terán, known as Tortugueta. The powers-that-be are rolling out the Cop City model in [cities all across the country](#), while at the same time testing out brutality and repressive prosecution against those who dare to raise their heads and protest. The [attack on the African People’s Socialist Party](#) (Uhuru Movement) and how they are being charged as a threat to domestic security is also a very dangerous message to anyone who would challenge this system. Protesters against the U.S.-funded genocide in Gaza that mainly centered on campuses across the country have been met with [excessive violence by law enforcement](#) acting in league with campus officials and organized groups of violent right-wing thugs.

Unite all who can be united. What we always have, what is always within our grasp, is the power of the people united against oppression. Throughout the history of the National Day of Protest to Stop Police Brutality, we have brought people together from all backgrounds, nationalities, and viewpoints, united in the determination that police brutality and terror must STOP. The bonds that unite us are many: families of victims of police violence face the same oppressor as immigrant families being criminalized and demonized. Students opposing genocide in Gaza face the same police violence as the communities opposing the proliferation of Cop Cities nationwide. United we are stronger, and the National Day of Protest is the day to forge ever-stronger unity in the face of the dangers that loom larger every day.

Join and support the [National Day of Protest](#) in your town on October 22nd, and if there isn’t something already organized, start organizing something today, and reach out to the [October 22nd Coalition](#) to coordinate with others!

Hit the streets for NDP 2024! Raise your [fists across America](#) and unite and fight police violence and terror!

**COP CITY WILL NOT BE BUILT! NO MORE STOLEN LIVES!
On October 22nd, WEAR BLACK, FIGHT BACK!**

For more information, see [october22.org](#). Email oct22national@gmail.com to provide details of an action.