

# Witnessing an Arrest

When at a protest, there is no such thing as people who are 'non-arrestable'. This is because of the fact that anyone engaging in Nonviolent Direct Action or other forms of protest can be arrested. It is all at the discretion of police officers.

Witnessing an arrest is a skill not a role.

A legal observer (LO) is more trained and experienced and has a precise role like a paramedic. Witnessing an arrest is like being trained in first aid, it is useful and could save someone's life, but no replacement for a paramedic.\*\*

If there are no Legal Observers witnessing the arrest, then it is important for bystanders to step in to witness the arrest and make sure that the rights of the arrestee are being upheld.

Please visit the page [Witnessing an Arrest](#) for more information.

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