



**national
IMMIGRATION
project**
of the National Lawyers Guild

National Immigration Project/NLG Statement of Solidarity

The National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild (NIPNLG) supports the right to dissent, and stands in solidarity with communities and organizations mobilizing across the country in the [Movement for Black Lives](#).

For too long, communities of color - both citizen and noncitizen - have endured systemic abuse and misconduct at the hands of law enforcement agencies. It is well-known that African-American and Latino boys and men are first to be targeted by law enforcement; and comprise a disproportionate percentage of our criminal and immigration prisons. Being Black or Latinx near the U.S. border dramatically increases your odds of being injured or killed. This violence must end.

NIPNLG opposes the criminalization of communities of color, racial profiling, and the rampant militarization of law enforcement that together threaten our justice system and our democracy. Our allies at the National Lawyers Guild (NLG) bring to you the following important message about your rights:

If you are organizing an action such as a march, rally, or other protest event, you may request Legal Observers from the National Lawyers Guild who will observe and document police behavior and assist with tracking arrests; contact King Downing, Director of Mass Defense at massdef@nlq.org. Find an NLG Chapter near you at nlq.org/chapters, many of which have legal support hotlines.

NLG has several resources on your right to protest, including [You Have the Right to Remain Silent: A Know Your Rights Guide for Law Enforcement Encounters](#), also available in [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Bengali](#), and [Urdu](#), and for free download [here](#).

“NIPNLG urges you to stand with the [Movement for Black Lives](#). We will continue to support our allies in defending against harsh immigration enforcement tactics that people of color face every day,” said NIPNLG Executive Director Dan Kesselbrenner, “be it a teenager in North Carolina waiting for the school bus or a family member participating in organized protest against unlawful police brutality on the ground.”

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