



Appleton Police Department

Protester Guidelines

Individual and groups have a legal right to gather and voice their First Amendment rights. The police department's presence at a protest is meant to be a deterrent to violence or other illegal activity. The listed items below can assist in providing a safe environment for all:

- + Permits **are not** required to protest in the City of Appleton. If you wish to parade on a public street, a Special Event permit is required (45 days prior to event). Contact the Appleton City Clerk's Office at 832-6443 for a permit application.
- + A group leader should confer with the police officer in charge to discuss the intent of the protest.
- + The group leader should speak to the officer away from the rest of the crowd. The Appleton Police Department understands that individuals and groups have a right to assemble and peacefully protest under the First Amendment. The police departments' presence is to ensure that everyone's rights are protected.
- + Provide the police officer with the scheduled time period for the protest and an approximate number of expected protestors.
- + The group shall observe all local ordinances and state laws. A.P.D. Protestor Guidelines are available and will be provided to the group leader. Please distribute the guidelines to all protest participants.
- + **Violence will not be permitted.**
- + The police department expects the group to control protestors who become disorderly (i.e., throwing items, physical violence). Individual protestors who are violent/disorderly could adversely impact the entire group's right to legally protest. The group should remove disruptive individuals to ensure the protests legality.
- + Sidewalks, entrances to store fronts, roadways or other public ways cannot be obstructed, Appleton ordinance 16-9.
- + Residential picketing is banned in the City of Appleton, Ord. 10-8.
- + Picket signs should not be constructed from materials that can be construed as offensive weapons, i.e., baseball bats, 2x4, pipes, etc.
- + Signs cannot be attached to power or light poles.
- + If the protest becomes violent, it will be dispersed following Wisconsin State Statue 947.06.

If you have questions regarding these guidelines, please feel free to contact an on-duty supervisor at 832-5500.