

S11 Legal Observer Team

Roles and Responsibilities

Pt'chang Nonviolent Community Safety Group is coordinating a Legal Observer Team during the S11 actions against the World Economic Forum at Melbourne's Crown Casino. The Legal Observer Team will observe, record and monitor arrests and the individual actions of the Victorian police and private security personnel during the three day event.

In particular the Legal Observer Team will;

- distribute information on legal rights to members of the public at the S11 protests;
- Observe, monitor and record details of interactions between police/security personnel and members of the public;
- take photos and/or video of arrests if they occur;
- make a detailed written account of the arrest;
- collect the name, number and/or a physical description of the arresting officer;
- find out whereabouts or follow the arrested person to the police station;
- work with the S11 Legal Support Group to monitor, support or contact the arrested person whilst in police custody;
- assist the S11 Legal Support Group to collect information for use for future legal defense or police complaints processes.

By doing so, the Pt'chang Legal Observer Team aims to help create the space in which people can protest and engage in nonviolent civil disobedience at the World Economic Forum free from intimidation, harassment and violence.

How to find the Legal Observer Team

Volunteers with the Legal Observer Team will be walking around the action site throughout the event and will be clearly identified in bright jackets. Also, ask a courier from **iXpress** and they should be able to contact us for you.

The Legal Observer Team is all-volunteer group and will work on a roster basis throughout the event. We are limited by numbers and energy. We may not be able to meet every request for support and will endeavor to observe and provide arrest support to the best of our abilities as volunteer time and energy allows.

Protocols

- a) All information collected by the Legal Observer Team will be confidential and for the use of the S11 Legal Support Group only.
- b) Volunteers with the Legal Observer Team will treat all people with respect and courtesy throughout the event.

- c) Volunteers with the Legal Observer Team will not engage in any protest actions, civil disobedience or illegal activities whilst on duty or identified as part of the team during the S11 actions.

Protocols (continued)

- d) Volunteers will not interfere with, or hinder Police officers and maintain a reasonable distance away from arrest incidents. However, the Legal Observer Team will seek the best possible vantage point to observe arrests and police-public interactions at all times.
- e) If one or a few people become isolated in a potentially arrestable situation behind a police cordon, members of the Legal Observer Team will seek police authority to accompany or remain with those people until their arrest or removal.
- f) During all liaison with the Victorian Police, the Legal Observer Team will not discuss nor disclose any details or information regarding any other group, individual or action.
- g) Pt'chang will communicate with all groups, individuals and organisations involved in protests against the World Economic Forum to the best of our ability. The Legal Observer Team cannot provide legal advice or ongoing legal support. For legal advice and support contact the S11 Legal Support Group on the following numbers
S11 Legal Support Group – 0418 140 387

Pt'chang Legal Observer Team 0407 815 333 ptchang@angelfire.com