

DEFEND DEMOCRACY PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES

The 2020 Election is the election of our lives! Here's some key info to help you prepare

ENSURING OUR VOTES ARE COUNTED

Ballots can be returned by mail postage-free & postmarked by Nov. 3, or returned to secure drop boxes across Washington by 8pm on Nov. 3.

Check your registration status and get key voting info at aflcio.org/vote

You can find a ballot drop box near you at wa-democrats.org/iwillvote

Voter protection hotline numbers:

- WA Democratic Party's Voter Protection Hotline: (206) 309-VOTE
- AFL-CIO National Voter Protection Hotline:
 - English: 866-OUR-VOTE
 - Spanish: 888-VE-Y-VOTA
 - Asian Languages: 888-API-VOTE
 - Arabic: 844-YALLA-US

TAKE ACTION

Our vote matters! Here's how you can help ensure that working people's voices are heard.

- Sign the Democracy Defender Pledge: <http://bit.ly/DefendDemocracyPledge>
- Sign-up for a FUN Bank talking to union members about crucial races: bit.ly/LaborNeighborFunBanks
- Commit to talking to five of your friends and family about voting (you can find WSLC endorsements here: www.wslc.org/political-action).

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Many of us are anxious about this election, and feeling isolated in the middle of a global pandemic - now's the time to build community. Connect with local chapters of AFL-CIO constituency groups: www.wslc.org/afl-cio-constituency-groups

Consider connecting with your steward or union to talk through any safety concerns you may have.



DEESCALATION & COMMUNITY SAFETY BASICS



Special Thanks to The Frontline (thefrontline.org) for much of the below content

“Calming a potentially violent person is: 56% facial expression & body language, 37% tone of voice, 7% what we say.” - J. Reuwer, MD

Tensions are high heading into a historic election. Here are some basic tips for deescalating confrontations at ballot boxes, rallies, and protests.

- **Don't abandon the person being harassed!** Remain calm and try:
 - Starting a conversation with the person being harassed, ignoring the harasser - introduce yourself, use encouraging phrases, like "it's your right to vote."
 - Delegating someone the job of recording any confrontations (preferably by video) and documenting the incident.
 - Asking if you can stand with them (as socially distanced as possible) and guiding the voter to their destination.
 - Maintaining eye contact with the voter and ignoring the harasser until you are in a neutral area.
- **Distance** - create physical distance between voters/person being harassed and potential agitators to diffuse what's happening. Put your body between anyone causing a disruption and our community members - become a blocker. Blockers can wear the same color t-shirts and form a line. Do not engage harassers.
- **Distract** - redirect community members attention to something unrelated. Tell them how excited you are that they are voting, dropping off election literature or at the protest and keep up their spirits.
- **Document** - record what is happening. Film or otherwise document confrontations. Do not engage harassers.

If de-escalation is unsuccessful, then disengage and leave. Inform your team (without pointing) about the agitated person and try to make a plan together. Document what happened. Do not create unnecessary panic.

SPECIAL NOTE ON OPEN CARRY TACTICS: The open carry tactic is mainly used to intimidate, so ignoring the behavior and managing the tension of your team despite the threat present is the best course of action.