Campus Demonstrations:
Being Prepared
This presentation is not complete without the accompanying speaker comments and discussion.

Any work product provided by Districts Mutual Insurance must be viewed in conjunction with all guidance given by national, regional, and local authorities, as well as your College’s legal counsel.

Moreover, the information given and comments made in this presentation should not be interpreted as legal advice or legal opinion.
Campus Demonstrations

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Additional Resource Credit:

• Lieutenant Dave McCaw
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Planning Experience
Primary Steps

• Designate a person or committee to handle planning of special events.

• Do you have policy and procedures?
  • Public Assembly Policy
  • State and local Ordinances
  • 1st Amendment Right to Freedom of Speech
    • Do you have to give a speaker a platform?
    • Legal Council Consult
Primary Steps

• Application process in place
• Meet with organizers to define clear expectations of presenters and audience.
• Outside source Vs. Student based
• Determine Peaceful or Violence potential?
  • Picketers
  • Passing out materials
  • Protestors
Primary Steps

• Defined Contract
  • Costs Involved?
  • Location
    • Size, Fire marshal, Counts
  • Time frame of event
  • Public Vs. Private event
    • Ticket admission
Primary Steps

- Defined contract (Continued)
  - Signage allowed?
  - Alcohol allowed?
  - Presenters and colleges expectations
  - Security (police, private or internal)
    - Speaker protection?
Primary Steps

• Insurance in place?
• Identify “Deal breakers” and authority to cancel event
• Signage
  • Not allowed items
  • Bathrooms/First Aid stations
  • Food/Vendors
  • Exits
Primary Steps

• Learn about the group
  • Application
  • Internet search/Facebook
  • Previous issues at other colleges/venues
  • Following

• Involve the local Police and Fire departments
• Traffic control/parking concerns
• Will neighbors be affected
Primary Steps

• Meet often (no stone left unturned)
• Command post with appropriate members
  • Management, facilities, security, IT
• Communication tools (radios, cells)
• Well defined area for protestors
  • Separate media
• Consequences for violators
  • Removal or fine assessed
  • Consistency
Primary Steps

- Marshals/Volunteers
  - Keeping isles open
  - Giving direction/assistance
  - Defined role

- Prior to event conduct practice table top from beginning to end with management groups
  - What if? ..........Then!

- Conduct walk through with all parties involved
  - Looking for areas of concern
  - Google Earth for exterior concerns
The Demonstration

• Planned Vs. Spontaneous
  • Policy and procedures in place
• Media management and releases
• Screening areas
• Video event and areas of concern
The Demonstration

• Conduct debriefing with EVERYONE
• Get feedback from all entities
• Compile all complaints and follow up
• Document...
• Document...
• Document!!!
Goal of Safe Demonstration

1. **PROTECT** citizen’s constitutional rights to assemble, petition the government and engage in free speech.
2. Be **IMPARTIAL** and remain neutral regardless of the issue.
3. Maintain **OPEN DIALOGUE** with citizens and the news media before, during and after events/demonstrations.
4. **MONITOR** demonstrations and marches to protect individual rights and ensure public safety.

5. **BALANCE** the rights of demonstrators with the rights of the community at large.

6. Use **RESTRAINT** in the use of force. Protect people first and property second.

7. Pursue **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT** of your methods.
Prepared?
Thank you!

Questions / Comments

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