



PORTLAND DSA

INTERNAL CHAPTER POLICY

Interactions with Police Policy

Approved by membership on July 14, 2019

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1. General guidelines:

DSA members should not speak with police about DSA operations without explicit permission from the Steering Committee. Further, DSA members should not under any circumstances give information regarding fellow members to the police. In the event that a member has been authorized to speak with the police, the member shall document and report the content of the interaction for the sake of transparency and accountability.

2. Membership

No one currently employed as a Law Enforcement Officer, endowed by the state or federal government with the legal right to enforce the law, and no Prison Guard, whether employed by the state or federal government or a private company contracted by the state or federal government, shall be a member of Portland DSA, and any member who becomes so employed shall lose their membership. This applies to membership to the local chapter and has no impact on the person's membership in the national organization.

No members of the Steering Committee, Safety Working Group, nor chairs or co-chairs of committees, working groups, campaigns, or projects are to speak to the police in their capacity as DSA leaders.

3. Direct actions & rallies in public spaces

Portland DSA does not coordinate with the police in our direct actions and rallies in public spaces without explicit permission from the Steering Committee. In the event that a member has

been authorized to speak with the police, the member shall document and report the content of the interaction for the sake of transparency and accountability.

4. Public meetings in private spaces other than the IWW Office:

While any public meeting in private spaces other than the IWW Office is in session, all available doors to the entrance of the building must be kept locked, and members of the Safety Working Group are to remain at the entrance. If any law enforcement officer approaches the meeting, members of the Safety Working Group are empowered to shut the doors. Members will be informed of their right to remain silent and other rights when encountered by the police. DSA members will be encouraged to exit meetings in groups and never walk alone.

If the police have a warrant and force their way into the meeting space, photograph the warrant and ensure that they are only going into spaces and taking things on the warrant. Immediately contact the chapter co-chairs to notify them of the incident and attach the photo of the warrant along with a description of the police's activities.

5. IWW hall agreement:

Don't open the door or speak (literally) to the police for any reason. Immediately contact the hall safety committee with what happened. If the police have a warrant and force their way into the hall, look at the warrant and ensure that they are only going into spaces and taking things on the warrant, immediately call the hall lawyer.

If you hear about a threat to the hall or any organization associated with hall, immediately bring it to the hall safety committee, do not spread it; i.e. put on facebook, twitter or any social media or tell other people until it has been verified by the hall safety committee.

Don't talk about other organizations good or bad to the press. Do not confirm or deny if other organizations have space in the hall. Any criticisms of organizations should be brought to them directly and not put out through the media. Every organization should have designated press contacts with training and talking points.

All meetings should have a door minder to open, close and monitor people coming in and out of the hall, exit strategies out of the hall discussed at the beginning of all meetings, fire extinguisher visible during meeting, one person at the end before people leave do a block sweep, people leave in groups and walk to each other to cars/public transit.

All hall doors locked at all times.

6. Coalition work:

Any decision about a coalition event where a permit to rally/march is being discussed, must be made in consultation with the Portland DSA Steering Committee. DSA members may not volunteer to act as police liaisons in coalition events unless explicitly authorized by a chapter co-chair. In the event that a member has been authorized to speak with the police, the member shall document and report the content of the interaction for the sake of transparency and accountability.

7. Emergency Services:

In the event that there is a threat to life, this policy does not preclude members from contacting emergency services.