

Protest/Riot Safety Awareness

What is a Protest?

By definition a protest is “a statement or action expressing disapproval of or objection to something.” A protest in most cases is a peaceful gathering with the intent of getting a point across by displays or vocal expression that does not include physical violence.

What is a Riot?

By definition a riot is “a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd.” Protest on occasion have escalated into riots where individuals physically assault others or damage private and public property.

What to do to avoid a protest or riot?

It is best practice to always avoid a protest or riot when possible. It is important in times of concern to pay attention to media outlets and local news to be informed of who, what, where and when these demonstrations will be taking place.

Map

Make sure to map out your route to avoid protesting hot spots. Drive around these areas to avoid damage to company property, but most important physical harm to you. Do not plow a vehicle into protesters or rioters. Know your nearest hospitals and clinics.

Physical harm

Avoid confrontation with individuals instigating physical contact. Stay calm and walk away when possible, look for an open area or a nearby building to get into and away from the situation..

Caught in a protest/riot

Try to move to the outer edges and away from the crowd, again move to an open area away from the direction of the crowd and into a nearby building. When in the crowd, try to flow with movement until you can pull away.

Dealing with authorities

Follow all commands given by authorities, do not resist and let them know what happened. This will help them assess your situation and help you get out of the area as soon as possible. Do not drive directly into police lines as they may think you are going to ram their location. Direct your vehicle to a safe location and make safe contact.

Defending company property

Company property, although important and valuable, it is replaceable. Your safety and well being is our greatest concern. Avoid conflict and walk away peacefully.

Who to contact

Always contact your supervisor immediately, let them know where you are, who you're with and your condition.

First responders

Remember in times like these, calling 911 will be difficult and with extended response times. Map out nearest hospitals and clinics prior to travel. If you are injured, make your way to the nearest hospital or clinic as soon as possible and contact your supervisor.

ToolBox Talk