



Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and National Bar Association Launch Legal Monitoring Program

The National Bar Association (NBA) and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law seek volunteer attorneys to serve as legal observers on Election Day and attorneys who can provide support to protesters or demonstrators who face arrest

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the National Bar Association have launched a national initiative to help protect and safeguard the rights of those engaged in peaceful demonstrations and protests following the recent fatal shootings of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile. The first phase of the effort will focus on providing legal support to demonstrators in a number of cities across the country including Atlanta, New York, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Dallas, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Baton Rouge. Demonstrations and protests are also anticipated to mark the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner. Legal observers will be recruited to a) serve as neutral monitors to observe and document activity during protests and demonstrators and b) provide pro bono support to those who face arrest during the course of demonstrations and protests.

We need your help: Attorneys will serve as **Legal Observers** to monitor protests and protect the right to peacefully assemble. Legal Observers are expected to attend mass demonstrations, document their experiences, communicate with local law enforcement and elected officials, and help disseminate Know Your Rights materials to demonstrators regarding their rights as peaceful protesters.

We are also recruiting **Pro Bono Attorneys** to provide counsel for those individuals who may face arrest while peacefully protesting. Attorneys who provide pro bono support must be members of the bar in the state where they serve. Pro Bono Attorneys will be assigned to work with jailed protesters and will provide advocacy on their behalf, secure their release and guide them through the legal process. Opportunities to work on systemic racial justice issues concerning arrest and detention may arise at a future date.

"We urge NBA members across the country to answer the call for justice as we work to assure that due process of the law is a reality in our communities of color," said National Bar Association President Benjamin L. Crump.

"The fatal shooting of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge is a matter of great national interest. Communities across the country are calling for reform by exercising their first amendment right to demonstrate and protest," said Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. "We seek to ensure that the first amendment rights of those demonstrators are protected."

To volunteer and to get more information about how you can help please e-mail (insert NBA contact information) or help@lawyerscommittee.org.