



CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

## Protest and Demonstration Planning

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department strongly supports our citizens' rights to free speech, free assembly and public dissent, and believes that a diverse community is stronger when its citizens are able to express differing opinions on important issues.

Police involvement is generally limited to enforcing any state laws and local ordinances that might apply, ensuring that no breach of the peace occurs during the event, and in working directly with sponsoring groups or organizations to plan events, guiding them through the process of identifying and obtaining any required permits or arrangements that need to be made.

General requirements:

- City-County Parks require scheduling and reservations.
- Protests or Demonstrations on public property or rights-of-way that may have 50 or more participants **require** a Picketing Notice to CMPD (this is **NOT** a permit, only a notification to ensure the City has adequate police resources are available)
- The use of amplified sound equipment, including bullhorns, **requires** an Amplified Sound Permit.

**For more specific information on event planning, please call:**

### Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department:

Field Support Supervisor  
704-432-0428 – main  
704-336-6040 – FAX

[picketingnotifications@cmpd.org](mailto:picketingnotifications@cmpd.org)

Reviews all applications for Amplified Sound Permits.  
Receives and issues Receipts for Picketing Notifications.  
Can provide contact information for other resources for additional planning.

For information on the Picketing Ordinance and Noise Ordinance and to download notification/permit forms, go to:

[www.cmpd.org](http://www.cmpd.org)

### City of Charlotte Department of Transportation:

Public Assembly and Parade  
Permit Officials  
704-336-4119

Contacts for information on Public Assembly Demonstration permits (for demonstrations requesting the closure of public streets) and Parades/Processions in the public right-of-way.

### Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreations:

Call 311

To locate a park near you or to schedule an event at a county park such as Freedom Park, Hornet's Nest Park, McAlpine Park, etc.