

END OPERATION SAFETY NET 4/20

Description of the Issue:

Operation Safety Net is what people have been calling the security approach taken by the MN National Guard, City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County Sheriff's office in response to protests in Brooklyn Center over the killing of Daunte Wright. It has come under serious criticism for being violent and overly militarized, using tear gas and possibly other chemical agents, and for the way it has handled journalists on the scene. We understand that OSN was not meant to be dealing with the protests in BC, but was meant to be dealing with civil unrest that might arise from the verdict to the Chauvin trial. However, it is deeply troubling and must be fundamentally rethought or brought to an end.



At the end of last week, more than 50+ community organizations joined by 20+ local elected officials to call on Governor Walz, Mayor Frey, Mayor, Mayor Carter and Sheriff Hutchinson to stop and draw back “Operation Safety Net.”

[Joint letter to officials from 30 organizations](#) (MN350 site)

[Joint letter by Hennepin and Ramsey County Commissioners](#)

Letter from media companies re treatment of journalists -

file:///home/chronos/u-4849c60b3994ed3a3539ae825c2415503d0102c9/MyFiles/Downloads/mn%20(1).pdf

Who to call/contact:

- Call Gov. Walz's office: (651) 201-3400 OR use their [contact form](#)
- [Submit a comment to Mayor Frey's office](#)
- Call Mayor Carter's office: (651) 266-8989 OR use their [contact form](#)
- Call the Hennepin County Sheriff's office(David Hutchinson County Sheriff): (612) 348-3744
- Senator Klobuchar to speak out against Operation Safety Net: [Email her](#), *phone:* 202-224-3244
- Senator Smith to speak out against Operation Safety Net: [Email her](#) Phone: (202) 224-5641
- Contact your congressional representative and ask them to speak out against Operation Safety Net [Don't know who your rep is?](#)

Sample Script: Please note that this language was specifically taken from the [Local Progress website](#) on this issue.

Dear

I am calling regarding..... I am a constituent (if applicable) and am calling with WMM about Operation Safety Net.

Please immediately make changes to Operation Safety Net's approach to people protesting in our communities, including but not limited to:

- ***Cease the use of tear gas and other so-called "less lethal" weapons***
- ***Cease the use of curfew to stop protest and establish a clear and transparent process for distinguishing protests from civil unrest, and proactively communicating this assessment to the public***
- ***Drop all charges brought against protesters during the past four days***
- ***Invest in community supports for mental health, trauma recovery and healing, and needs defined by community for community***
- ***Ensure a transparent, ongoing and genuine dialogue with protesters and journalists***

This is a place we have been far too many times before. And if we fail to act with the urgency and commitment this moment demands, more Minnesotans will suffer from unacceptable police brutality.

Punishing people for grieving police violence with militarized force is not leadership - it is violence. For the health of our communities, we are pleading for a rational change of plans, transparency, and accountability.

We need you to show up in the name of good governance and moral clarity. We need your actions to match your words.

The world is watching.

Thank you

Join Women's March MN every other Tuesday for Time to Act - an online event where we gather to take action together on specific issues. Check the calendar for dates:

<https://www.womensmarchmn.com/calendar-of-events>