

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 12.7.2021

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
 - Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
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 - Press email: media@riseandresist.org
 - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
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Facilitators: Maryellen and Jay **Notes:** Alexandra

Good News - Justice Dept goes after Texas for gerrymandering

Upcoming/New Actions:

Alex: Surprise visits to Chase Headquarters will begin this week! Vanderbilt and 46th Street
Please contact Alexandra if you are interested alexawoods1@gmail.com

The next action will be a small action focused on Chase's investment in fossil fuels to test Chase's reactivity and to raise awareness of workers.

- There will be others.

12/9 Thursday 10AM to 11:15 am Voting Rights action starting at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza Funeral for us democracy? Voting rights now!

Mark and Jamie: **Freedom to Vote Act and John Lewis Voting Rights Act**

- <https://www.facebook.com/events/283151316949317>
- <https://www.mobilize.us/blackvotersmatter/event/430522/>
- Various Senators are working on Manchin. He is opposed to changing the filibuster in any way. He may be open to some rules changes. Congress is going to take action on this before the holidays and will postpone working on the Build Back Better act. The Whitehouse is finally getting a little more involved.
- 19 states that have passed legislation that undermines democracy.
- A convocation on Democracy is being held Thursday across the country. "We have a democracy crisis in the US".
- Specifics: Fair Elections Campaign will act in solidarity.

- o Route: Dag Hammarskjold Plaza to US Mission We will march down to 43rd to the entrance of the UN.
- o We will have great props made by Julie Peppito and we have banners. Technically one is not allowed to demonstrate on the east side of First Ave. There may be a small CD action there.

NYCAN (NY Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) and RaR Action Thursday December 9 12 to 1 pm. City Hall Entrance, Broadway between Warren & Murray

Robert: The bill for nuclear disarmament will be voted out of committee tomorrow and will be passed on Thursday. NYC will have the most progressive anti-nuclear legislation of any major city. This is the product of years of work, and will garner international recognition.

- Goal of action is to put wind beneath the sails of the City Council members.
- Bill reaffirms NYC as a nuclear weapons free zone. Will divest the city from nuclear investments
- Sponsored by Danny Dromm and Helen Rosenthal.
 - o As comptroller, Brad Lander is developing a unified theory of ethical investment.

There will be two Immigration Vigils on Sunday 12/12 and 12/19 Sunday 2PM at 50th St./5Ave Meet at the Atlas Statue west side of 5th Ave.

12/9 Immigration at Grand Central has been cancelled.

Jamie: We are likely not to be received well, but this is an important action.

- Administration is going to keep the Remain in Mexico policy, and Biden continues to support Title 42.
- This goes against US law and policy, denies the right to seek asylum. Necessary to hold Biden accountable, and it is a way to reach people's hearts.
- A lot of people asked that we do this on Sunday. We will have Mary, Joseph and the sheep and goats.

12/14 Truth Tuesday at Fox "News" at 12:30PM

<https://www.facebook.com/events/212364187747016>

Jamie: Julie is out of commission for a couple of weeks. So we are picking up for her.

We will do a reprise of the COVID action

Mark: It will be somewhat scaled back a bit with fewer props. George is taking the lead on this and we will help him out.

- When we reach 1 million deaths we will have another action. That sad occasion will attract news media – a good time to act.
- NYC numbers. 1.17M cases & 34,883 deaths

Decarceration update and series of demos on Friday 12/10

Donna: The situation is still terrible.

- DeBlasio and the City Council have undermined the law against solitary confinement

- o They have created a separate room where an individual can go, but this person still cannot be with other people. Solitary is being used by guards and the system as punishment and retribution.
- Danny Drom is proposing a bill: mandate no solitary, except immediately after a conflict. Prisoners will need to be with others at least 14 hours a day.
- **Take action by calling Speaker Johnson at 212 788-7210.**
- **Rikers Freedom Day of Action for Decarceration Vigil in Manhattan Friday 12/10 6 to 8 pm at 100 Centre Street.**
- Bring a candle or a flower.
 - o There will be demonstrations in the 4 boroughs.

The State House starts session January 5. Decarceration legislation has been collated by RAPP and other groups. This is the “Justice Roadmap 2022.”

- **This Thursday (Dec. 9) at 12pm, join us for the digital launch of the Justice Roadmap 2022! [RSVP here on Zoom.](#)**
- You can use this [social media toolkit](#) to spread the word.

Vigil Tuesday December 14 at 6 pm at Gov Hochul’s office 633 Third Ave

- RAPP demo for clemency and fair and timely parole

Finance Don't forget to make a donation to Rise and Resist as we near year's end.

<https://www.riseandresist.org/donate>

Susan: RaR has \$17,569.20 in the bank.

Sandy: a banner for United in Outrage action was repurposed to make a tote bag.

- Minimum bid of \$50.
- Email to Sandy, she will award the bag to the highest bidder: slradoff@gmail.com
- Jamie: high quality item, does not leak.
- There were various suggestions for ways of increasing the number of bidders. The conclusion, after Susan’s hilarious plea was to keep it simple and get it done!

NO MORE 24 campaign – Thursday 12/16 action at 11am. 500 A Grand Street (F train to Delancey Street): <https://bit.ly/ujc-rsvp>

Bill Ferns, Vicki Niu and Tosh presented. End the 24-hour work-day for home healthcare workers

- These conditions destroy the workers’ physical and emotional health, workers become patients, and families are destroyed. This constitutes acts of violence.
- Immigrant women of color, many of whom don’t speak English are most affected.
- The quality of care that people receive is impacted. It affects all of us.
- Background:
 - o 7 year fight.
 - o Lawsuits against UJC and CPC: Court found the workers are entitled to back pay.

- o Cuomo obtained a last-minute ruling: workers get paid 13 hours for 24 hours.
- o Agencies talk about wages rather than the violence of these practices.
- Q and A
- Susan: Terrific that you are doing this. What are movements to get wages up overall?
 - o Vicki: movement to raise wages exists, but the first priority is to end the 24 hour work day. Agencies talk about wages rather than focusing on violence.
- Robert: Thank you. Why at UJC?
 - o Vicki: UJC employs many 24-hour workers. Campaign has been against the Chinese American Planning Council, at MOCA, for a long time.
- Mark: What is the history of this situation?
 - o Tosh: NMASS workers Center: Cuomo codified this after the Medicaid redesign. This started 2010, court in 2016 determined that workers were owed \$60 million.
 - o Practice started in the late 90's. Racist b/c focus on immigrant workers. State has an interest in having women work for these 24 hours and be not paid.
- Mark: has the atty general taken any role in this?
 - o Tosh: We had a case about retaliation against workers that we won, but nothing about back wages. ICE was called if women questioned their pay. Class action suits
- Alvin: Is this related to the actions on behalf of the restaurant workers? Jim Fong and Moca protests?
 - o Vicki: slightly different focus. There are workers talking about neighborhood displacement at UJC pickets.
- Bill H: Is this a statewide issue?
 - o Vicki: this 24 hour thing is much more common to NYC than other parts of the state
- Jay: Is pressure being put on Gov Hochul to undermine this emergency ruling?
 - o Bill F: We are pressuring the downtown candidates; it is time to put pressure on gubernatorial candidates in this election year.
- RaR members thanked the presenters for their work and this presentation.
- For further info: contact Bill Ferns at: bill.ferns@gmail.com
 - o Join our outreach shifts at: <https://bit.ly/ujc-outreach>
 - o or contact NMASS at (212) 358-0295

Report Backs and discussion

12/1 SCOTUS Mississippi abortion rights protest in DC

Sandy: Attended by Karin, Sandy, Kim, Cherie, Betsy M. Self-driven trip.

- Planned Parenthood did not put out a huge drive. We were severely outnumbered.
- Biggest challenge to Roe v Wade in 50 years. Pre-viability is no longer expected to be considered.
- 20 states have trigger laws banning abortion.
- Students from Liberty College marched single file in a line of several blocks. Very difficult.

- Our signs were extremely popular, and we are glad to lend them to people who want to use them. They drew much press attention and made the NYTimes.
- The artist is willing to make a few signs that can be reused. Her particular focus is the environment.
 - RaR groups like Truth Tuesdays and Climate should propose a few signs.
- Can we get copies of her signs and then print them out? Are there proprietary interests?
- Once we have collected signs, Sandy will raise these questions with the artist.

12/1 Immigration Vigil at NYSE Tree Lighting

Jamie: Very moving event and important to mark, but we did not garner a lot of interest from people who wanted hot chocolate.

12/3 Say Their Names (every Friday at 4:30PM at 96th & Broadway)

Jenny: Striking how many things have to do with racism and violence.

- Location and event draw people who are angry and in pain. Activists and new members are feeling extra vulnerability these days. It is starting to feel hairy. There is no container for people who are upset there.
- We need to raise this issue in Actions. We started two weeks after George Floyd died. 1 ½ years.
- Kat made several suggestions: Reach out to friends from Shut it Down who could be available on Fridays. Work with other neighborhood groups to do street outreach workers. Add lights.

12/4 NYYRC Gala Protest

Jamie: At the last moment we were able to get the location.

- We decided on a different strategy, which was not to shout, but we used signs that were intentionally pointed, provocative and strong. We made the republicans uncomfortable, which was good.
- Photos: “This way to the republican Gala” (photo of the insurrection, of the Klan, etc.)
- Discussion:
- Rick suggested we should plan an action on 1/5/22.
- Rick: Was this a success? Sick of being in this proximity with these characters.
- Jackie:
- Mark: What was the goal?
- Jamie: they know we are watching, and providing witness: they are the moral equivalent of the German Bund in the 1930’s.
- Jackie mentioned the Atlantic article: “January 6 was practice”
<https://www.theatlantic.com/newsletters/archive/2021/12/donald-trump-2024-election-coup/620922/>
- Bill H: . “Cry Out with A Thousand tongues. I see the World is rotten because of SILENCE”. Saint Catherine of Siena, Italy. 1347-1380 AD

12/7 Truth Tuesday at Fox Stop Selling racist lies.

- **Next week will be at 12:30**

12/7 AIG Demo

Jamie recommended that the Climate Committee who developed this action should meet and process it and come back to the General Meeting. RaR members agreed.

- The Climate Committee meets Thursdays at 3 pm.

Non Rise and Resist announcements

Dana: The impulse and the sentiments expressed in the NYYRC action are being said by Adam

Schiff: Merrick Garland needs to create a Special Prosecutor. Where is the national action?

Rick: There is nothing more important. These people need to be held accountable

Kat: **Adult homeless shelters, send in letters to city council members;**

- Testimony needs to be submitted by Thursday.
- Katcorbell19@gmail.com for links to shelter housing testimony submissions or/and upcoming supportive housing intros about to be voted at city council...

Jay: **There will be a GAG Action on Saturday 12 noon 35th Street and Broadway.**

- Gun violence against children

RISE AND RESIST