

RIDGEWOOD FOR BLACK LIBERATION

DEFUND RPD TOOLKIT

Share the link to this toolkit: bit.ly/defundRPDtoolkit

August 2020

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I. Statement

Read the full statement here & use this link to share the pdf with others:

bit.ly/defundRPD

II. Demands

1. We demand a thorough, third-party, non-accrediting investigation into RPD to address patterns and practices of unconstitutional policing, intimidation, and excessive use of force.
2. We demand that this investigation is followed by the firing of any officers involved in the above practices.
3. We demand that all charges against Thria Bernabe be dropped immediately.
4. We demand that all police officers wear masks while on duty during the duration of the COVID-19 crisis.
5. We demand that Ridgewood begin the process of DEFUNDING the police and INVESTING in racial justice initiatives.

III. Remote Advocacy / Social Media Campaigning

A. Phone & Email Zap

Script for Phone Zap

Hello,

My name is [your name] and I am a [Ridgewood resident / neighbor / concerned citizen] calling today to urge you to meet the demands of Ridgewood for Black Liberation, which begin to address the history of harm done by the Ridgewood Police Department and the Village of Ridgewood.

In the course of one month, Ridgewood police targeted and arrested one of RW4BL's organizers for peacefully protesting, then used excessive, violent force when arresting a young Latinx boy.

This pattern of abuse by the Ridgewood Police Department is unacceptable. Ridgewood must begin the process of defunding the police and investing in the community.

Thank you.

Script for Email Zap

**Note: It is best to write your email in your own words so that it does not get filtered out as spam, but here is a template to help you get started:*

Dear [recipient name],

My name is [your name] and I am a [Ridgewood resident / neighbor / concerned citizen] emailing today in support of Ridgewood for Black Liberation. I urge you to meet their demands, which begin to address the history of harm done by the Ridgewood Police Department and the Village of Ridgewood.

Over the past few months, actions taken by the Ridgewood Police Department have demonstrated a clear pattern of ineptitude, racism, and abuse of power. In the course of one month, Ridgewood police targeted and arrested one of Ridgewood for Black Liberation's organizers for peacefully protesting, then used excessive, violent force while arresting a young Latinx boy.

This is unacceptable. [talk about why it's important to take action]

[talk about the demands]

Regards,
[your name]

Contact Information

Ridgewood Mayor Susan Knudsen:

Email: sknudsen@ridgewoodnj.net

Phone: 201-670-5500

Twitter: @MayorKnudsen

[Contact Form](#)

Ridgewood Police Department:

Phone: 201-652-3900 | 201-670-5594 (Chief of Police)

Email: jluthcke@ridgewoodnj.net (Chief of Police)

Ridgewood Village Council:

msedon@ridgewoodnj.net (Michael Sedon, Deputy Mayor)

bwalsh@ridgewoodnj.net (Bernadette Walsh, Councilwoman)

pperron@ridgewoodnj.net (Pamela Perron, Councilwoman)

lreynolds@ridgewoodnj.net (Lorraine Reynolds, Councilwoman)

Bergen County Prosecutor Mark Musella:

Email: Prosecutor@bcpo.net

Phone: Mon-Fri: 201-646-2300 | After Hours: 201-642-5962

Twitter/Instagram/Facebook @BCPONJ

Attorney General Gurbir S Grewal:

Phone (Main number): 609-292-4925

Phone (Citizen Service): 609-984-5828

[Email here](#)

Twitter: @NewJerseyOAG or @GurbirGrewalNJ

Governor Phil Murphy:

Phone: 609-292-6000

[Contact Form](#)

Twitter: @GovMurphy

Wife's Twitter: @FirstLadyNJ

B. Share our Graphics

>>Click [here](#) for graphics to share on social media

>>Check out our zine: [[online reader version](#)] *** [[printable version](#)]

HOW TO PRINT & ASSEMBLE ZINE:

1. When you go to print, go to Layout >> change to **2 pages per sheet**
2. Print **double sided**
3. Fold the sheets in half (hamburger style, not hotdog style) to make a booklet.
4. *Optional:* staple twice along the crease