

Law enforcement officers should not have the authority to command dispersal of unlawful assemblies and arrest participants who don't disperse. My experience with this policy is limited to this past summer participating in racial justice protests. This summer, I witnessed the arbitrary enforcement and arrest by PPB when an unlawful assemblies were declared. When PPB compelled dispersals this summer, more chaos often ensued. An unlawful assembly is supposed to be declared as such because a group of people has either grown too large for crowd control, or there is some other perceived danger created by it. When law enforcement compel dispersal and arrest those left behind, it creates even more chaos and a feeling of danger. Without a standard for time lapsed between declaration of unlawful assembly, dispersal and arrest - there is far too much power in the hands of law enforcement to do these things in succession.