



March 20, 2018

The J20 Trials and the Criminalization of Dissent

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Location: Silverman 240A

Join NLG's panelists for a conversation about the J20 Trials, protest policing, and the criminalization of dissent.

During a demonstration against Donald Trump's inauguration on January 20, 2017, officers from DC's Metropolitan Police Department mass-arrested over 200 protesters. Charged with felonies under the Federal Rioting Statute, on the theory that a participant in a political rally can be held criminally liable for any property damage that takes place during the rally, they faced possible decades-long prison sentences. Almost a year later, after six defendants were acquitted, prosecutors dropped the charges against the majority of the remaining defendants. But 59 defendants still remain, and they still face felony charges carrying prison sentences of up to 60 years. NLG invites you join us in a conversation about the J20 Trials with the following panelists:

Maggie Ellinger-Locke is a staff attorney at Greenpeace USA and executive vice president of the National Lawyers Guild. She led the Guild's legal team on J20, and has been providing support to the effort ever since.

Chip Gibbons is policy and legislative counsel for Defending Rights & Dissent. He is also a journalist, whose work has appeared in *The Nation*, *Jacobin*, and *Truthout*.

Andy Switzer is a member of the Human Rights Coalition. He is a former J20 defendant.

Lunch will be served.

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Feedback