

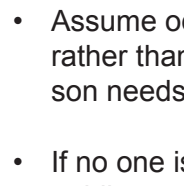
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Inviting police into public spaces increases tension. There is enough stress and tension in schools, workspaces, and public places without the need to increase it with the presence of armed officers.
- Get to know your neighbors – if you have a disagreement about their behavior, it's easier to address it directly with someone you already have a relationship with.
- Is that person “suspicious-looking” because their race, gender, ethnicity, class, or housing situation is different than yours? You may place them at risk of being harmed if the police are called. Can you just go about your own business?



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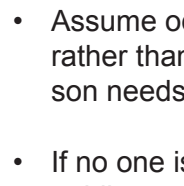
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- Take a first-aid, de-escalation, conflict resolution, or self-defense class and put those skills to use when needed rather than calling the police. You'll feel good about yourself, too!
- A tow truck is better equipped to help a broken-down vehicle than the police.
- If you have to make an official report about an incident, go to the police station rather than inviting them into your community.

Recommendations adapted from a Zine by
May Day Collective and Solidarity & Defense

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WHY THINK TWICE?

BLMGB condemns the police brutality of the Burlington Police Department (BPD) – both the brutality seen in body camera footage and on-going brutality that continues to go insufficiently recorded or documented.

Those of us who are not police officers or part of the legal “justice” system must commit to alternatives that increase safety in our community.

We must all take responsibility for how we interact with these institutions and each other. This includes seeing and acknowledging the risk of violent and irreversible outcomes of calling the police, particularly for Black people, and “thinking twice” before making that call.

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ABOUT US

Black Lives Matter of Greater Burlington (BLMGB) is an unofficial chapter of the national and global #BlackLivesMatter movement.

OUR VISION

To see the greater Burlington area transformed into a place where all Black people thrive bodily, socially, and economically.

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