



What you need to know ...

The 'Occupy Movement'



The 'Occupy Movement' is more than Wall Street and Chicago ...



On Thursday, BOMA International participated in a conference call conducted by Michael Stapleton and Associates (MSA) regarding the current situation in the NYC area relating to the Occupy Wall Street demonstration. This movement is continuing to expand, since its start on September 17, with now some 150+ demonstrations documented throughout the US. This is a set of planned demonstrations that have been started and been maintained by the social media. A list was posted on Wikipedia for locations of protests Saturday - Global day of Change. Although info on Wikipedia should be viewed cautiously, this appears to have been a fairly complete list.

A few suggested items came from the conference call that should be considered ahead of any potential moves, or potentially impact your operations as follows:

- Coordinate with Law Enforcement to make sure contacts are current and up to date.
- Understand where the public spaces are in relation to your property. These are properties that have been set aside and open to the public 24 hours a day and could become locations for individuals to set up camp sites.
- Confirm that trespassing signage is current, up to date and legible at member properties.
- Retailers should be discouraged from allowing people to use the restrooms

without purchasing items (McDonalds across from NYC park is being used for restroom breaks).

- Local BIDs and business communities need to stay connected to monitor activities and movements of groups. Understand if local BIDs are providing updates as to activities.
- All video cameras are working and providing images from any activities that might identify potential mischief or questionable activity.
- Monitor the twitter and facebook feeds of the local Occupy groups as these and other social media outlets are key to getting messages out and assist in maintaining a stream of information for supplies and recruiting. Make sure security teams have the ability to have access to information from these feeds or that your security firm's management is monitoring and providing information to the site teams.
- Stay connected with your tenants to allow for a two way flow information regarding information they may have and likewise sharing information with them.
- Take precautionary steps to increase security should planned marches or protests schedule a march past or near the buildings.

It is believed that this movement will continue to expand and provide challenges to local law enforcement and owners of real estate. No one knows how this will end and some voiced concern that with time other groups could infiltrate the normally peaceful groups to hi-jack and create problems. This morning, protesters in New York continue to demonstrate and push toward Wall Street.

To stay on top of events, the 'Occupy Chicago' calendar of demonstrations can be found at <http://occupychi.org/>.

A few updates on Occupy Wall Street from NYPD --

- Activity on the OccupyWallSt.org website has increased substantially Friday after an article was posted about NYPD's (presumably imminent) plans to remove demonstrators from Zucotti Park in preparation for the cleaning.
- BOMA International has found only one possible reference to violence -- as one social media poster commented: "Better grab your pipes." Note: This could also be a reference to demonstrators getting rid of drug paraphernalia prior to the arrival of police.
- Two booklets on non-violent strategies for blockading and resisting forcible removal were also posted. Some of the tactics in the booklets include protestors

using bicycle U-locks around their necks to connect demonstrators to each other and attach themselves to stationary objects in order to avoid being forcibly removed. Additional tactics include locking together using arm and leg tubes in order to create blockades.

- Additionally, one poster suggested that the group should stage a demonstration at the headquarters of Brookfield properties since they are the owners of the park.
- On Friday morning a video was posted to the same website, which called for a demonstration on October 15 in Times Square. The call to action stated "On October 15, we take the banks." It specifically referenced Bank of America, Chase, Citibank, and Wells Fargo and concluded with the statement "On October 15th, banking will not be business as usual." It is possible that this video was meant to encourage demonstrators to attempt to stage sit-ins or potentially some other form of civil-disobedience against branches or offices of these banks in Times Square.

Copyright © 2011 BOMA/Suburban Chicago, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email as a member of BOMA/Suburban Chicago. Non-member opt-ins will be added to a supplemental list only.

Our mailing address is:

BOMA/Suburban Chicago
1515 E. Woodfield Road
Suite 110
Schaumburg, IL 60173