

www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-protesters-aclu-want-clarity-about-nato-restrictions-20120420,0,5875431.story

chicagotribune.com

Protesters, ACLU want clarity about NATO restrictions

By David Heinzmann

Tribune reporter

2:16 PM CDT, April 20, 2012

Protesters and the American Civil Liberties Union are not happy with the uncertainty over how big a security circle federal authorities plan to draw around McCormick Place during next month's NATO summit.

advertisement

The groups said they fear that the U.S. Secret Service will wait until the last minute to set up a security perimeter with fencing and barricades that keeps demonstrators too far from the convention center where world leaders plan to meet May 20-21.

Until they see where the Secret Service perimeter falls, they can't decide whether they will file a court challenge, said Andy Thayer, who holds the permit for a May 20 demonstration parade that is scheduled to end in the 2300 block of South Indiana Avenue, opposite the front doors of McCormick Place.

Although the city has signed off on the parade route, officials have noted that the Secret Service has the authority to change the route if agents decide the march's end point compromises security.

Both Thayer's group and the ACLU made statements today demanding that the Secret Service disclose its security perimeter no later than Monday.

Secret Service officials have said they plan to announce the security perimeter as well as other details about traffic control sometime in the two-to-four-week window before the summit. Sunday marks the one-month point before the summit begins.

Secret Service spokesman George Ogilvie said he could not comment further on when the agency planned to disclose its plans.

dheinzmann@tribune.com

Copyright © 2012, [Chicago Tribune](#)