



POSTE DE QUARTIER 12

SERVICE DE POLICE
DE LA VILLE DE MONTRÉAL



October 3rd, 2024

The right to protest, its limits and the role of the SPVM

Greetings,

As commander of neighbourhood police station 12, I wanted to reach out to you as we approach the first anniversary of the dramatic resumption of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Numerous demonstrations have since taken place in Montreal, generating fear and discontent for some of those living near the sites of the gatherings. As a police force, the public's peace of mind and safety is a priority for us.

The right to protest is a fundamental freedom guaranteed by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Neither the police nor municipal authorities can prevent people from gathering peacefully to express their opinions.

However, this right has its limits. It cannot be used to commit mischief or vandalism, for example. In such situation, police will intervene to protect property and people, including demonstrators. Offenders may be subject to arrest or get a fine.

Incitement to hatred is also illegal, as are calls for violence. Hate crimes and incidents have no place in a tolerant city like Montreal. I therefore invite you to contact us if you are a victim or witness of such acts.

As the sense of security of all populations is a priority for the SPVM, we will continue to monitor the situation. There will also be increased police presence in the area this month as many Jewish community celebrations will be taking place.

To conclude, I would like to thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact us at pdq12@spvm.qc.ca or fill in the contact form on our [website](#). You can also contact Info-Crime Montréal anonymously and confidentially at 514 393-1133 or by visiting infocrimemontreal.ca.
In case of emergency, dial 9-1-1.

Regards,

Angélique Beaudet, commander
Chief of neighbourhood police station 12