

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Protests are not a crime

From: Olivia Bozzo

Sent: December 1, 2020 12:19 PM

To: mediarelations@hamiltonpolice.on.ca

Subject: Protests are not a crime

I am emailing you to express my support for the Hamilton Protestors that left a coffin at Fred's house. This is not a crime, no one was harmed, it was simply a statement. It represents the lives lost in Hamilton due to Fred's lack of action to provide housing for them. These citizens and doing more for houseless people than our own government is, only to be threatened, arrested, or fined, this is so shameful. How many more have to freeze to death for you to care? How many times to we have to beg for housing for you to listen? You've proven time and time again that you don't keep us safe, WE keep us safe. While you're giving the police millions of dollars and sitting in your warm home, people are on the streets overdosing, freezing to death, starving to death, and being brutalized and harassed by police. Tickets were given out for NO reason, one was given a ticket for having a flower, one was giving a ticket for calling a cop a pig. Those are not crimes. Those do not deserve tickets. The right to protest must be protected. What happened at City Hall was not surprising, these people are tired of being moved around, where can houseless people exist if you're kicking them out constantly? Shelters are full and unsafe for many women and LGBTQ+ folks, especially during COVID. Meet with your citizens publicly and listen to us for once in your life. Ignoring Hamilton's housing crisis won't make it go away.

-Olivia