

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Statement from Bridget Shergalis and Sophie Ross

October 29, 2026

This is our second statement in regards to the subpoenas we received on October 16th. Following the advice of numerous comrades as well as our own political instincts, we have decided to publicize our refusal to testify in this federal grand jury. Neither of us will ever testify, inform on, or expose another person to the state. We will be responding in solidarity with each other and with whoever we have been ordered to provide testimony on. When we arrive in court on November 4th, we will each give our names to the court, and respond to any additional questions by invoking our rights to remain silent according to the Fifth Amendment.

In the past, grand jury resisters have been imprisoned by the courts in order to coerce them into testifying. But the two of us once spent a year under the yoke of an invasive criminal investigation which threatened us with 37 years in prison. We did not cooperate under those conditions, and we see no benefit whatsoever to doing so now. We consider the possibility of imprisonment to be a very cheap price to pay for the defense of our movement, which is one small part of the global resistance against United States imperialism.

Both of us have signed the NSPM-7 Defendants Union Pledge (<https://nspm7union.com/defendants-pledge>) and encourage every person approached by the state to do the same. It can sometimes feel counter-intuitive to go public when you are facing state surveillance and repression, but it can only benefit us to collectivize what we know regarding the state's abilities and plans. An aggressive, politicized strategy offers us the best chance of defending both ourselves and whoever this grand jury is targeting. It also helps to protect and prepare the movement as a whole.

We should point out that the November 2023 action we participated in was affiliated with the U.S. branch of Palestine Action, which in August 2026 was designated a terrorist organization by the United States. Terrorism designations exist to isolate political actors from international support networks, and to delegitimize the tactics they use. This is the ultimate hypocrisy, when the United States has done nothing but bring down slaughter and mass destruction onto Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, and the rest of the Third World. We stand by our past tactics, and in unconditional solidarity with whoever is being targeted by this grand jury, as well as with every other person currently undergoing similar investigations by the United States. Those of us on the outside of the prison have a permanent duty to defend them.

Bridget Shergalis
Sophie Ross