The Unfolding Situation

Background

It has been a long, hot summer. There have been protests and demonstrations across the nation triggered by a number of issues ranging from the Climate Crisis to Civil Rights and Political Activism. The majority of the demonstrations have remained peaceful, but there have been isolated instances where the situation devolved into riots. There has been significant property damage in these cases, but no loss of life.

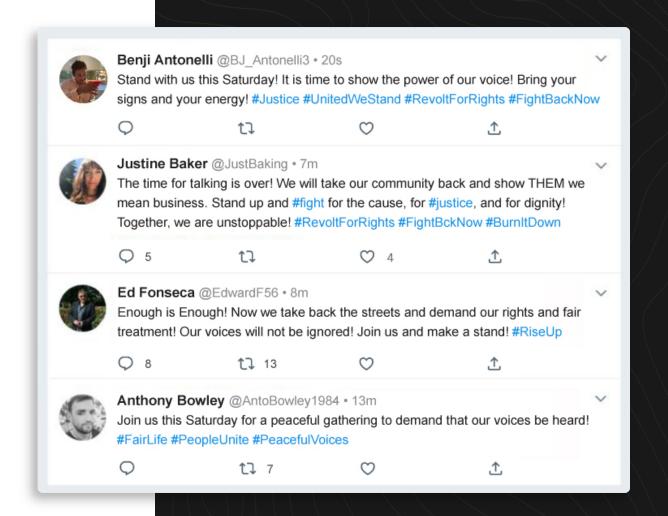
While there have been incidents in surrounding communities, nothing has occurred locally.



The Unfolding Situation

Wednesday, 10:00 AM

Local media are reporting that activist groups are calling for a large-scale protest in your community within the next 48 hours. The protest is being organized by a group with a history of peaceful demonstrations, but more radical groups are joining the call to protest.



The Unfolding Situation

Wednesday, 3:00 PM

Leadership has called a coordination meeting with Operations, HR, Legal, Facilities, and Crisis Management to discuss the potential protest and necessary precautions. A group of employees has approached their supervisors and demanded that the company make a public statement endorsing their position regarding the protests.



The Unfolding Situation

Thursday, 8:00 AM

Local law enforcement has contacted your organization and advised that there are credible indicators that the predicted demonstration may become violent. They are requesting that you notify your employees and stakeholders to take reasonable precautions and avoid any areas where demonstrations are taking place.

"Enough is enough! We are tired of being ignored and abused. This is our community, and it's time to take a stand. This Saturday we're hitting the streets to demand that they recognize our cause. We will not be silent until our voices are heard, and our rights are respected. Join us! Bring your passion and your power! Let's show them that we cannot be ignored! Together we can make a difference, Stand up, Fight back, and take control of our future! No Rest for the Wicked!"

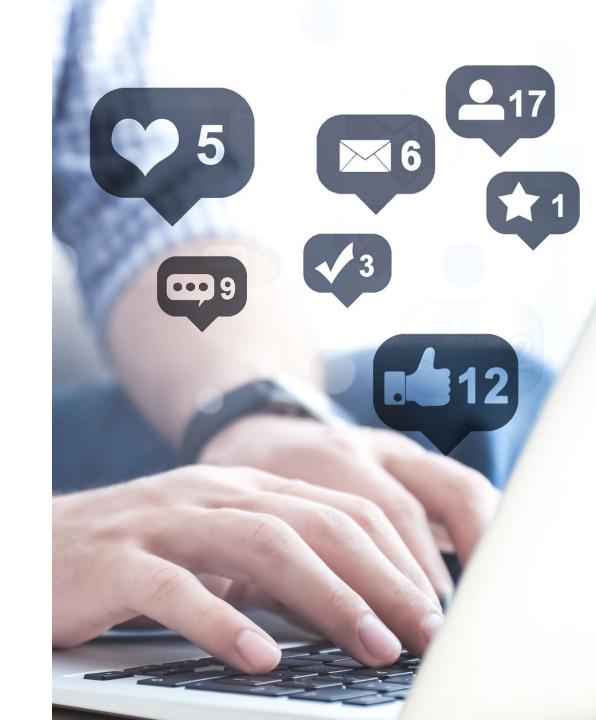


The Unfolding Situation

Thursday, 2:00 PM

A small group of employees are using internal email and other communication tools to advocate for the planned protest on Saturday. They are calling on your employees to stage a walkout in solidarity for the cause and accusing the company of turning a blind eye to what is right and what is wrong.

Several supervisors and managers have asked if these messages are in violation of company policy and are waiting for a response from HR and Legal.



Discussion Questions

- 1 How would your organization communicate with members and stakeholders about this situation?
- What potential risks associated with activist employees should be considered?
- 3 What steps could your organization take to mitigate the risks associated with this scenario?

