# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: THE MARCH FOR BLACK WOMEN

## WHAT IS THE MARCH FOR BLACK WOMEN (M4BW)?

The March for Black Women is a march occurring at the center of the March for Racial Justice in Washington, D.C. on September 30. The march was created to highlight and bring attention to rampant state-violence, the widespread incarceration of Black women and girls, rape and all sexualized violence, and the murders and brutalization of transwomen. The March for Black Women will amplify the issues that women of color and particularly Black women face every day without political or social recourse.

## WHEN & WHERE DOES IT TAKE PLACE?

The march takes place on **September 30th and begins at 10am at Seward Square.** The M4BW Rally will be held from 10 - 11:30 am. At 11:45 am, we will begin to march to Lincoln Park where we will join the larger March for Racial Justice. The March for Black Women/March for Racial Justice will begin at 12:30 pm. We will march from 12:30 pm to 2 pm. At 2 pm there will be a large scale rally at the National Mall.

## WHAT IS NOW'S INVOLVEMENT WITH THE MARCH?

NOW is a proud partner of the March for Black Women and a long time ally of the Black Women's Blueprint. We are sponsoring the march to show solidarity, not just with regards to racial inequality, but to the specific abuses faced by Black women and girls.

## WHY IS NOW INVOLVED IN THIS MARCH?

It is a disservice to ignore that women of color, particularly Black and Latinx women, live on the margins of society--politically, economically, and socially. The Trump administration has made consistent attempts to undermine and dismantle the civil liberties and rights of millions of people. They have been steadfast in enforcing the status quo that privileges the few and punishes the many. No one feels the sting of these policies more than women of color. This march--and NOW's participation--is not only a recognition of this ugly truth, but a commitment to ending the toxic policies and practices that hurt Black women. As feminists and allies, it is our obligation to uplift and support the lives of all women. The March for Black Women focuses on the treatment of African American women and girls and serves as a reminder that Black women's issues are racial justice issues.

## ARE THE MARCH FOR BLACK WOMEN AND THE MARCH FOR RACIAL JUSTICE THE SAME?

**Yes & No.** The March for Black Women is a part of the larger March for Racial Justice. In understanding that race matters, the organizers of M4BW understand that race, gender, and sexuality matter as well. Therefore, the purpose of this portion of the march is to address the unique circumstances faced by Black women.

The March for Black Women, however, will merge with the March for Racial Justice around 11:30 am. M4BW has worked with the March for Racial Justice throughout this process.
To learn more about the March for Racial Justice, click here.

## WHO ORGANIZED THE MARCH?

M4BW was created and spearheaded by our allies the Black Women's Blueprint, in addition to Trans Sisters of Color and Black Youth Project (BYP100). The march has a number of partners, including NOW. Check out the full list here.

## HOW LONG DOES THE MARCH LAST?

The official timeframe for the March and Rally for Black Women is 10 am to 2 pm. From 2pm onward, the March for Racial Justice, along with the Black Women's Blueprint have staged a rally at the National Mall that will last until sundown.

## WHERE ARE NOW MEMBERS MEETING FOR THE MARCH?

NOW members plan to meet for the march at 8:00 am at NOW's National Action Center . We invite all of our activists to join us. There we will provide signs, coffee, and light breakfast refreshments. Our office address is 1100 H St. NW #300, Washington, DC 20005.

# WHAT IS THE ROUTE FOR THE MARCH?

**MARCH FOR BLACK WOMEN MARCH ROUTE**

MBW RALLY LOCATION (Seward Square

MBW MARCH TO LINCOLN PARK

Lincoln Park
M4RJ Rally Point

March Penn-DOJ-Mall
Split Point
Split 1- Lincoln-Independence
Split 2 - Lincoln-Constitution

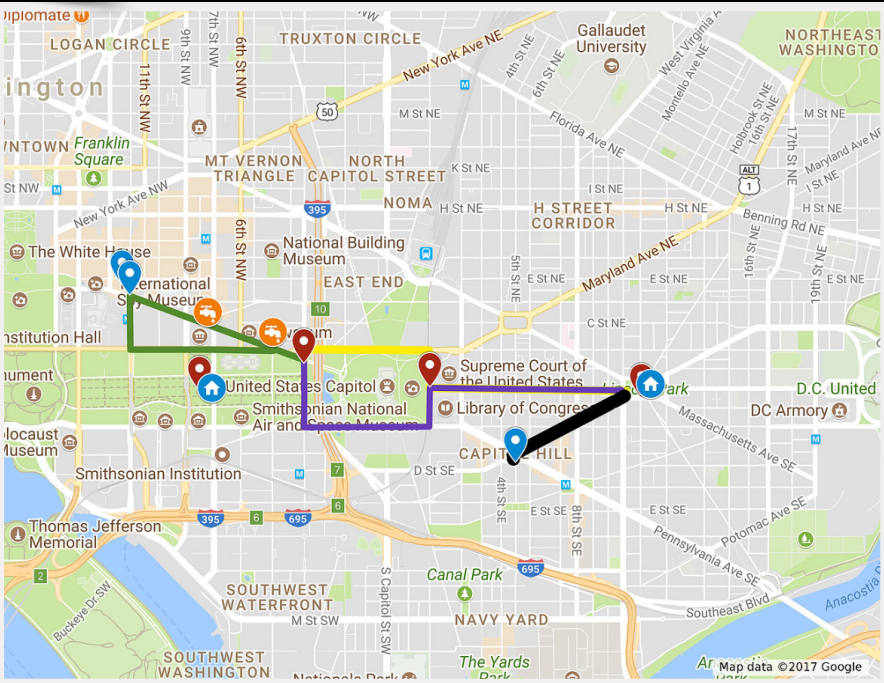
Convergence Point for DOJ
Department of Justice

DOJ - March Point

National Mall

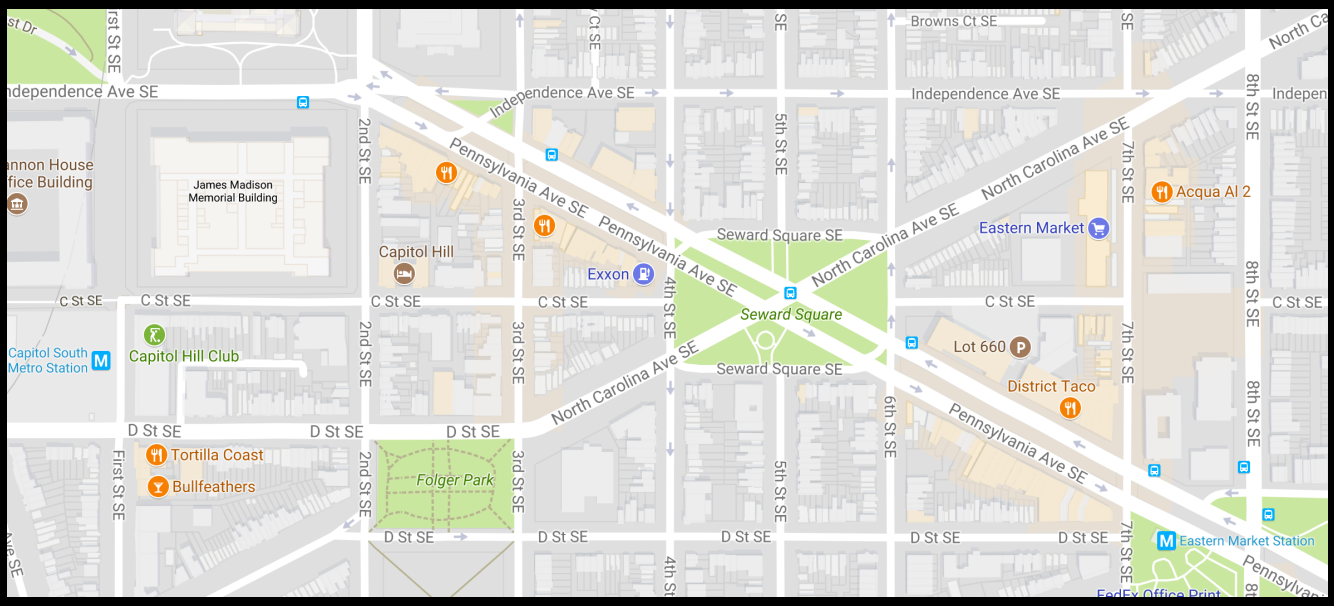
End Point - National Mall Stage

John Marshall Park - Water Station, Port-A-Johns
US Navy Memorial Plaza- Water Station, Port-A-Johns




Here is a link to the larger map.

# WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO GET TO THE LOCATION?




We recommend that activists use the Metro. Seward Square is in between Capitol South Metro Stop and the Eastern Market Metro stop on the Blue, Orange, and Silver lines. National NOW will take the Metro to Seward Park from our office on Saturday morning.

## WHAT IS THE PROGRAM OF EVENTS AT THE MARCH FOR BLACK WOMEN?

The program of events will be announced shortly. Please keep an eye out at this link for more details.

## WHAT KIND OF SIGNS WILL BE AVAILABLE?

National NOW will supply our rounds that read: “Stop Racism NOW”, “Intersectional Feminism”, and “Respect Women of Color.” We encourage activists to bring their own signs and posters with their own unique messaging. If you would like to make signs here, NOW will provide activists with materials to create them.

## WILL NOW PAY FOR MY TRANSPORTATION TO DC?

No, National NOW will not reimburse NOW members for attending either march. You are encouraged to use chapter funds to pay for your trip. Additionally, organizers of the march have provided a number of cost effective options.

## WHO DO I SPEAK TO REGARDING HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS?

National NOW will not provide hotel accommodations if you decide to join the March for Black Women or the larger, March for Racial Justice. However, the head of our Combatting Racism Committee, Jocelyn Morris is coordinating hotel bookings for those interested. To find out more details please contact our National Action Program at actionassociate@now.org.

## I DO NOT HAVE THE MONEY TO RENT A HOTEL ROOM, BUT I REALLY WANT TO GO? WHAT SHOULD I DO?

National NOW is currently working with chapters activists in the DC, Maryland, and Virginia area who are willing to provide lodging for NOW members for the night of September 29th. To find out more details please contact our National Action Program at actionassociate@now.org.

## DO I HAVE TO REGISTER?

You can register for the March for Black Women here. If you plan on going and participating with NOW, please fill out our RSVP Form.

## CAN OR SHOULD I BRING MY CHILDREN?

The decision to bring your children is a personal one. The M4BW has a team of experienced and professional national organizers working to ensure that every safety protocol is followed.

## WILL THERE BE TRANSPORTATION FOR THOSE UNABLE TO WALK THE FULL MARCH ROUTE?

Yes, the organizers of both the M4BW will have six, 12-passenger vans for those that are unable to make the journey.

## IF I CANNOT MAKE IT TO DC, ARE THERE OTHER MARCHES I CAN ATTEND?

Yes! Activists across the country will hold sister marches in solidarity of the March for Black Women and the March for Racial Justice. Click here to find one near you. To start your own march, check out M4BW's townhall march toolkit.

## I REALLY WANT TO PROMOTE THIS EVENT, WHAT CAN I DO?

Go on social media! M4BW has created a social media toolkit with hashtags, sample tweets, and graphics. Here is a link to the Facebook invite.

## CAN I VIDEOTAPE/LIVESTREAM THE EVENT?

Absolutely, we encourage all those who join to document the occasion, both for prosperity and safety.

## I'M STILL A BIT CONFUSED ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF THIS MARCH AND WHAT IT MEANS. WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The organizers of this march have crafted a detailed treatise on the purpose and meaning behind the event: "Silenced no more, the March for Black Women will demand a particular brand of racial justice: a racial justice requiring we reject age-old divide and conquer tactics and center Black trans-women in all Black community struggles, bar-none. We want a brand of racial justice deployed, centering the trauma and complexity of all Black women's lived experiences of atrocity across generations."

To read more, click here.