

Democratic Socialists of America

PORTLAND, OREGON



Portland City Council is voting Wednesday on whether or not to renew a contract for security services at City Hall with G4S, a private security company with a long track record of human rights abuses around the world, from Palestine to the U.K. Portland DSA urges the City Council to end this contract. Email your councilors today to tell them “No new G4S contract!”

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Reasons to end the contract:

- Sanctuary city:
 - Portland has publicly committed to being a sanctuary city. If we’re going to keep that promise, we shouldn’t be giving money to a company that gets rich off of our cruel immigration policy. G4S contracts with ICE.
- Human rights: G4S has been implicated in human rights abuses around the world. A few examples:
 - Jimmy Mubenga, a refugee living in Great Britain, died while G4S security guards were in the process of deporting him.
 - Prisoners in South African prisons staffed by G4S have sued the company for torture.
- Union
 - Some council members defend G4S because it has a union. Two other unionized companies have bid on this security contract, so the City can end its connection with G4S while continuing to support labor rights.
- Other:
 - Other cities and countries recognize that G4S can’t be relied on to respect human rights. Great Britain is ending its contracts with the company based on its abuses against prisoners there.
 - G4S employed the Orlando Pulse nightclub shooter, and did not take action when coworkers reported him for racist, anti semitic, homophobic, and sexist language.
 - A G4S employee in Portland recklessly endangered hundreds of people by pointing lasers at planes, risking harm to the pilots’ eyesight and endangering everyone on board.

The Portland Chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America is building an open, democratic socialist presence in the Portland-metro area and connecting socialists across Oregon. We believe both the economy and society should be run democratically to meet human needs and end oppression, not to make profits for a few. We are organizing together to make that a reality.

