Summary Information

Repository:
Indiana University South Bend Archives
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Creator: Indiana University South Bend
Title: IU South Bend: Occupy South Bend Collection

Abstract: Occupy Wall Street is a protest movement that began in New York’s Zuccotti Park on September 17, 2011. The group’s main areas of concentration and activism involve critical examination of – and activism against - social and economic inequality, greed, corruption and the rampant influence of corporation on government. As other grassroots Occupy movements sprang up across the country, South Bend Indiana’s own Occupy protests began in front of the Wells Fargo building downtown on October 8, 2011. Since that time Occupy South Bend has organized protests, rallies and, in particular, sit-ins in order to protest what they believe is systemically instituted corporate control over the American government and by extension, Americans’ lives. People from all walks of life have participated in the movement – including students, to business owners, to laid-off union workers. Many spent weeks or even months camped out in front of various South Bend banks, financial service providers or other institutions whose practices they believe are toxic to the health of the United States economy.
Scope and Content Note:

The collection is organized alphabetically and then chronologically. Included in the collection are newspaper clippings of articles discussing the Occupy Movement in South Bend and its impact locally, handwritten minutes from Occupy South Bend general assembly meetings, a detailed 'manifesto' penned by local activist Tom Butler about what Occupy South Bend stands for and what its goals are moving forward. Also included are oral interviews with local Occupiers conducted at Schurz Library under the supervision of Tom Butler, Alison Stankrauff and Josh Crain.

Additionally, there are digital files of a can opener that those in the Occupy South Bend movement used. This can opener served as an official item that granted permission to speak to the person in possession of it at that moment.

The can opener was presented to the Occupy South Bend by the Mayor as a sign of good will. The activists with Occupy South Bend wanted to keep the physical can opener in their possession, so digital images of these were captured. These images are stored in the Archivist’s digital files.

Administrative Information:

Access Restrictions:
This collection is open for research.
Advanced notice is required.

Usage Restrictions:
Copyright interests for this collection have been transferred to the Trustees of Indiana University. For more information, contact the Indiana University South Bend Archivist.

Preferred Citation:
[Item]: IU South Bend: Occupy South Bend Collection, Indiana University South Bend Archives.

Processing Information:
Processed by IU South Bend Archives Student Worker Joshua Crain on July 25, 2012. Amended by IU South Bend Archivist Alison Stankrauff, July 5, 2013.
1. Response by Tom Butler to the ‘Chase Fact Sheet’ - January 9, 2011.

2. Chase Tower Fact Sheet - February 27, 2011.


4. They Have 99 Problems when we Became One. Flyer – October 8, 2011.


11. Release and Indemnification Agree to the City of South Bend – November 1, 2011.


24. The 99% Declaration. Flyer - No Date.

25. 99 to 1, Those are Great Odds. Flyer – No Date.

26. The AFL-CIO Six Pillars to Create and Keep Good Jobs – No Date.

27. General Assembly Rules. Handout – No Date.

28. How Do Lower Wages Help Indiana’s Economy?. Flyer – No Date.

29. List of Occupy Signs (with art on back) – No Date.

30. Melissa’s To Do List – No Date.

31. NYC General Assembly – No Date.

32. Occupy Chants – No Date.

33. Occupy South Bend FAQ – No Date.

34. Photographs of Occupy South Bend – No Date.
35. Posters of Occupy South Bend – No Date.

36. The Occupy Wall Street Spokes Council Proposal – No Date.

37. This Republican opposes Right to Work – Flyer – No Date.

38. Tom Butler’s explanation on why we occupy – No Date.

39. We are the 99%. Flyers – No Date.

40. What to do if you’re stopped by the police – No Date.

41. Unidentified/Miscellaneous – No date.