

Rallies, lunch & learns, and canvassing campaigns are great opportunities to capture video. Use these events to record b-roll and interview members about their experience. B-roll is simply capturing short recordings of actions taking place at an event.

These actions can include interesting facial expressions, rally signs, people walking a picket line, groups of people holding signs, featured speakers, spokespeople talking to the press, crowd shots, and/or signing up new members.

Composition is key.

With a few composition basics in mind you can create good-looking videos that tell an important story.

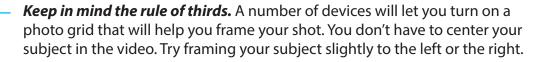


Watch out for your thumbs! Make sure your fingers are not covering your camera lens.

Record your video in landscape. Turn your phone horizontally!



Remain on your subject's level. Steer clear from recording upward, downward, or canted/tilted at an angle when capturing interviews.





Fill the frame. Your subject should take up most of the frame. This tip works for rally signs and interviews. The background should not be a distraction from the main subject you are recording.





Keep steady! Even when panning over a scene you don't want a shaky video. Use two hands when recording or a stability device, like a tripod.

*Be mindful as to any agency rules, policies, or regulations about videography and photography in the workplace.



Get ready to record interviews.

Interviews help you personalize an action. It's always useful to get a few folks on camera talking about their experience.



These can be 20 -30 second interviews that you record while at an event. Simply ask the subject to step away from the action (but you're still close enough for the event to be visible in the background). Ask a couple general questions, such as, 'why are you at this action today' and/or 'why is it important for members to get involved'.

Recording interviews that aren't on-location at events can also be useful. For these interviews you just need a quiet, well-lit room. Stay away from positioning people in front of windows!

The sound is just as important as the composition. Make sure your fingers aren't covering the built-in microphone. Also, a quiet location is key so that you are not also recording a lot of distracting background noise.



Additional tips for your interviewees:

Make sure your subjects are not on official time



Have your subject identify themselves as union members, not federal employees

When AFGE members are at a rally they should remove their badges, uniforms and any reference to AFGE PAC.



Use mobile apps to create a quick and easy highlight reel.

Mobile apps like Google Photos allow you to easily compile your photos and videos into a highlight reel for an event.

