# Confrontation Erupts at Pomona College Commencement Over Pro-Palestinian Protest



On May 13, 2024, a confrontation occurred outside Pomona College's commencement ceremony in Los Angeles, involving pro-Palestinian protesters, police officers, and private security. The protesters attempted to block entry to the graduation event, leading to at least one arrest. Tensions escalated when demonstrators tried to prevent graduates' family members from entering the venue, resulting in minor scuffles but no reported injuries. The commencement proceeded as planned despite these disruptions.

The protesters had been advocating for Pomona College to divest from companies linked to the Israeli military and started their encampment back in late March, camping at locations including a pro-Palestinian art installation and later the graduation stage. This activism followed student government actions advocating for academic boycotts of Israel and resolutions demanding transparency regarding the college's investment in weapons manufacturers associated with Israel.

This incident at Pomona College is part of broader national and international campus actions related to the Israel-Gaza conflict, highlighting various responses by educational institutions ranging from dialogue and concession to police intervention.