



Multi-Cultural Community Council

★ To Yolo County DA Jeff Reisig

Jeff Reisig
District Attorney

March 23, 2021

Tessa Smith
Chairperson

MULTI-CULTURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Laura Valdes
Vice-Chairperson

“Like everyone else – I get up in the morning. I check on my children. I prep myself for work. I support my family and local businesses. I breathe. I smile. I exist.

Committee Members

Celina Alvarez

NOT like everyone else – I get up in the morning worrying about setting someone off because of my skin color or ethnicity. I check on my children to see if they’ve experienced discrimination or hate. I prep myself for harsh and ignorant words. I support the heavy burden on my shoulders to speak lightly, smile brightly and move softly, so that I am not a target.

Alan Brownstein

And why? Because of my skin? My eyes? When I am just like you. A hard worker. A grateful resident. A parent. A spouse. A person.”

Kathy Dreyer

--An Asian American neighbor, Yolo County

Kara Hunter

Today we invite every Yolo County citizen to sit with the exhausting, terrible, everyday reality of living with racism for Asian Americans and all people of color, and ask what we as a community consider to be our priorities between such egregious assassinations? Mere outrage in a moment is not enough.

Claudia Ibarra

Larry Love

Megan Macklin

We appreciate and acknowledge that our Board of Supervisors and many parts of our government and systems of care have acknowledged that “Racism is a public health Crisis,” as well as a public safety crisis, and that even as the tragedy last Tuesday unfolded, our governing body signed a resolution and that a presentation on hate crimes and hate incidents against Asian Americans had been scheduled for this week.

MariaIsabel Mandujano

Gladys Mitchell

Jonathan Raven

The question, however, becomes “how big a priority—how important is it really-- that we address racism, xenophobia, religious intolerance, and misogyny in all its ugly forms and narratives in our community interactions and in our institutions? What are we doing to protect, support and encourage our AAPI communities to report and speak out about assaults on their humanity when they have felt unheard for so long?

Sukhjot Singh

Jenny Tan

We acknowledge that while even one hate crime or hate incident directed at Asian Americans or against any minority or marginalized group is intolerable and must be condemned, the staggering increase of hate crimes and hate incidents against Asian Americans is extraordinary in its vicious intensity. We call upon law enforcement in Yolo County, and throughout America, to use all its resources to punish and hold those individuals accountable who commit these abhorrent crimes which target not only the injured individual, but also terrorize a whole race of people.

We recognize that hate crimes and hate incidents increase because a culture and public discourse of bigotry encourages such criminal and other bias-motivated conduct. We have seen and heard all too much of this cultural promotion of hatred over the years. It is not enough to call on law

enforcement to protect Asian Americans by rigorously enforcing hate crime laws and arresting and prosecuting the perpetrators of these heinous acts.

We understand that silence is violence. Each of us must forcefully challenge the bigoted cultural attitudes and speech that create an environment that allows hate crimes and hate incidents to fester and ultimately cause harm to others. We must express our condemnation loudly, both individually and collectively.

And too, the Multi-Cultural Community Council asks that every community member report racial injustices when they see them, intervene where possible, post on social media where appropriate to keep the focus on this crisis, and walk with our Asian/Pacific Islander community members in solidarity. There is a reason that racism has been identified as a public health crisis in our county and state. . . It sickens, it infects, and it impacts all members of that race and also every last one of us.