

# How to Report a Hate Crime



**LOS ANGELES / ORANGE COUNTY**

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## What is a Hate Crime?

- Any crime committed with a bias and prejudice motive and selects victims based on a particular group: race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, disability, age, or gender.
- **Hate Incidents:** Name calling, insults, displaying hate material on your property or public places.

If it starts to threaten a person or property, it becomes hate crime.

- **Hate Crimes:** Any act or attempted act that constitutes an offence under criminal law, such as: harassment, involves injury, threats/acts of violence, or property damage.

## **People Who Commit Hate Crimes (Offenders / Perpetrators)**

- Displays prejudice of bias against a particular group
- Wants to establish separate states
- Wrongly blames group for social problems
- They are afraid and angry
- Few successes in life
- Unhappy and mixed up emotionally
- Easily swayed by people of hate groups
- Involvement prevents them from meeting new challenges and taking positive steps towards leading more productive and fulfilling lives

## Effects of Hate Crimes

- Sense of security is lost
- Victim, family & friends of victims suffer personal, financial, emotional loss
- Divides neighborhoods & communities
- Raises fear & suspicion
- Lowers openness & cooperation
- Directly threatens principles of democracy and equality
- Directly attacks our country's founding principles
- People lose confidence in the law
- Causes retaliating attacks by the victim groups
- Creates more violence and social/ethnic conflict

## Why You Need to Report

- Do not worry about not being a citizen. You have rights!
  - Do not fear deportation or arrest
  - Department of homeland security and Department of Fair Employment and Housing will not collect immigration status
- Do not be ashamed or in denial
  - You are not alone in this
  - There is a whole community that will support you if you speak up
- By reporting hate crimes, you protect yourself and others
- All crime must be reported to control and prevent future incidents
- Not reporting hate crimes raises levels of violence
- When left unpunished, the rule of the law is challenged
- Directly threatens national security
- If no crimes are reported = no record  
= no hate crimes

## **Know Your Rights**

CA Penal code section 422.6

CA Civil code section 51.7





## **CA Penal code section 422.6(a)(b)(c)**

(a) No person, whether or not acting under color of law, shall by force or threat of force, willfully injure, intimidate, interfere with, oppress, or threaten any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him or her by the Constitution or laws of this state or by the Constitution or laws of the United States in whole or in part because of one or more of the actual or perceived characteristics of the victim listed in subdivision (a) of Section 422.55.

(b) No person, whether or not acting under color of law, shall knowingly deface, damage, or destroy the real or personal property of any other person for the purpose of intimidating or interfering with the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to the other person by the Constitution or laws of this state or by the Constitution or laws of the United States, in whole or in part because of one or more of the actual or perceived characteristics of the victim listed in subdivision (a) of Section 422.55.

(c) Any person convicted of violating subdivision (a) or (b) shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, or by a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by both the above imprisonment and fine, and the court shall order the defendant to perform a minimum of community service, not to exceed 400 hours, to be performed over a period not to exceed 350 days, during a time other than his or her hours of employment or school attendance. . .

... However, no person may be convicted of violating subdivision (a) based upon speech alone, except upon a showing that the speech itself threatened violence against a specific person or group of persons and that the defendant had the apparent ability to carry out the threat.

## **CA Civil code section 51.7 (Ralph Civil Rights Act of 1976)**

(b) All persons within the jurisdiction of this state have the right to be free from any violence, or intimidation by threat of violence, committed against their persons or property because of political affiliation, or on account of any characteristic listed or defined in subdivision (b) or (e) of Section 51, or position in a labor dispute, or because another person perceives them to have one or more of those characteristics. The identification in this subdivision of particular bases of discrimination is illustrative rather than restrictive.

**PERPETRATOR LIABLE FOR  
EACH AND EVERY OFFENSE**

**NEEDS TO PAY MAX 3 TIMES  
AMOUNT OF DAMAGE**

**CIVIL PENALTY OF \$10,000**

## Prevention Tips

- Always let someone know where you're going
- Carry ID
- Stay alert of your surroundings
- Familiarize yourself with key landmarks:  
Market, Police Station, Fire Department,  
Gas Station, Restaurant, Intersections
- Carry personal alarm or whistle and flashlights
- Avoid isolated areas
- Avoid shortcuts
- Do not walk alone, especially at night
- Walk near curb, facing traffic
- Choose busy, well lit streets
- Look confident and purposeful in your walk
- Do not display any cash or credit card or jewelry
- Public transportation:
  - Check bus/train schedule
  - Do not wait alone at a stop
  - Know where you are going and how to get back
  - Sit near the bus driver
  - If harassed, report to driver immediately

## When Facing an Attack (Hate Speech/Crime)

- Trust your instincts & assess the situation. Your safety is #1
- Walk away ASAP or take the next exit and get out of the situation. The closer you are to other people, the better.
- Don't get triggered to participate in verbal argument because it will escalate the situation.
- Engage bystanders. Tell them what's going on and ask them for help.
- Take out your phone and start taking pictures or a video of the perpetrator (IF SAFE).
- Call 9-1-1 if attacked
- Scream "HELP" or "FIRE" or blow personal alarm/whistle.
- If you are physically attacked:
  - Protect your body and defend yourself by whatever means necessary.
  - Act crazy because they will freak out and let you go.
- Again, try to get out of the situation as fast you can.

## What to Do After an Attack (Witness or Victim)

**CALL 9-1-1 IF PHYSICALLY INJURED**

### SHAKE IT OFF

Write down somewhere what you remember about the person/people:

- Skin color
- Facial hair (*beard, mustache*)
- Eyes (*color, glasses*)
- Hair style/color (*side part, long, short*)
- Height
- Clothing
- Behavior
- Voice
- Age
- Tattoo
- Scars
- Jewelry
- Weight

Keep being in the world, and remind yourself that you are alive. Talk to someone about it and report it.

**Report Hate Crime Right Away**

[www.hatecrimebook.com](http://www.hatecrimebook.com)

## Perpetrator Details

Gender:

Age:

Ethnicity:

Eye color:

Hair style:

Hair color:

Clothing:

Facial hair:

Scars:

Tattoo:

Jewelry:

Weight:

[www.hatecrimebook.com](http://www.hatecrimebook.com)

Date:

Time:

Location:

Witness Name and Telephone #:

Bus #:

Line #:

Intersection:

License Plate:

Car Model:

Make:

Color:

Year:



Description of Incident:

Officer Name:

Officer Badge #:

Case #:

**IF POLICE DOES NOT TAKE REPORT,  
GO TO THE POLICE STATION AND  
ASK FOR ONE, THEN GET A COPY.**

## Remedies

- CA Victim compensation program (reimbursement program) assists victims in paying bills and expenses that result from acts of violence:
  - Medical/Dental treatment
  - Mental health services
  - Income loss
  - Relocation
  - Home/Vehicle modifications
  - Home security
  - Crime scene clean up
  - Job retraining
  - Funeral & burial expenses
  - Relocation
- Apply: (209)468-2500  
[victims.ca.gov/victims](http://victims.ca.gov/victims)
- EVIDENCE IS REQUIRED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION (documentation that crime occurred).
- For property/monetary loss, you can sue an individual for a civil suit (contact a civil attorney right away).

# LA Contacts

**After being a victim or witness to a hate crime, please contact any of the following to file a report or ask for assistance.**

**211** *non-profit organization*

Call 2-1-1 and they will help you file a report.

They are available 24/7 with translators.

[www.211la.org](http://www.211la.org)

**CRIMESTOPPERS** *non-profit organization*

**(REPORT ANONYMOUSLY)**

(800) 222 - TIPS (8477)

[www.lacrimestoppers.org](http://www.lacrimestoppers.org)

**LAPD HATE CRIMES DIVISION**

(213) 486-6840, (213) 257-2385

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

(202) 305-2935

**VICTIM COMPENSATION**

(800) 777-9229

**PROSECUTION - SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT**

(213) 978-8040

**LA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

(213) 974-7499, (800) 380-3811

# OC Contacts

**After being a victim or witness to a hate crime, please contact any of the following to file a report or ask for assistance.**

## **OC HUMAN RELATIONS** *non-profit organization*

Takes in all hate crime and incident reports

(714) 480-6580

[www.ochumanrelations.org](http://www.ochumanrelations.org)

## **Orange County Crime Stoppers**

*non-profit organization*

(855) 847-6227

Text to CRIMES (274637) and in the message body type keyword OCCS, then a space

## **OFFICE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

401 Civic Center Dr W, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4515

(714) 834-3600

## **VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

Joyce Sanchez

Email: [joyce@ochumanrelations.org](mailto:joyce@ochumanrelations.org)

(714) 480-6580

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S OFFICE HATE CRIME SUPPRESSION UNIT**

201 N. Figueroa Street, Room 1500,

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 580-3358

**This person is harassing me.  
Can you help me or stay next to me?**

**Someone is following me. Can you  
stay next to me until it is safe?**

**I don't know where I am.  
Where is the nearest police  
station?**

**Can you please call 9-1-1?  
I am in danger.**

**For the safety of our beloved  
community who still believes  
in the American Dream.**



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