ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

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OC HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION SUPPORTS PRIDE MONTH & STANDS WITH THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

Santa Ana, CA (6/9/2023) The Orange County Human Relations Commission stands with our Orange County LGBTQ+ community during Pride month and every other month of the year. We are troubled by the increase in harmful rhetoric, harassment and institutional acts of discrimination and hate toward the LGBTQ+ community. The 2021 OC Hate Crimes report showed an 83% increase in hate crimes against the LGBTQ+ community in 2021. Since 2021, we have only seen the prevalence of hate toward the LGBTQ+ community increase.

We also denounce the threatening and hate filled attacks on elected officials and allies to the LGBTQ+ community. No member of our rich and diverse community deserves to be threatened or harassed for who they are or who they love.

The mission of the Orange County Human Relations Commission is to "seek out the causes of tension and conflict, discrimination and intolerance and attempt to eliminate those causes." We believe in everyone's right to live free of racism, hate, discrimination, and bigotry no matter where you live. We are committed to fight racism and bigotry with love, empathy, compassion, and strength while promoting equity, inclusion, diversity and belonging for all.

If you have been a witness to an hate act or have been victimized, please report via the following ways: Online: <u>https://hatecrime.211oc.org/</u>; Call: 211, press #6; Text: OCHATEACTIVITY to 898211.

References: 2021 OC HATE CRIMES REPORT (<u>https://www.occommunityservices.org/sites/occs/files/2022-09/2021%200C%20Hate%20Crime%20Report.pdf</u>)

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