

How to Report and Protect Yourself Against a Hate Crime



We Care About Your Safety

If You Have Been the Victim of a Hate Crime or Bias-Motivated Incident:

Call the Long Beach Police Department

Emergency: 9-1-1
Non-Emergency: (562) 435-6711

When the police officers arrive, you can expect to be treated professionally. The officers will document the facts and call a field supervisor to the scene. Please advise the officer if a derogatory term was used, so that it can be included in the report. You will be given a crime report number to follow the progress of your case.

Human Dignity Policy

"Everyone should be treated with courtesy and respect, regardless of their racial background, their nation of origin, the religion they practice, their sexual orientation, gender, or disability status...It is the right of all residents to pursue their daily lives with the knowledge that they will not be threatened with violence or physical harm...The City will vigorously fight criminal activity known as hate crimes with all resources at its disposal."



The City of Long Beach
Human Dignity
Program

We Prevent. We Educate. We Respond. We Celebrate.

What is a Hate Crime?

A hate crime, as defined in section 422.55 of the California Penal Code, is a criminal act committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim: Disability, gender, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation – or because of the victim's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Biased-Motivated Incident

A "Bias-Motivated Incident" is different than a hate crime, in that it is a non-criminal action or behavior that is motivated by hate, but is protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression. Examples include name-calling, distribution of hate material in public places and the display of offensive hate-motivated material on one's property. Graffiti on an overpass would also be considered a bias-motivated incident, as graffiti needs to be directed at a specific target to be considered a hate crime.

Know Your Rights!

California Civil Code 51.7 states: "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 their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, medical condition, citizenship, marital status, genetic information or position in a labor dispute, or because another person perceives them to have one or more of these characteristics.

Any person who violates section 51.7 is liable for each and every offense for the actual damage suffered by any person determined by a court of law. Damages shall be paid to the victim by the offender as follows:

- Up to a maximum of three times the amount of actual damages
- A civil penalty of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000); and
- Attorney's fees as determined by the court

Regardless, all forms of hate or biased motivated incidents should be reported to the City's Human Dignity Program. For more information, please contact Human Dignity Program at (562) 570-6730.

How to Avoid Danger....

- Avoid walking alone
- Stay in well lighted areas
- Always have your keys ready
- Lock your doors as soon as you are inside your car
- Do not respond to verbal taunts
- Be alert and aware of your surroundings at all times
- Don't be brave! If you're in danger, yell, blow a whistle, or run!
- Report suspicious activity immediately by calling 9-1-1

Other Agencies You May Want To Contact

If you or someone you know would like to report a hate crime or bias incident, you can contact the **Hate Crimes Hotline at (562) 433-8595**, which is monitored by The LGBTQ Center of Greater Long Beach.

Other agencies that may assist you include:

The City of Long Beach

Long Beach Police Department - Violent Crimes Detail	(562) 570-7250
Long Beach City Prosecutor	(562) 570-5600
Human Dignity Program	(562) 570-6730

Community-Based Organizations

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL)

Los Angeles Regional Office (310) 446-8000

Asian Pacific American Legal Center

1145 Wilshire Blvd., 2nd Floor #200, Los Angeles, CA 90017..... (213) 977-7500

The California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ)

3711 Long Beach Blvd. Ste. 1017, Long Beach, CA 90807..... (562) 435-8184

The LGBTQ Center of Greater Long Beach (The Center)

2017 E 4th Street, Long Beach, CA 90814..... (562) 434-4455

United Cambodian Community

2201 E Anaheim Street #200, Long Beach, CA 90804..... (562) 433-2490

Victims of Crime Resource Counseling Center:

Norwalk (310) 534-7300

Cerritos (562) 402-0414

The Long Beach Trauma Recovery Center:

St. Mary's Medical Center

1050 Linden Ave., Ste. 801, Long Beach, CA 90813.....(562) 491-7977

Los Angeles County

District Attorney:

Long Beach Branch (562) 247-2000

Violent Crime Victim/Witness Assistance Program (562) 247-2068