

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

July 19, 2023
1.18

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO COUNCIL MOTION, COUNCIL FILE NO. 18-0720-S1

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. It is recommended that the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and ACCEPT the attached Fact Sheet response to the Public Safety Committee regarding the impact of hate crimes in the City.
2. It is recommended that the Board TRANSMIT to the Public Safety Committee the attached Fact Sheet.

DISCUSSION

On March 14, 2023, the City Council adopted the Public Safety Committee's report directing the Department to report back to the Council with current data on the impact of hate crimes in the City.

The instruction was to work with the City Attorney and other relevant City Departments to provide a status report on the rise in hate crimes in the City, as well as an overview of the City's hate crime reporting resources, hate crime prevention, prosecution of offenders, and public awareness efforts. To reflect the rise in hate crimes, the report contains data from 2017 through 2022 and includes crimes against Latinos and Street Vendors. Robbery-Homicide Division, Hate Crime Coordinator, has prepared the attached Fact Sheet as directed.

If there are any questions, please contact Captain Scot Williams, Commanding Officer, Robbery-Homicide Division, at (213) 486-6850.

Respectfully,



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachment

FACT SHEET

**CITY COUNCIL ADOPTION ON PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT ON
HATE CRIMES**

July 19, 2023

Background. On December 13, 2022, members of the Los Angeles City Council introduced a motion requesting the Los Angeles Police Department report back on the following (Council File No. 18-0720-S1):

- Provide a status report on the rise in hate crimes in Los Angeles; and,
- Provide an overview of the City’s hate crime reporting resources, hate crime prevention, prosecution of offenders, and public awareness efforts.

The motion, as amended by the Public Safety Committee to include information on Latinos and street vendors, was adopted by the City Council on March 14, 2023.

Findings. For the year of 2022, the Department analyzed hate crime and hate incidents. The analysis revealed 701 hate crimes occurred in 2022 compared to 610 from 2021, representing a 15 percent increase.

Bias Motivated Crimes	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	6 Year % Change
	264	301	346	408	610	701	166%
Bias							
Gender	24	17	23	30	31	40	67%
Disability	0	0	2	1	3	3	300%
Race	116	152	156	169	351	385	232%
Sub-bias Anti-Hispanic	32	40	44	51	102	90	181%
Religion	46	52	91	59	106	121	163%
Sexual Orientation	71	71	67	83	135	136	92%

NOTE: These statistics are current as of July 13, 2023. Additionally, there may be more biases than the total number of hate crimes as some hate crimes can have multiple biases. For example, a hate crime where the victim was targeted for their gender and race will count as one hate crime but two biases.

The increase in reported hate crimes can be attributed to expanded outreach efforts in the City with the most vulnerable communities. There was no evidence of “hate groups” entering the City and performing coordinated attacks against Angelenos.

RACE/ETHNICITY:

There has been an increase in anti-Race biased crimes in the City. There is no evidence that this increase is related to hate/extremist groups or activity. None of the Department’s investigations showed any relation to local or national hate groups.

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- During 2022, there were 90 anti-Hispanic hate crimes compared to 102 during 2021. This represents a **decrease** of 12 percent.

NOTE: In 2022, there was one hate crime against a street vendor compared to two in 2021. This is a **decrease** of 50 percent.

- There were 180 anti-Black hate crimes during 2022 compared to 132 during 2021. This represents an **increase** of 36 percent.
- There were seven anti-Asian hate crimes in 2019 prior to the pandemic compare to 33 during 2022. This represents an **increase** of 371 percent.

RELIGION:

The largest community affected by hate crimes in the religion category during 2022 was the Jewish community. The most common religion biased crimes are vandalism, criminal threats, and annoying communications. During 2022, there was a significant increase in anti-Semitic crimes and incidents during the month of May due to a period of increased Israeli and Palestinian conflict.

- There were 89 anti-Semitic hate crimes during 2022, compared to 72 during last year. This represents an **increase** of 24 percent.

NOTE: In 2022, the LAPD recorded all swastika vandalisms without any additional context as anti-Semitic.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION:

The largest community affected by hate crimes in the Sexual Orientation category during 2022 was the gay male community. These crimes range from aggravated and simple assault to vandalism and criminal threats. The victims in these crimes are often confronted regarding their sexual orientation, resulting in a verbal or physical altercation.

- There were 93 anti-Gay (Male) hate crimes during 2022 compared to 102 during last year. This represents a **decrease** of nine percent.

GENDER BIAS:

The community primarily affected by hate crime in the Gender Bias category is the transgender community. The victims of these crimes are often confronted regarding their gender identity, resulting in a verbal or physical altercation. The most common gender biased crimes are assaults and criminal threats, with more aggravated assaults than simple assaults.

- There were 29 anti-Transgender hate crimes during 2022 compared to 19 last year. This represents an **increase** of 53 percent.

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The Department believes the investigation of hate crimes and hate incidents is paramount to reducing the fear and incidence of crime in the City. The Department still maintains that hate crime and hate incident reporting be treated with the highest importance. The Department does not allow self-reporting on the online platform for crimes of this nature. Officers will be dispatched to conduct an on-scene investigation and ensure that victims receive information on their rights and available resources at the time of investigation. Victims can report hate crimes and hate incidents by calling 911, calling the non-emergency police response line (877-ASK-LAPD), or responding to a community police station. The Department has a two-pronged approach to each instance that includes a criminal investigation by both patrol and detectives, and community outreach in the Area of occurrence by the Area's Community Relations Office (CRO) and Senior Lead Officers (SLOs).

The Department has partnered with the California Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other local agencies in providing community trainings on victims' rights, bystander intervention techniques, and safety measures to take to avoid being victimized. These training sessions are conducted throughout the City with advocacy groups on a regular basis to reach different members of the protected classes.

During 2022, Department investigators cleared 187 cases out of 701, for a clearance rate of 26 percent of all hate crime cases. A total of 132 of these cases were Cleared by Arrest and 55 cases were Cleared Other. Of the 132 cases that were Cleared by Arrest, officers made 96 felony arrests and 16 misdemeanor arrests; the remaining 20 of the 132 cases were set for a City Attorney or District Attorney hearing.¹

In 2022, the District Attorney's Office reported receiving a total of 97 hate crime cases countywide. Eleven cases were rejected for filing and 86 cases were filed as hate crimes. Four cases received a no contest or guilty plea, four cases resulted in a not guilty plea, and 13 cases resulted in a non-bias motivated conviction. The remainder of the cases are still pending in court proceedings. The District Attorney's Office was unable to separate the Department's cases from total County cases.

In 2022, the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office received 110 hate crime investigations to review for misdemeanor prosecution. Thirteen of those were still under review at year's end. Fifty-four matters were charged and filed as misdemeanors and four were charged as hate crimes. Of the cases declined for prosecution, 50 percent were referred for City Attorney hearings.

The Department shares all crime statistics with the public through the City's Open Data portal and publicly posts Department hate crime statistics on the public facing website under the

¹ Detective Operations Manual Section 1/152.10 delineates when cases can be classified as Cleared by Arrest. One of those instances is when the case is set for a City Attorney or District Attorney hearing. For misdemeanors that do not occur in police presence, and there is no private persons arrest, the assigned detective submit those cases to the City Attorney or District Attorney for filing. Should there be charges filed or a hearing scheduled, the detective can classify that case as Cleared by Arrest even if there is no actual physical arrest.

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COMPSTAT tab. This information is posted monthly and separated by protected characteristic and by crime type. The Department's Communications Division is working with 311 to obtain a dedicated landline to ease the transfer of residents from the 311 system to 911 or non-emergency lines to create radio calls for officer response and investigation.

The Department, Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department (CHRED), 311 and Information Technology Agency (ITA) are working to create a hate incident reporting form which will match existing Department data points for ease of aggregation. The 311 operators will complete the form during calls for service to ensure all of the necessary information is properly documented to assist regional tracking efforts.

Information Technology Agency is working with CHRED and the Department to create a limited access database with matching LAPD datapoints (address, crime type, bias type, etc.) that would be accessed only by CHRED and 311 personnel. This ITA project does not have an approximate completion date.

The Department will continue to collaborate with 311, ITA and CHRED to facilitate the sharing of hate crime and hate incident data. This effort will result in more effective proactive and community policing efforts in the fight against hate.

Prepared by:

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