

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

September 21, 2026

1.4

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: HATE CRIME STATISTICS

RECOMMENDED ACTION

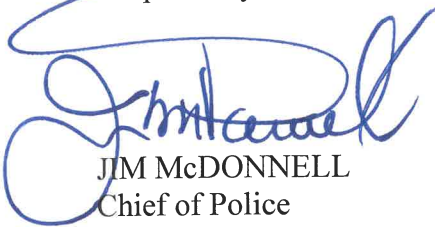
1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE the Los Angeles Police Department's (Department) Hate Crimes Report.

DISCUSSION

The Board of Police Commissioners requested that the Department provide hate crime statistics, including an analysis of what is driving the increase in hate crimes in the Valley and West Bureaus and decrease in Central and South Bureaus. The attached report contains hate crimes data through July 31, 2026, and includes strategies to reduce the upward trend.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Detective II Dara Hamilton, Hate Crimes Coordinator, Robbery-Homicide Division, at (213) 486-6840.

Respectfully,



JIM McDONNELL
Chief of Police

Attachment

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



A note from...

Detective II Dara Hamilton, Serial No. 36317

ROBBERY HOMICIDE DIVISION

HATE CRIMES COORDINATOR

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSION HATE CRIMES STATISTICS REQUEST: It was requested that hate crime statistics be provided and that an analysis be completed on what is driving the increase in hate crimes in the Valley and West Bureaus and a decrease in Central and South Bureaus. Additionally, discuss strategies to reduce this upward trend.

YTD 073126 Hate Crime by Bureau / Division

Division	1 Jan -> 31 Jul 2026	1 Jan -> 31 Jul 2025	% Change	Diff
OCB - CENTRAL BUREAU				
1 - CENTRAL AREA	40	32	25%	8
2 - RAMPART AREA	23	24	-4.17%	-1
4 - HOLLENBECK AREA	11	25	-56%	-14
11 - NORTHEAST AREA	25	25	0%	0
13 - NEWTON AREA	12	12	0%	0
OCB - CENTRAL BUREAU Subtotal	111	118	-5.93%	-7
OSB - SOUTH BUREAU				
3 - SOUTHWEST AREA	19	24	-20.83%	-5
5 - HARBOR AREA	8	12	-33.33%	-4
12 - 77TH STREET AREA	12	8	50%	4
18 - SOUTHEAST AREA	7	9	-22.22%	-2
OSB - SOUTH BUREAU Subtotal	46	53	-13.21%	-7
OVB - VALLEY BUREAU				
9 - VAN NUYS AREA	19	31	-38.71%	-12
10 - WEST VALLEY AREA	23	20	15%	3
15 - NORTH HOLLYWOOD AREA	20	10	100%	10
16 - FOOTHILL AREA	11	8	37.50%	3
17 - DEVONSHIRE AREA	21	7	200%	14
19 - MISSION AREA	12	12	0%	0
21 - TOPANGA AREA	14	22	-36.36%	-8
OVB - VALLEY BUREAU Subtotal	120	110	9.09%	10
OWB - WEST BUREAU				
6 - HOLLYWOOD AREA	24	22	9.09%	2
7 - WILSHIRE AREA	26	24	8.33%	2
8 - WEST LOS ANGELES AREA	21	18	16.67%	3
14 - PACIFIC AREA	31	23	34.78%	8
20 - OLYMPIC AREA	37	40	-7.50%	-3
OWB - WEST BUREAU Subtotal	139	127	9.45%	12
Grand Total	416	408	1.96%	8

Above are the year-to-date hate crime statistics snapshots (by Bureau and then Division) for the City of Los Angeles for 2025 and 2026.

YTD 073126 Top 5 Hate Bias by Bureau

Hate/Bias Type	1 Jan -> 31 Jul 2026	1 Jan -> 31 Jul 2025	% Change	Diff
OCB - CENTRAL BUREAU				
ANTI-BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	27	25	8%	2
ANTI-GAY (MALE)	18	31	-42%	-13
ANTI-HISPANIC OR LATINO	17	16	6%	1
ANTI-JEWISH	6	6	0%	0
ANTI-TRANSGENDER	9	18	-50%	-9
OCB - CENTRAL BUREAU Subtotal	77	96	-20%	-19
OSB - SOUTH BUREAU				
ANTI-BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	16	21	-24%	-5
ANTI-GAY (MALE)	9	6	50%	3
ANTI-HISPANIC OR LATINO	9	13	-31%	-4
ANTI-JEWISH	1	2	-50%	-1
ANTI-TRANSGENDER	5	2	150%	3
OSB - SOUTH BUREAU Subtotal	40	44	-9%	-4
OVB - VALLEY BUREAU				
ANTI-BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	29	35	-17%	-6
ANTI-GAY (MALE)	11	8	38%	3
ANTI-HISPANIC OR LATINO	13	17	-24%	-4
ANTI-JEWISH	31	22	41%	9
ANTI-TRANSGENDER	4	2	100%	2
OVB - VALLEY BUREAU Subtotal	88	84	5%	4
OWB - WEST BUREAU				
ANTI-BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	33	33	0%	0
ANTI-GAY (MALE)	17	13	31%	4
ANTI-HISPANIC OR LATINO	10	15	-33%	-5
ANTI-JEWISH	31	20	55%	11
ANTI-TRANSGENDER	8	4	100%	4
OWB - WEST BUREAU Subtotal	99	85	16%	14
Total	304	309	-2%	-5

Above are the year-to-date hate crime statistics snapshots (by the top 5 biases) for the City of Los Angeles for 2025 and 2026.

Crime Increase: There has been an increase in hate crimes, specifically anti-Jewish, in both the Valley and West Bureaus. This increase is concentrated in areas with large Jewish communities and a high density of Synagogues, schools, and community institutions.

- The highest categories of crime by type are vandalism and battery.
- **NOTE - Actual numbers versus percentages:** While the spikes may appear astronomical, a difference from (8) crimes to (11) crimes in one category, for example, can translate into almost a 40 percent increase.

Crimes with multiple biases: A single crime may carry more than one bias, increasing the number of incidents within a single crime report.

Efficiency: Reporting within our agency has also improved due to training and corrections for the specific biases listed, making the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Department of Justice (DOJ) statistics more accurate. Since 2025, we have implemented a new computer Records Management System (RMS), which improves accuracy.

ANALYSIS:

Small numbers: Hate crimes are rare events relative to other crime categories, and counts of rare events fluctuate from year to year even when nothing has changed. An Area that records seven hate crimes in one seven-month period and 14 in the next has experienced a 100 percent increase and seven additional crimes.

This does not mean the increase in anti-Jewish hate crimes should be discounted. It appeared across several areas at once, in a single bias motivation, and in the same direction as national and regional data, which is a stronger basis for attention than a bureau-level percentage. This means the Department recommends presenting hate crime statistics to the Board with counts alongside percentages, with at least two years of history, and with an expected range for each bureau, so ordinary fluctuation is not mistaken for a trend and a real trend is not lost among percentages.

Reporting and under-reporting: Our department and collaborating community organizations are encouraging more hate-crime reporting, which may show an actual uptick; however, this is due to increased reporting.

Reported hate crime is a fraction of hate crime committed. The Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates from the National Crime Victimization Survey that only 57 percent of violent hate crime victimizations between 2015 and 2019 were reported to police; the most common reasons for not reporting were that the victim handled the matter another way, believed police could not or would not help, or did not consider the incident important enough. The California Attorney General's 2025 Hate Crime Report states that hate crime data "has generally been underreported" and "may not adequately reflect the actual number of hate crime events." Reporting rates also differ across communities. A 2024 Stop AAPI Hate survey found that 72 percent of Asian American and Pacific Islander hate victims in California never reported to any authority. The Anti-Defamation League's 2024–2025 survey found that only five percent of Jewish Americans who experienced antisemitic discrimination reported it to police. A November 2025 analysis by the Williams Institute found victims of anti-LGBQ hate crime nine times more likely than other hate crime victims to cite a negative view of police as the reason for not reporting. Research on immigrant communities, including the Department's own experience in 2017, when reports of sexual assault by Latino residents fell approximately 25 percent and domestic violence reports nearly 10 percent amid heightened deportation concerns, shows that reporting by Latino and immigrant residents falls during periods of intensified immigration enforcement.

The practical consequence is that a bureau's hate crime count reflects both the number of hate crimes occurring and the share of them that reach the Department, and the second factor varies by community and over time. A strategy that succeeds in building trust will often increase reported hate crimes before it reduces them. The Department therefore recommends that the Board evaluate hate crime strategies against two measures together: fewer hate crimes occurring, and a larger share of those that occur being reported and investigated.

CURRENT STRATEGIES:

Policy and Training: Special Order No. 7 (December 16, 2025) establishes Department-wide guidelines for recognizing, investigating and reporting hate crimes and hate incidents, requires POST-certified hate crime training for sworn personnel every six years, and requires notification to the California Department of Justice within 24 hours of a suspected hate crime, consistent with Assembly Bill 449.

Dedicated investigative structure: A Department Hate Crimes Coordinator assigned to Robbery-Homicide Division reviews every reported hate crime and hate incident citywide, and each of the 21 geographic Areas has a designated hate crime coordinator responsible for investigation, victim follow-up and community liaison within the Area.

Prosecution partnerships: Hate crime investigations are coordinated with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Target Crimes Division and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Hate Crimes Division. On August 6, 2026, the District Attorney and the Chief of Police jointly reaffirmed the commitment to prosecute hate crimes fully, including opposing mental health diversion in hate crime cases.

Protection deployment: Area commands maintain enhanced patrols and a visible presence at synagogues, Jewish schools and community institutions, with advance coordination for the High Holidays (Rosh Hashanah, September 11 to 13, 2026; Yom Kippur, September 20 to 21; Sukkot beginning September 25), and coordinate with the Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and community security organizations. OO to describe the 2026 High Holiday deployment plan and any comparable measures for other communities, such as mosques, LGBTQ+ venues during Pride, and Asian American community events.

Community liaison and outreach: The Department's LGBTQ+ Information Section liaison officers and the Safe Place program; the Community Outreach and Development Division; Area Community Police Advisory Boards; and Community Safety Partnership sites provide standing channels between the Department and communities most affected by hate crime.

Non-police reporting channels: The Department participates in the County's LA vs Hate initiative (211) and the State's CA vs Hate program, which allow victims to report hate crimes and incidents to a non-law-enforcement intake and receive case management, and works with the City's Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department and its network of community organizations.

Data quality: The Department is correcting the Records Management System (RMS) "Victim by Association" field and related National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) hate crime submission errors identified through Department of Justice audits, so that hate crimes are counted accurately at the state and federal level.

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES:

The findings above point to the following additional measures, which the Department is implementing / proposes to implement.

Focused response in the areas driving the increase: Direct hate crime coordinators in Devonshire, North Hollywood, Pacific, West Los Angeles, West Valley and Van Nuys Areas to review all 2026 anti-Jewish cases for series and offender links, to conduct site visits to affected institutions with community security partners, and to maintain patrol check-ins at those locations through the High Holidays and beyond. Report results to the Board in the fourth quarter of 2026.

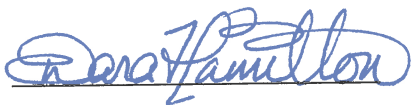
Treat hate crime vandalism as a series problem: Photograph, log and map every hate-motivated vandalism and graffiti incident; coordinate rapid removal with the Office of Community Beautification; and use a pattern to identify repeat offenders. Rapid removal also limits the impact on the affected community.

CONCLUSION:

Citywide hate crime through July 31, 2026, is essentially unchanged from 2025 and approximately 20 percent below 2024. The increases in Valley and West Bureaus are the geographic footprint of a rise in anti-Jewish hate crime, primarily, along with a rise in anti-Gay Male, and anti-Transgender hate crimes, that is consistent with national and regional trends, and the Department is directing its response accordingly. The decreases in Central and South Bureaus are small, concentrated in a few Areas, and should not be read as evidence that hate crime against the affected communities has fallen. The Department will continue to report to the Board on hate crime trends and on the progress of the strategies described in this report.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Detective II Dara Hamilton, Hate Crimes Coordinator, Robbery-Homicide Division, at (213) 486-6840.

Thank you,



Detective II Dara Hamilton