

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No.:

Resolution to Denounce Hate Crimes and Rhetoric Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and Reaffirm Our Commitment To Ensure API Americans Feel Safe and Welcome

WHEREAS, The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate incident-reporting internet website, “Stop AAPI Hate,” at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020; and

WHEREAS, The Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center reported over 2,800 hate incidents against Asian Pacific Islander (API) Americans in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Discrimination and racism towards APIs has always existed, such as the 19th century scapegoating of APIs, also known as “Yellow Peril”; and

WHEREAS, Racism, hate crimes and negative rhetoric towards APIs has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Politically charged and culturally insensitive language referring to COVID-19 as the “Chinese virus” or “kung flu” further encouraged racism, prejudice and hate crimes towards APIs; and

WHEREAS, The promotion of such language by the former President Donald Trump during his term further propagated anti-API sentiment in light of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, On January 31, 2021, three elderly Asian Americans were assaulted in the City of Oakland’s Chinatown District, including a 91-year-old Asian man who sustained serious injuries, such as lacerations, abrasions, and a contusion to the left thumb, in what is deemed a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, On January 30, 2021, 84-year-old Vicha Ratanapakdee, a nearly-blind and gentle elderly Thai man, died from injuries resulting from an attack while he was walking in the City of San Francisco, in what is deemed as a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, About 31 percent of Asian Americans report having been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a Pew Research Center report; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans in the State of California are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given the rise of hate crimes and other racially motivated attacks; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans in the State of California are more concerned about the safety of themselves and their families that are currently at high risk of being targeted; and

WHEREAS, In 2020, the California State Legislature’s API Legislative Caucus spoke out against anti-API hate crimes in an effort to stand up for immigrant and refugee individuals; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, denounce hate crimes, hateful rhetoric and hateful acts against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and reaffirm our commitment to ensure that API Americans feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic and beyond; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, U.S. Senators Alex Padilla and Dianne Feinstein, Congressman Jimmy Panetta, State Senators Anna Caballero and John Laird, State Assemblymembers Robert Rivas and Mark Stone and the Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL) Chapters of Monterey County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book _____ for the meeting on _____, 2019.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California.

By _____
Deputy