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PRESS RELEASE

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**On Eve of Presidential Inauguration, County Human Relations
Commission Calls for Reporting of Any Acts of Hate, Bigotry, and
Bullying to “splcenter.org”**

In the days and weeks following the election of Donald Trump, there was a disturbing series of attacks and expressions of hatred, bigotry and intolerance in Los Angeles County and across the nation, directed at people because of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or other elements of their identity, such as being an immigrant. (See SPLCenter.org and #ReportHate.)

This does not reflect the values that have made our County prosperous and strong: appreciation of diversity, compassion, fairness, and respect for the right of everyone to freedom and safety.

We call on Los Angeles County residents to take action to protect those who are vulnerable or victims of acts of hate or bigotry; let them know they are supported and have recourse.

State law makes it a crime to “willfully interfere by force or threat of violence, with someone else’s civil rights” if that person was singled out because of her or his disability, gender, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.

The Board of Supervisors has called upon the Sheriff’s Department and the region’s other police departments to reach out to organizations and communities likely to be targeted, and encouraged the reporting of hate crimes and other hate incidents, without regard to immigration status.

Anyone in our county who feels targeted by hostile hate speech, harassment or threats of violence should also report it to www.splcenter.org which in turn will provide all reports to the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations.

Our County thrives when we lock arms and lock out hate.

About Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services

Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) is committed to providing services which have positive impacts on the lives of the citizens of Los Angeles County. We provide employment services to adults and youth. We work with employers in times of hiring and downsizing. We offer mediation services to avoid court filings. We investigate abuse claims against our older adult and disabled population. We provide nutrition and other life-enhancing services to older adults. Our Human Relations Commission is dedicated to fostering positive inter-group relations.

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