



CALIFORNIA STATE  
CONFERENCE OF THE  
N A A C P



August 31, 2018

Honorable Xavier Becerra  
Department of Justice  
1300 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: Hate Crimes**

Dear Attorney General Becerra:

First, thank you sincerely for your and the Department of Justice's actions on hate crimes since you were appointed last year. We appreciate your having some of your senior staff meet with many of us to hear our concerns last year. We also appreciate your cooperation in seeking and participating in the state audit of law enforcement response to hate crimes, the initial steps DOJ has taken to address the significant inadequacies the audit revealed, and your staff's constructive testimony at the Legislature's hate crime oversight hearing in July.

Notwithstanding the above, we strongly believe much more action is needed, and we urge you to assume statewide leadership and partner with us to achieve that action quickly. We believe that you are the only person in a position to offer the public and private leadership needed to do the following:

- Encourage and, when necessary, compel law enforcement agencies to correct the numerous problems identified in the audit;
- Implement the recommendations the audit proposed for DOJ and POST;
- Develop and sponsor comprehensive legislation, including budget items, for action in 2019.

Specifically, we ask that you convene another meeting of the civil rights groups and appropriate members of your staff to start to plan a comprehensive strategy. Due to administrative budget deadlines as well as the overall urgency of the growing plague of hate crimes, we ask that you convene such a meeting soon.

We certainly recognize that you and DOJ are very busy defending California's interests in court and carrying out your day-to-day law enforcement and other major responsibilities. However, we hope and believe that you will agree with us that dealing with the growing scourge of hate crimes must be one of this state's highest priorities.

We look forward to your timely response. Please respond to Greg deGiere, [Greg@TheArcCA.org](mailto:Greg@TheArcCA.org), 916-223-7319, who will see that your response is forwarded to all of us.

Sincerely,



Alice A. Huffman  
President  
California State Conference of  
the NAACP



Rick Zber  
Executive Director  
Equality California



Rev. Dr. Rick Schlosser  
Executive Director  
California Council of Churches IMPACT



Jordan Lindsey  
Executive Director  
The Arc California



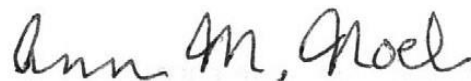
Nancy J. Appel  
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Amrith Kaur  
Legal Director  
The Sikh Coalition

cc: Honorable Kansen Chu, Chair, Assembly Select Committee on Hate  
Crimes  
Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Chair, Assembly Public Safety  
Committee  
Honorable Al Muratsuchi, Chair, Joint Legislative Audit Committee  
Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair, Senate Public Safety Committee  
Kelli Evans, DOJ  
Kevin Gardner, DOJ  
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Angela Sierra, DOJ