

ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY
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October 13, 2017

MAYOR'S STATEMENT

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO HATE INCIDENTS

During the past year Albany, like the rest of our country, has experienced an increase in documented hate incidents. Incidents like this make us wonder what type of community we really are. Are we a community of people intent on hurting others? Are we a community of people who, by their privilege are unable or unwilling to understand how others are excluded? Are we a community of people fueled by hate and rage?

I don't think so. I believe we are a community of people who see evil and choose to stand up and say "Not in my community; hatred will not be tolerated here".

We realize that we don't have all the answers but are willing to talk, listen, read, study and teach to better understand each other. We are willing to work hard to create the type of community we want – one that welcomes everyone.

Both the City of Albany and the Albany Police Department take reports of these incidents very seriously. There is a page in the City Council section of the City web site dedicated to community diversity and inclusion, <http://www.albanyca.org/government/city-council/community-diversity-inclusion>. Included on this page are links to the Police Department statement concerning hate crimes and immigration violations and related policies, <http://www.albanyca.org/home/showdocument?id=29030>

The Albany Police Department posts “Public Bulletins” on the city web site. <http://www.albanyca.org/public-bulletin>. This information comes directly from the police department and gives a brief synopsis of crimes that occur in Albany. This is an evolving process through which the police department will attempt to get information out to the public as quickly as possible. Please understand there are constraints to the amount and type of information that will be posted during an active investigation.

A more comprehensive, yet less detailed, way to view crime in Albany is through CrimeReports.com, <https://www.crimereports.com/>. This map of Albany shows where and when crimes are committed.

The goal of an inclusive and welcoming community is not achieved easily nor quickly. It is not achieved by one person working alone. However by standing together against hate and supporting our neighbors we take a step forward. When we show our children these are our values and beliefs, we take a step forward. When we pledge to continue the quest for a just society we take a step forward.

This is the type of community I believe we truly are.

Peggy McQuaid
Mayor