

**Kate Brown**  
Governor



**Oregon Commission on Asian and  
Pacific Islander Affairs**  
“Advocating Equality and Diversity”  
421 SW Oak Street, Portland, OR 97204  
O: 503.302.9725  
E: [oaco.mail@oregon.gov](mailto:oaco.mail@oregon.gov)

**Response to the murders of eight people in Georgia and the  
rise of Anti-Asian Hate in the United States**

**March 18, 2021**

The Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs understands that Oregonians, particularly Oregonians of Color are reeling from the news of the events of the last two days in Georgia.

While we are dumbstruck by the response and explanations from some law enforcement and media, we know that manifestations of violence have direct and indirect links to white supremacy.

We strongly condemn all acts of violence and hate speech inflicted on all of our AAPI communities. We stand in solidarity with our AAPI brothers and sisters in Georgia and across the United States. The rise of anti-Asian hate and acts of violence must not be condoned.

We need to acknowledge and recognize the long history of systemic racism and anti-Asian violence in the US. We must also acknowledge that gender-based violence is another issue that must be fully addressed.

We ask all Oregonians to demand changes to the structures and systems that allow, normalize, and dismiss these acts. Together, we are a better Oregon and a better nation. Let us not allow these acts to continue to grow in frequency and severity.

We ask our leaders to extinguish the vitriol by enacting changes to the systems and structures and admonish social and political leaders who rely on spreading hate for personal gain. We ask our friends, neighbors, and fellow Oregonians to interrupt hate when seen. Let us not be complicit in these acts of violence and the lesser acts that embolden more severe future acts. Let us snuff it out before it grows. Do not be embarrassed to call hate out. Hate has no place in a civil society.

Let us not allow this to pass without action on everyone’s part.

Hussein Al-Baiaty/Mohamed Alyajouri, OCAPIA Co-Chairs

**Oregon Commission on Asian and  
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