

## WHAT CRIMINAL LAWS ARE BROKEN BY HATE-BASED VIOLENCE?

The following is a list of laws in the California Penal Code. A local District Attorney or the CA Attorney General can prosecute people who break these laws:

- Penal Code Section 190.2(a)(16): Provides the death penalty for murder because of the victim's race, color, religion, nationality, or national origin.
- Penal Code Section 302: Establishes it is a misdemeanor to willfully disturb a group of people meeting to worship
- Penal Code Section 422.6(a): Provides it is a misdemeanor to interfere by force or threat of force with a person's statutory or constitutional rights because of a person's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.
- Penal Code Section 422.6(b): Provides it is a misdemeanor to damage a person's property because of his/her race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.
- Penal Code Section 422.7: Provides that actions which are normally misdemeanors can become felonies if committed because of bigotry.
- Penal Code Section 594.3: Provides it is a felony or misdemeanor to knowingly vandalize a place of worship.

## WHAT KINDS OF ACTS ARE FORBIDDEN BY THE LAW?

Verbal or written threats, physical assault or attempted assault, graffiti, vandalism or property damage

## WHERE TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE

Ukiah Police Department (707) 463-6262

Mendocino County Victim Witness/  
District Attorney (707) 463-4211

California Attorney General's Office of  
Victims' Services (877) 433-9069

California Victim Compensation Board  
(800) 777-9229

## What Number Do I Call?

### Emergency 9-1-1

Call 9-1-1 for any life-threatening emergency or crime in progress.

### Non-Emergency (707) 463-6262

Online Crime Report: [ukiahpolice.com](http://ukiahpolice.com)

### Business Office (707) 463-6241

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm



## Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

### Nancy Sawyer

Community Service Officer & Business Liaison  
(707) 467-5708 • [nsawyer@cityofukiah.com](mailto:nsawyer@cityofukiah.com)  
[www.ukiahpolice.com](http://www.ukiahpolice.com)



## Ukiah Police Department

# Preventing Hate Crime

*Recognizing  
Hate-Based  
Violence*



# REDUCING HATE CRIMES

## DEFINING HATE CRIMES IN CALIFORNIA

In California, you can be a victim of a hate crime if you have been targeted because of your real or “perceived” race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

It is important to be able to differentiate between hate incidents and hate crimes.

A **hate incident** is an action or behavior that is motivated by hate, but is protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression. Examples of hate incidents can include name calling, epithets, distribution of hate material in public places, and the display of offensive hate-motivated material on one’s property. The freedoms guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, such as the freedom of speech, allow hateful rhetoric as long as it does not interfere with the civil rights of others. If this type of behavior escalates to threats being made or carried out against a person or property, then it would be classified as a **hate crime**.

A **hate crime** is a criminal act or attempted criminal act committed against a victim or his, her, or its property because the victim is, or is perceived to be a member of a protected class. (A victim can include an entity or group.)

Hate crimes should be reported to the proper authorities, such as your local police or sheriff’s department. If these hate crimes are not reported to law enforcement, the perpetrators will continue to act on their beliefs and will continue to pose a threat to society.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE A HATE CRIME VICTIM

If you suspect you are a victim of a hate crime, you should:

- Call the police or sheriff’s department immediately.
- Obtain medical attention (if needed).
- Write down the exact words that were spoken and any other information that may be of value.
- Save any evidence (graffiti, egg shells, writing on victim’s vehicle). Do not remove any evidence. Wait until law enforcement officers respond and take photographs.
- Get the name(s), address(es), and telephone number(s) of other victims and witnesses.
- If possible, get a description of the perpetrator and perpetrator’s vehicle.
- Call community-based organizations in your area that respond to hate crimes.

## HOW TO IDENTIFY A HATE CRIME: BASIC CLUES

The following list indicates signs that a hate crime may have been committed:

- Perception of the victim or witness that he/she was selected by the perpetrator because of his or her membership in a protected class.
- Written or oral comments of the perpetrator that may indicate a bias.
- Date of incident coincides with a day that is of significance to the victim’s protected class.
- Differences between the race or religion, for example, of the victim and perpetrator.
- Organized hate group activity in the area.

## SERVICES AVAILABLE TO HATE CRIME VICTIMS

- You may have certain rights under the California Constitution’s Victim’s Bill of Rights. For Example, you may be entitled to information about the prosecution of the perpetrator, and have the right to present a victim impact statement at the time of sentencing.
- You may be entitled to restitution for any loss, damage or injury you may incur.