

# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Thursday, November 9, 2023, 11:00 A.M.



County Administration North  
400 W. Civic Center Dr., Multipurpose Room  
Santa Ana, California 92701

**JO-ANNE P. MATSUBA**  
Chair

**JENNIFER S. WANG**  
Vice Chair

**ADA BRICEÑO**  
Commissioner

**HEATHER CHAPMAN**  
Commissioner

**ADELI DURON**  
Commissioner

**LAUREN JOHNSON-NORRIS**  
Commissioner

**MICHAEL KENT**  
Commissioner

**NATALIE MOSER**  
Commissioner

**REINA OBEID**  
Commissioner

**RHONDA SHADER**  
Commissioner

**RABBI RICK STEINBERG**  
Commissioner

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Chapman, Duron, Matsuba, Moser, Obeid, Shader, Steinberg and Wang

ABSENT: Commissioners Briceño, Johnson-Norris and Kent

PRESENT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Norma Lopez  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION Jamie Ross & Dora Guillen, Deputy Clerks

*The Orange County Human Relations Commission is an independent advisory body, and our positions do not necessarily reflect the positions of the County of Orange Board of Supervisors.*

1. Call the Meeting to Order  
**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:03 P.M. BY CHAIR MATSUBA**
2. Opening quote/reflection  
**COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN SHARED A LAMENT FROM A FRIEND REGARDING THE WAR BETWEEN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE**

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

3. Monthly Summary of Commission Activities

**DISCUSSED; COMMISSIONER MOSER SUGGESTED ADDING A FOOTNOTE TO STATISTICS NOTING FROM WHICH ORGANIZATIONS INFORMATION IS OBTAINED AND SOME ORGANIZATIONS ONLY REPORT STATISTICS ANNUALLY**

**OPEN FORUM**

None

**ACTION ITEMS:** (Items 4 – 8)

4. Review, discuss and vote on Pride Month statement template to be issued by the Commission every year prior to June (Continued from 10/12/23, Item 5)

10 11 123456789 **APPROVED AS AMENDED AS SHOWN ON ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES**  
x xx

5. Review, discuss and vote on statement *OC Human Relations Commission Mourns with Jewish Community and Denounces Antisemitism*

10 612345789 11 **APPROVED AS AMENDED AS SHOWN ON ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES**  
x xx

6. Review, discuss and vote on statement *OC Human Relations Commission Mourns with Palestinian-Americans and Denounces Islamophobia*

721345689 10 11 **APPROVED AS AMENDED AS SHOWN ON ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES**  
x xx N N

7. Review, discuss and vote on 2024 Commission meeting calendar

961234578 10 11 **APPROVED AS AMENDED TO REMOVE REFERENCE TO NEED TO HOLD OFFSITE MEETINGS AT A COUNTY BUILDING**  
x xx

8. Conduct new elections for Commission Chair & Vice Chair for 2024 calendar year

2 10 13456789 11 **NOMINATED AND APPROVED COMMISSIONER WANG AS CHAIR**  
x xx

981234567 10 11 **NOMINATED AND APPROVED COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN AS VICE CHAIR**  
x xx

**INFORMATION ITEMS:** (Items 9 - 11)

9. Commission Staff Reports

- a. LGBTQIA+ Community Circle

**PRESENTED**

10. Update from OC Chiefs & Sheriff

**NO UPDATE PROVIDED**

11. OCSD Interfaith Council Update

**NO UPDATE PROVIDED**

# SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Duron – Oral Re.: Announced event at UCI by Center for Jewish Studies on 11/14, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Moser – Oral Re.: Huntington Beach Interfaith Council Thanksgiving event on Sunday, 11/12.

Commissioner Wang – Oral Re.: Attorney General Rob Bonta’s visit to Irvine. Encouraged Commissioners to contact their elected representatives so they are aware of what is going on in Orange County.

ADJOURNED: 1:09 P.M.

\*\*\* KEY \*\*\*

### *Left Margin Notes*

1 Ada Briceño	A = Abstained
2 Heather Chapman	X = Excused
3 Adeli Duron	
4 Lauren Johnson-Norris	
5 Michael Kent	N = No
6 Natalie Moser	C.O. = Commission Order
7 Reina Obeid	
8 Jo-Anne P. Matsuba	Reso = Resolution
9 Rhonda Shader	Ord = Ordinance
10 Rabbi Rick Steinberg	
11 Jennifer S. Wang	

*(1st number = Moved by; 2nd number = Seconded by)*

/s/

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JO-ANNE MATSUBA

Chair

/s/

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Jamie Ross, Deputy  
Clerk of the Commission



# Orange County Human Relations Commission

**MISSION:** *Seek out the causes of tension and conflict, discrimination and intolerance, and eliminate those causes*

## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES: October 2023

CONTRACT ACTIVITY	12/14/22-3/31/23	4/1/23-6/30/23	7/1/23-9/30/23	10/1/23-12/31/23	1/1/24-3/31/24	4/1/24-6/30/24	TOTAL	GOAL
A. Organize meetings for the Hate Crime Prevention Network group and lead hate prevention efforts.	3	2	3	0			8	6
B. Monitor and offer support when intergroup relations or bias related community conflicts, tension or crisis arise.	3	4	4	1			12	12
C. Follow-up on hate activity reports referred from 211-OC.	4	2	5	1			12	18
D. Offer listening sessions or restorative community dialogues process to promote respect and understanding to diverse communities and/or to address tension, conflict, or crisis when it arises (i.e., law enforcement, schools, religious institutions, nonprofits, etc.)	4	4	2	1			11	6
E. Service on advisory committees for local city police departments, as well as assist the Orange County Sherriff's Department, to convene a countywide interfaith Advisory Council	4	3	3	1			11	12
F. Deliver multilingual, multicultural, & diverse community-based hate prevention through community outreach, relationship building efforts, collaboration and network meetings, and attending diverse community/law enforcement events	18	6	47	18			89	150
G. Provide monthly comprehensive Hate Activity Database & Reporting data reports	3	3	3	1			10	18

### **Intergroup Relations & Relationship Building**

- Commission staff provided a couple of Bystander/Upstander workshops in the community this month.
- Commission staff were invited to attend several high-level networking opportunities such as the Stop the Hate statewide convening, AG Bonta's HC roundtable, and Sharon Quick-Silva's office opening.
- Commission staff launched an outreach effort to Jewish and Palestinian, Muslim & Arab-American serving organizations to offer support.
- Commission staff hosted an affinity group circle session with the LGBTQIA+ community that brought out up to 40 people to discuss hate report numbers and community needs.



# Orange County Human Relations Commission

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## Hate-Motivated Activities in Orange County

October 2023



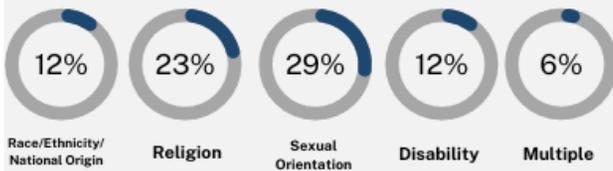
### 17 Total Hate-Motivated Activities Reported

#### HATE CRIMES VS. HATE INCIDENTS



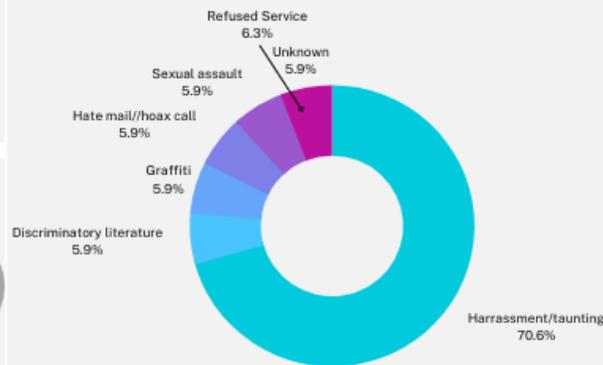
Out of the 16 hate-motivated activities: **1 hate crime, 13 hate incidents, 1 bias not identified** and **2 unknowns** were reported

#### SENTIMENT

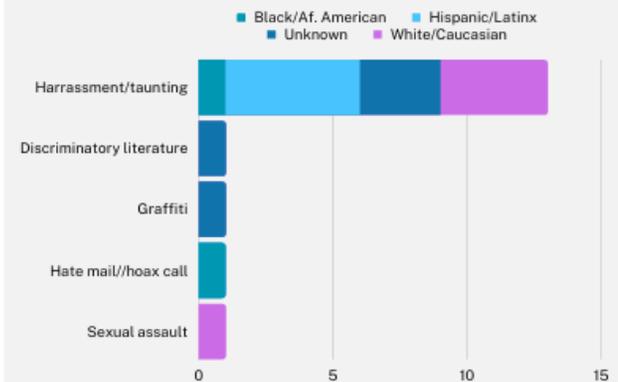


\*18% unknown

#### TYPE OF OFFENSE



#### COUNT OF TYPE BY OFFENSE AND MOTIVATION



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DOT LEACH

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JANY LEE

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CHIEF MIKE KENT

RABBI RICK STEINBERG

RHONDA SHADER

Contact: Norma Lopez

Executive Director, Human Relations Commission

(714) 480-6594 | [norma@ochumanrelations.org](mailto:norma@ochumanrelations.org)

## OC HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION **CELEBRATES PRIDE** **MONTH DENOUNCES ALL TYPE OF BIAS-MOTIVATED HATE**

Santa Ana, CA (October 12, 2023) The Orange County Human Relations Commission celebrates Pride month with our Orange County LGBTQ+ community in June and stands with the LGBTQ+ community every ~~other~~ month of the year. We believe this vibrant and inclusive movement is to be commended. With each passing year, we are reminded that we still have work to do to ensure that every Orange County resident can live authentically and without threat of harm.

Across Orange County, from 2021 to 2022, there was a 126% increase in Anti-LGBTQ hate activity reported. In addition, hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation increased by 24% and hate incidents motivated by sexual orientation increased by 161%.

The mission of the Orange County Human Relations Commission is to “seek out the causes of tension and conflict, discrimination and intolerance and attempt to eliminate those causes.” We believe in everyone’s right to live free of racism, hate, discrimination, and bigotry no matter where ~~they~~you live. We are committed to fight racism and bigotry with love, empathy, compassion, and strength while promoting equity, inclusion, diversity and belonging ~~for~~all.

If you have been a witness to an hate act or have been victimized, please report via the following ways: Online: <https://hatecrime.211oc.org/>; Call: 211, press #6; Text: OCHATEACTIVITY to 898211.

References:

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## OC HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MOURNS WITH JEWISH COMMUNITY AND DENOUNCES ANTISEMITISM

Santa Ana, CA (11/9/23) The Orange County Human Relations Commission unequivocally condemns and denounces the horrific acts of terror including murder, rape, and kidnapping committed against Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023 by Hamas. Entire families were taken hostage by Hamas just days after Israel marked the holiest days on the Jewish calendar, murderingkilling 1400 human beings.

This single greatest attack on Jews since the Holocaust came just after this commission's 2022 Orange County Hate Crime Report revealed that Jewish residents of Orange County continue to be the primary target of faith-based hate incidents (87%). This hateful attack sparked a dramatic increase in antisemitism in the United States, resulting in our Orange County Jewish community experiencing harassment and fear of violence where they live, work, pray, and go to school. As Elie Wiesel said, "For the dead and the living, we must bear witness."

We offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to the Jewish community who have been affected by the horrendous events of October 7th. We are resolute and unwavering in our stance against hate, and we stand committed to fighting antisemitism in Orange County. We urge all Orange County residents to treat our Jewish neighbors with respect and continue to hope for an Orange County where fear and violence yield to understanding and coexistence for all its residents.

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## ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

- ~~Online: <https://hatecrime.211oc.org/>~~
- ~~Call: 211, press #6~~
- ~~Text: OCHATEACTIVITY to 898211~~

DRAFT

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## OC HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MOURNS WITH PALESTINIAN-AMERICANS AND DENOUNCES ISLAMOPHOBIA

Santa Ana, CA (11/9/23) The Palestinian struggle for land and home is generations-long. ~~Now as a result of the Israeli response to Hamas' terrorist attack, After the events on October 7<sup>th</sup>,~~ more than one million Palestinians have been displaced, and an additional two million are expected to be displaced and their homes destroyed with nowhere to go and limited humanitarian aid. Thousands of Palestinians, Muslims and Christians have been massacred, nearly half children. They have taken their last breath under concrete rubble, and many more are still longing to breathe free. We mourn the loss of these innocent Palestinian lives.

In Orange County we offer our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to our Palestinian neighbors for the tragic loss of life and ongoing violence in their homeland. We condemn the horrific hate crime and murder of a six-year-old Palestinian-American boy, Wade ~~as~~ Al Fayouma, and the stabbing of his mother. As our Muslim, Palestinian-American and Arab-American communities in Orange County are grieving, we reiterate that they should not have to live in fear of harassment, discrimination, or hate anywhere.

The Orange County Human Relations Commission strongly condemns hate crimes and incidents against Muslims, Palestinian-Americans, and Arab-Americans. Prior to and following 9/11, Arabs and Muslims have been attacked and blamed for terrorist attacks due to the long history of racism and xenophobia in the US. Together, we must combat this false narrative that depicts Arabs and Muslims negatively and leads to hate in our communities.

~~The Orange County Human Relations Commission strongly condemns the increase in hate incidents against Muslim, Palestinian-American, and Arab-Americans. We are resolute that Arab and Muslim Orange County residents~~

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## ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

~~must not be harassed and held responsible for the acts of Hamas, but together we must combat the false narrative that Arabs and Muslims are terrorists.~~

We are resolute and unwavering in our stance against hate and stand committed to fighting Islamophobia in Orange County. We urge all Orange County residents to treat our Muslim, Palestinian-American and Arab-American neighbors with respect and continue to hope for an Orange County where fear and violence yield to understanding and coexistence for all its residents.

The mission of the Orange County Human Relations Commission is to “seek out the causes of tension and conflict, discrimination and intolerance and attempt to eliminate those causes.”

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- ~~• Text: OCHATEACTIVITY to 898211~~

Santa Ana 11/9/2023

The Palestinian struggle for land and home, under the ongoing Israeli occupation, is generations-long. Now as a result of the Israeli bombardment on occupied Palestine and its civilians, more than one million Palestinians have been displaced. An additional two million are expected to be displaced and their homes destroyed with nowhere to go and limited humanitarian aid. More than 10,000 Palestinian Muslims and Christians have been massacred, nearly half children. They have taken their last breath under concrete rubble, and many more are still longing to breathe free. We unequivocally condemn the loss of these innocent Palestinians.

In Orange County, we offer our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to our Palestinian neighbors for the tragic loss of life and ongoing violence in their homeland. We condemn the horrific hate crime and murder of a six year-old Palestinian-American boy, Wadea Al-Fayoume, and the stabbing of his mother. As our Muslim, Palestinian-American, and Arab-American communities in Orange County are grieving, we reiterate that they should not have to live in fear of harassment, discrimination, or hate anywhere.

The Orange County Human Relations Commission strongly condemns the increase in hate crimes and incidents against Muslims, Palestinian-Americans, and Arab-Americans. Prior to and following 9/11, Arabs and Muslims have been attacked and blamed for terrorist attacks due to the long history of racism and xenophobia in the US. Together, we must combat this 'war time' rhetoric used by many media outlets that depicts Arab and Muslims negatively and lead to hate in our communities.

We are resolute and unwavering in our stance against hate and stand committed to fighting Islamophobia in Orange County. We urge all Orange County residents to treat our Muslim, Palestinian-American, and Arab-American neighbors with respect and continue to hope for an Orange County where fear and violence yield to understanding and coexistence for all its residents.



## Orange County Human Relations Commission

### MEMO

**DATE:** 11/09/2023  
**TO:** All Commissioners  
**FROM:** Norma López, Executive Director  
**RE:** 2024 Commission Meeting Calendar

#### ISSUE

Commission approves a meeting schedule for the upcoming 2024 year

#### BACKGROUND:

The Orange County Human Relations Commission meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 11 A.M.. Due to changes to the Bylaws in 2022, the Commission will meet 10 months out of the year with July & December months being dark.

#### DISCUSSION:

The Commission would like to propose that for the 2024 calendar year the in-person Commission meetings take place at different locations throughout Orange County. We believe expanding the reach of the Commission by being in various locations and advertising the meetings in various locations will only expand the knowledge of the Commission's work and mission. The more Orange County residents know about the Commission, the more impact it can have.

These are the proposed meeting locations for the 2023 Commission meeting dates:

- 1/11/24: County Administration South Building
- 2/8/24: County Administration South Building
- 3/14/24: North County at a County building that doesn't require payment for parking
- 4/11/24: County Administration South Building
- 5/9/24: County Administration South Building
- 6/13/24: South County at a County building that doesn't require payment for parking
- July - Dark
- 8/8/24: County Administration South Building
- 9/12/24: County Administration South Building
- 10/10/24: Central or Coastal part of the county at a County building that doesn't require payment for parking
- 11/14/24: County Administration South Building
- December - Dark

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commission approves 2024 meeting calendar.