

**Notice and Call
of a
Special Meeting
of the
Orange County Human Relations Commission**

A Special Meeting of the Orange County Human Relations Commission will convene on Thursday, March 12, at 11:00 a.m., at County Administration South, 601 N. Ross St., Multipurpose Room, 1st Floor, Santa Ana, California.

The items of business to be conducted at this meeting are:

As outlined on attached agenda

Opportunity will be provided before or during the consideration of each item of business for members of the public to directly address the Commission regarding that business.

/s/

LAUREN JOHNSON-NORRIS

Chair

A G E N D A

SPECIAL MEETING ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Thursday, March 12, 2026, 11:00 A.M.



County Administration South
601 N. Ross St., Multipurpose Room, 1st Floor
Santa Ana, California 92701

****Members of the public may attend and participate remotely by following the instructions below.****

LAUREN JOHNSON-NORRIS
Chair

JO-ANNE P. MATSUBA
Vice Chair

ADA BRICEÑO
Commissioner

TAI DO
Commissioner

MARY IZADI
Commissioner

MICHAEL KENT
Commissioner

RABBI RICK STEINBERG
Commissioner

CEO/Chief Operating Officer
Jessica Witt

Clerk of the Commission
Jamie Ross, Deputy

*The Orange County Human Relations Commission welcomes you to this meeting. This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. The Commission encourages your participation. If you wish to speak during Open Forum, please complete a speaker request form, available at the entrance of the Multipurpose Room, and return to the Clerk or press *9 or the "Raise Hand" feature following the Chair's invitation from the public to speak. Once acknowledged and prompted by the Chair or Clerk, you may begin to speak. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing in the agenda. When addressing the Commission, please state your name for the record prior to providing your comments.*

The Orange County Human Relations Commission shall not hold a meeting, deliberate, or vote unless the number of members participating constitutes a quorum of the Orange County Human Relations Commission.

**** INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC ATTENDING THE MEETING REMOTELY****

Members of the public may observe and participate in the meeting telephonically or via the internet as described below. To attend the meeting via teleconference please call:

- iPhone one-tap: US: +16699009128, 86442677420# Passcode 859914# or + 16694449171, 86442677420# Passcode 859914# or
- Telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656 Enter Webinar ID: 86442677420# Passcode 859914# (once you enter this code, you should be automatically connected to the call; you will remain on the line until meeting begins) or
- Internet: Use the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86442677420?pwd=BbBcLF7LAvJ7dqsV9bAPaj0b0UaBio.1>

****In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for this meeting should notify the Clerk of the Board's Office 72 hours prior to the meeting at (714) 834-2206****

AGENDA – ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING, THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

A G E N D A

All supporting documentation is available for public review online at: <https://ceo.oc.gov/human-relations-commission> and in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors located in the County Administration North, 400 W. Civic Center Dr., 6th Floor, Santa Ana, California 92701 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

11:00 A.M.

1. Call the Meeting to Order
2. Opening quote/reflection – Jo-Anne Matsuba
3. Monthly Summary of Commission Activities

OPEN FORUM

At this time members of the public may address the Commission on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission. The Commission or Chair may limit the length of time each individual may have to address the Commission.

HEARING/SPEAKER/PRESENTATION: (None)

ACTION ITEMS: (Item 4)

4. Conduct elections for Commission Chair and Vice Chair for 2026 calendar year

INFORMATION ITEMS: (Items 5 - 9)

5. Receive updated presentation from Orange County District Attorney's Office on DOJ Hate Crimes Grant
6. Receive presentation on the 2024 Hate Crime Report
7. Receive update from County Executive Office
8. Update from OC Chiefs & Sheriff
9. OCSD Interfaith Council Update

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING:

May 14, 2026 Regular Meeting, 11:00 A.M.

Combating Hate

The Orange County District Attorney's Office



This project was supported by Grant No. 15PBJA-23-GG-05362-HATE awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



Building a National Model to Combat Hate



OCDA

Leading the effort with investigation and prosecution of hate crimes, law enforcement and K-12 faculty training and community outreach and education.



County of Orange

Critical partner in connecting community stakeholders to listening sessions, outreach and education to build trust between law enforcement and vulnerable communities.

GRANT OBJECTIVES

- ❖ REGIONAL GRANT

- ❖ **\$1.6 MILLION** OVER FOUR YEARS

- ❖ GRANT FUNDS **ONE** ADDITIONAL PROSECUTOR TO CARRY OUT TWO VERY SEPARATE AND DISTINCT PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

- ❖ TRADITIONAL PROSECUTION OF HATE CRIMES

- ❖ LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING, COMMUNITY OUTREACH, EDUCATION, AND ENGAGEMENT

Our Building Blocks of Success





Community-based Organizations

Community-based organizations play a vital role in the outreach and engagement efforts of this initiative. By creating safe spaces to discuss hate crimes and fostering trust between vulnerable communities and law enforcement, this initiative aims to achieve meaningful outcomes. We have been working with BOS to identify community leaders who are working on these important issues.



County of Orange

The OCDA has conducted outreach to all supervisorial district offices to identify needs and priorities related to hate crime education and resources. Through their feedback, we have identified key community-based organizations and leaders who will help shape our future discussions and serve as integral components of the OCDA's hate crimes initiative.



Local Universities

The OCDA has established relationships with CSUF, Chapman University, and UCI and plans to conduct outreach at these institutions. The goal of these efforts is to engage in meaningful dialogue, educate students and faculty on how to report hate incidents, and help reduce instances of hate on college campuses through conversation and education.



Law Enforcement Training

Item 5

The OCDA has created the first-ever multi-day POST-certified law enforcement training program. This course will feature two segments focused on cultural competence, with presentations from speakers representing vulnerable communities. The sessions will be facilitated by the LGBTQ Center of OC.



K-12 Education Partners

The OCDA has collaborated with OCDE and several school districts to create a training workshop for school administrators and teachers.

WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

- Penal Code § 422.55(a) defines a hate crime:
 - A **CRIMINAL ACT** committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim:
 - (1) Disability
 - (2) Gender – which in California includes a person’s gender identity and gender expression
 - (3) Nationality
 - (4) Race or ethnicity
 - (5) **Religion**
 - (6) Sexual Orientation
 - (7) Association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics





MOTIVE IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT

Item 5

- **KEY** = Did the suspect act in whole or in part **because of** the actual or perceived characteristic of the other person?
- “In whole or in part because of” = the **bias motivation** must be a cause of the offense, whether or not other causes also exist

WHAT IS A HATE INCIDENT?

A hate incident is an action or behavior motivated by hate but which, for one or more reasons, is not a crime. Examples of hate incidents include:

- Name-calling
- Insults
- Displaying hate material on your own property
- Posting hate material that does not result in property damage
- Distribution of materials with hate messages in public places

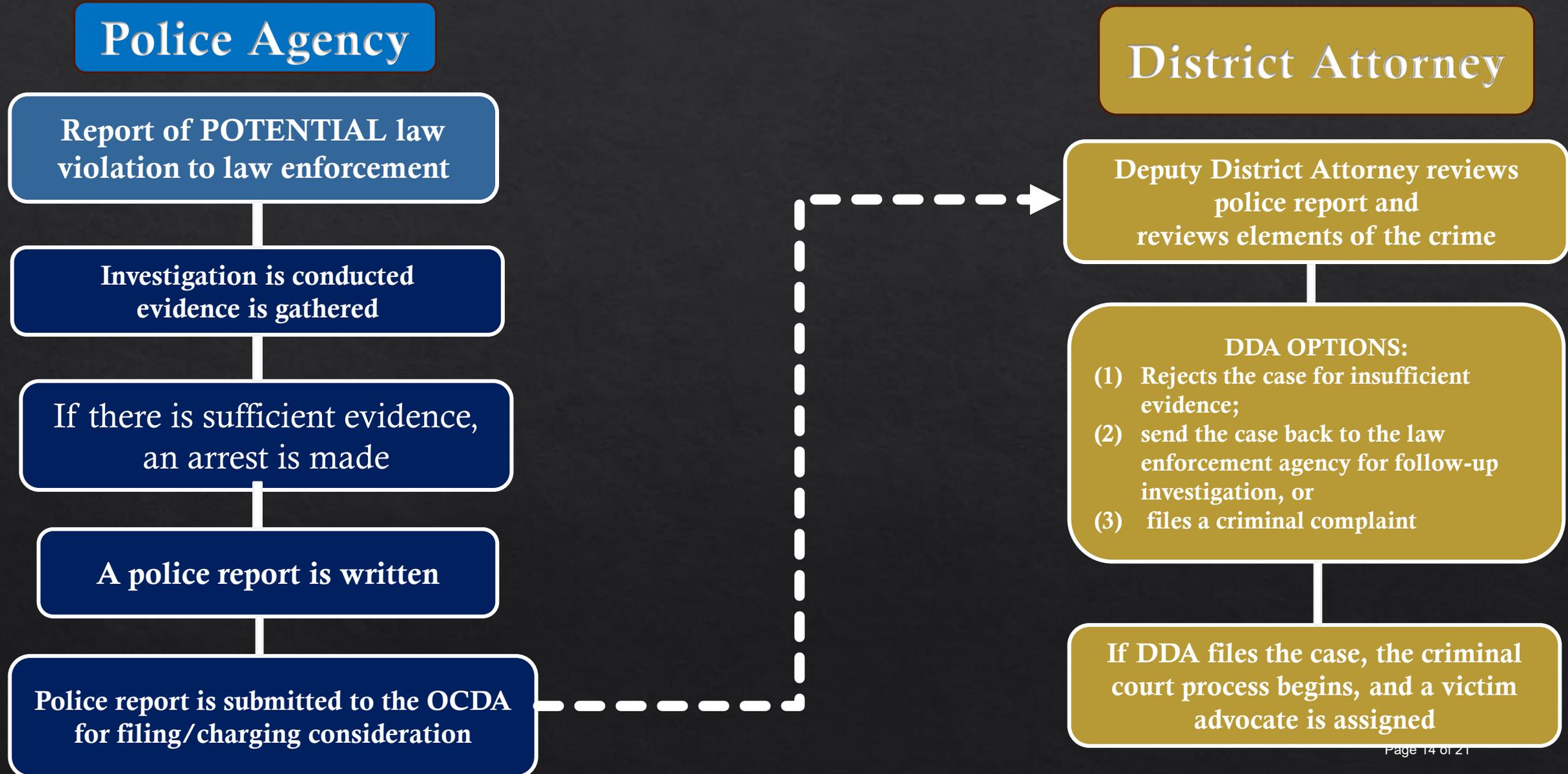
(HRC adopted definition August 14, 2025)





There is currently NO reporting mechanism for Hate Incidents in California.

How Filing Decisions are Made



Key Grant Deliverables

- Stakeholder engagement and community outreach.
- Create and teach multi-day POST –certified hate crimes course for law enforcement.

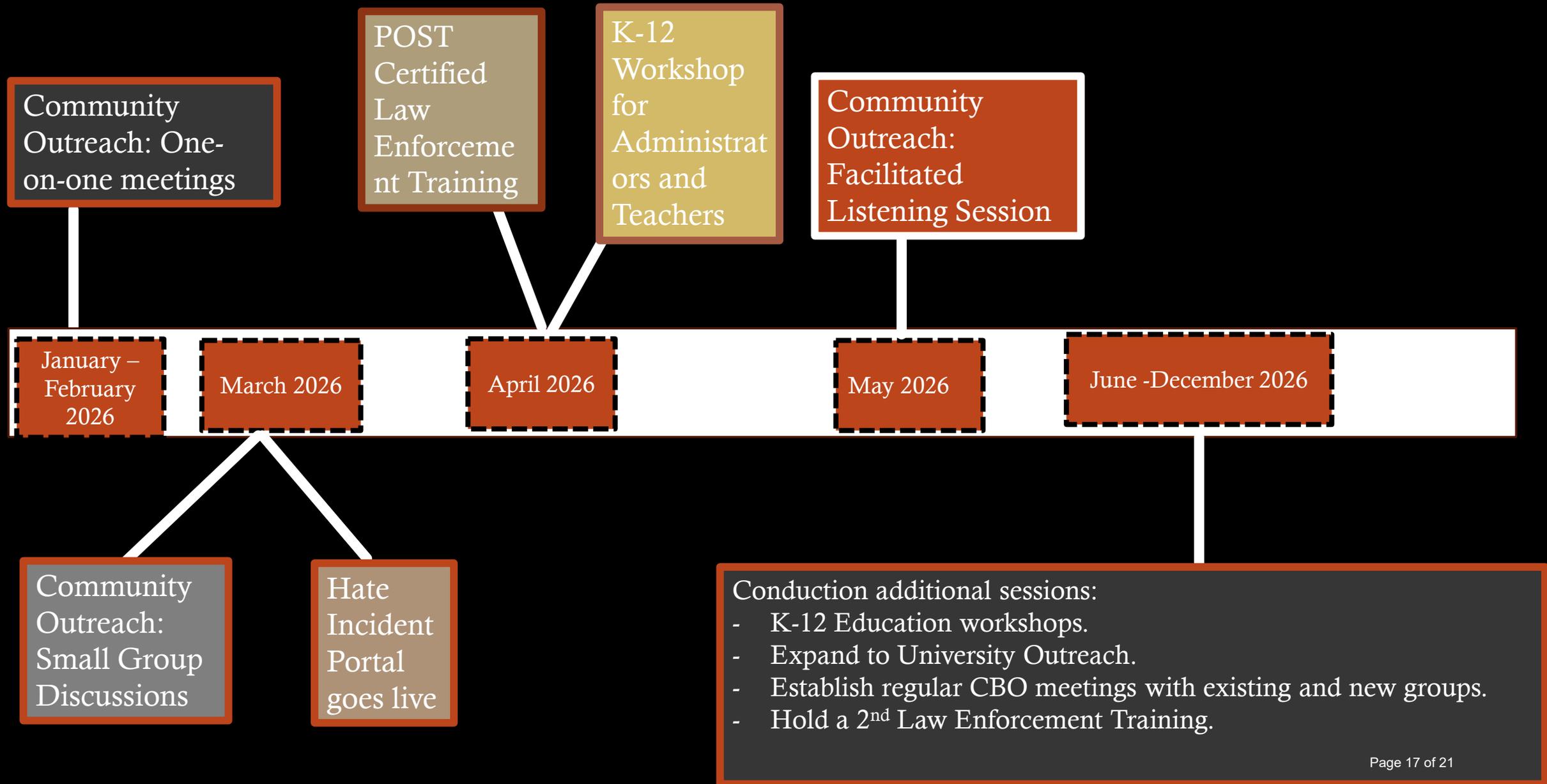


Key Grant Deliverables

- Develop and present hate crimes workshop for K-12 administrators and teachers.
- Create a countywide hate incident/crime reporting portal which will be managed by a hate crimes prosecutor and a trauma-informed victim advocate.



Key Grant Objectives: Timeline Of Projects



2026 Project Timeline

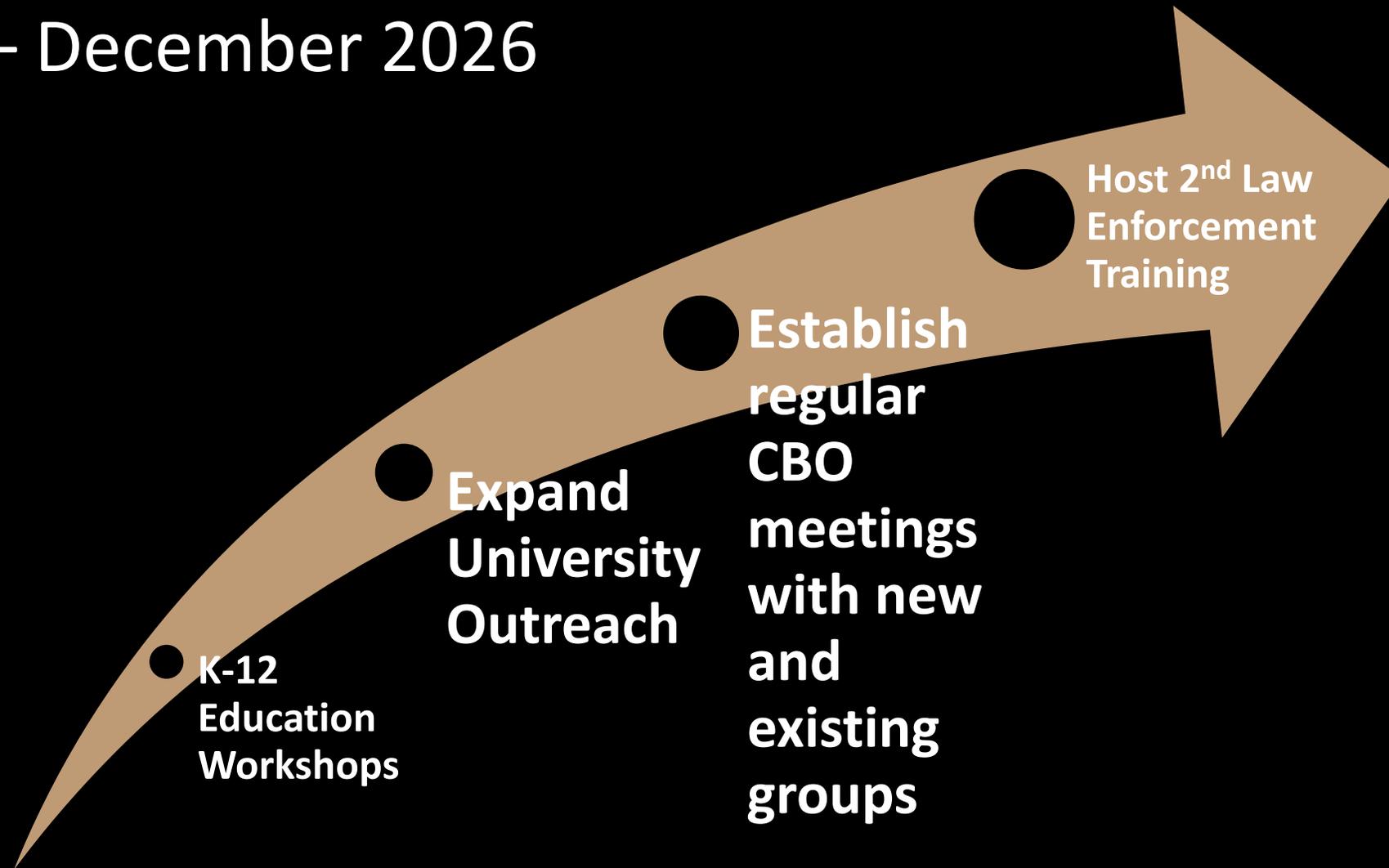


2026 Project Timeline



2026 Project Timeline

June – December 2026



Combating Hate

The Orange County District Attorney's Office

