

CCCBA Women's Statement Against AAPI Hate

The CCCBA Women's Section Board of Directors condemns hate and racial harassment against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Our hearts are heavy with sadness over the March 16, 2021 mass shooting in the Atlanta, Georgia area, which left 8 people dead, 6 of which were Asian American women. We find it abhorrent that the Cherokee County sheriff's office has so far refused to call this shooting a hate crime, claiming that the shooter had a "bad day", and siding with the criminal's stated intent that it was sex addiction, not race, that was the driving factor. We need to call it for what it is, racism, sexism, and domestic terrorism.

We hope that this incident will be afforded the justice it deserves under Georgia's newly enacted hate crimes law, which was passed in response to the murder of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man who was hunted and shot by 3 White males while he was jogging. Until June 2020, Georgia was one of only four states without protections for those targeted because of their race, sexual orientation, religion, and other protected groups.

We are also appalled and disgusted by the spate of anti-Asian violence and harassments reported throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Leaders should be ashamed for normalizing xenophobic rhetoric, despite repeated warnings from the AAPI community since the COVID-19 pandemic began over one year ago. According to national US data collected by Stop AAPI Hate, nearly 3,800 anti-Asian incidents were reported since the pandemic started, with Asian women reporting hate incidents 2.3 times more than men, and vulnerable Asian Americans seniors reporting 6.2% of all anti-Asian cases. [Here is a link to the study.](#)

Here are things you can do to help:

- Support Asian businesses and organizations advocating for Asian Americans (such as the Asian American Advancing Justice, <https://www.advancingjustice-aaajc.org/>).
- Take a free online Bystander Intervention Training (<https://www.advancingjustice-aaajc.org/anti-asian-hate>) to learn how to safely intervene when they see or experience harassment.
- Report hate crimes at [StopAAPIHate.org](https://www.stopaapihate.org)

#stopaapihate

#stopasianhate