



美洲同源總會

Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

National Lodge
ESTABLISHED 1895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 26, 2021

CONTACT: info@cacanational.org

Voices Against Hate, Part 2:

C.A.C.A. Chapter Leaders Respond to Increased Attacks on Asians

San Francisco, January 26, 2021 — Several days ago, Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) published the first three of a total of nine statements* from Chapter leaders answering the appeal of National President Melanie Chan to submit their observations of the rise in violence and harassment against Asian Americans reported across the country.

“We call for prompt attention of local enforcement to seek out, apprehend, and to pursue justice for these cruel perpetrators attacking our elders and members of the community. We also call upon our members to work for tolerance, understanding, and cooperation toward unity for harmony and social justice in our communities,” stated Ms. Chan.

The responses from chapter officers echo C.A.C.A.’s commitment to its historical leadership role as the oldest, continuous civil rights and advocacy organization for Americans of Chinese ancestry standing up to the deeply-rooted discrimination and alienation that scar the Chinese American experience.

C.A.C.A. encourages its membership and community allies to send remarks to info@cacanational.org and they will be shared via C.A.C.A. social media.

* www.cacanational.org/CACA_pdf/news_release_CACA_chapters_respond_Asian_attacks_1_February2021.pdf

Douglas Wong

President, C.A.C.A. Oakland

Recent attacks on our community and elderly in Oakland Chinatown have been increasing. Due to the budget shortfall in the city, foot patrols and community policing has been cut or reduced.

Several years ago several members of our Lodge were attacked and robbed after our monthly meeting. We secured Oakland Police resource officers to attend and speak at our next monthly meeting. Working with the Police and City Council District Two member, Oakland Police had patrols and a vehicle parked at our Lodge during the





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meetings.

Oakland C.A.C.A. Lodge has been involved with the Chinatown Coalition to improve the redevelopment of the area. Because of our relations with other businesses and agencies, we have supported the effort to increase police patrols, volunteer patrols and posted flyers on staying safe and phone numbers to direct police officers instead of the regular 911 dispatch.

Over the weekend we supported the gathering of several hundred, properly social distance of course, to carry our concerns to the public and city government via television, radio and social media.

Oakland's new police chief [LeRonne Armstrong] walked around Oakland Chinatown and promised to continue the effort to reduce the attacks and the reduction of crime. Oakland C.A.C.A. Lodge will continue its effort to eradicate crime and attacks on its citizens.

Kitty Kong

Vice President, C.A.C.A. Portland

Portland Lodge sympathizes and are outraged with the continuing rise of xenophobic and racist attacks on the Asians in America. While the issuance of resolutions, proclamations, and/or statements are important documentation, the time for passive writing and talking is over, and we must combat these acts of aggression head on with actions. We must not wait for violent events of harmless elderly to be assaulted to take on arms. Hate crimes against Asians in America is up 1900%, and that is only for the crimes reported. This statistics does not include microaggressions, verbal abuse, and subtle racial biases that are occurring in workplaces, businesses, schools, churches, neighborhoods, and local community spaces. Mainstream media and the news cycle are not reporting on these crimes, and our stories are again lost and we are again the invisible minority.



Take action by educating ourselves of the racist history of America for all People of Color. So often we as Chinese or Asians are so internally focused on our own community we fail to see the interconnect history how murder, genocide, slavery, revolution, legislation of other groups have affect our history in this country. Reach out and partner with other communities in solidarity and learn from them. Speak up and educate others on the historical context of how we are all interwoven together and that discrimination does not exist in a vacuum. Stand with them, march with them.

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7364747

blacklivesmatter.com

networkadvocates.org/recommittoracialjustice/legacy

www.latinojustice.org/en

www.arcusfoundation.org/our-support/social-justice-lgbt



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unitedwedream.org/our-work/lgbtq-justice

www.empoweredpi.org

www.civilandhumanrights.org

mcrm.mdah.ms.gov

Take action by training ourselves on skills to be better bystanders, learn how to intervene when we witness racism and speak up. Leverage the tools we have to ensure our stories are documented and shared as fast as possible on a national level. Learn to quickly take video or screen capture social media posts, and share, send stories, write letters, op-eds to local news and radio stations. Teach our elders to learn how to do this, too. There are free training resources at:

www.ihollaback.org/harassmenttraining

www.impactbayarea.org/online_classes

www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/how-to-respond-to-coronavirus-racism

Take action by bombarding your local, state, and federal elected officials (including school boards, district attorneys and judges) with stories and testimonials of racist acts no matter how small. Petition and demand policy and laws to penalize hate crimes. Invest in legal counsel for community members to prosecute against attackers. Remember in 2020 the United States Senate Resolution to condemning Anti Asian sentiment died in Congress. The House Resolution passed 243 to 164 meaning 40% of elected representatives and the constituents they represent do not support condemning Anti Asian sentiment. More active action is needed at the polls, in the offices of all levels of governing agencies, and in the streets.

www.usa.gov/elected-officials

www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

Take action by organizing security and patrol around targeted areas like Jimmy Bounphensy, founder of Asians with Attitudes, a volunteer patrol in Oakland Chinatown. If you are unable to pound the pavement yourself, financially fund individuals who can and are willing. Support security measures like more camera installation to capture evidence.

nextshark.com/citizens-patrol-oakland-chinatown

asianswithattitudes.com

Take action and report hate crimes swiftly. Teach our elderly, our children, our less than tech savvy community to report racist acts in as close to real time as possible. What does not get documented and reported will not exist.

www.standagainsthatred.org



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stopaapihate.org

www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org

www.napaba.org/page/HateCrimeResources

acttochange.org

ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2015

Take action by reaching out to the opposition. Regardless of the 2020 election we are still divided, often even within our own ethnic communities. Have more courageous face-to-face interpersonal conversations with those you disagree with or even despise. Invite a racist to talk. This work is interpersonal and echo chambers do not advance progress.

www.pbs.org/independentlens/films/accidental-courtesy

Take action brothers and sisters, because writing statements that no one outside our community reads will not change a thing.

Christina Lew

President, C.A.C.A. San Antonio

The San Antonio Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance condemns the violence that is taking place against Asian Americans nationwide. These attacks have been occurring for most of the past year and are affecting our Asian communities, especially our elders. Our community in San Antonio has been affected this past year with physical attacks on Asian business owners and racial slurs hurled at citizens in public. Our past president worked with city officials to pass a resolution denouncing the use of anti-Asian sentiments, especially in regards to COVID-19. We ask for more widespread national media coverage and awareness of these attacks and demand that our national leaders take action to protect our communities. Our voices need to be heard!



Next Time: San Francisco | Seattle | Washington, D.C.

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The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Orange County (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Sacramento (CA), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.