

Why should I report a hate crime?

- ✓ **Hate crimes and incidents hurt.** They can be confusing and frightening.
- ✓ **By reporting them when they happen to you, you may be able to prevent these incidents from happening to someone else.** You will also help law enforcement understand the extent of hate crime in your local area so they can better respond to it.
- ✓ **Reporting makes a difference – to you, your friends, and most importantly, to your life.**

The City of West Hollywood and the LA County Sheriff's Department take your safety very seriously. Through our **"Hate-Free City" hate crime prevention program**, we have worked to reduce hate crimes by increased hate crime/hate incident reporting.

This program encourages everyone to report all hate crimes and hate incidents immediately to the Sheriff's Station.

For more information:

City of West Hollywood Public Safety Department:
(323) 848-6414 TTY (323) 848-6469

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station: (310) 855-8850

Victims of Hate Crimes: Call 9-1-1 immediately!

Non-Emergency Reporting Phone Numbers:

West Hollywood Sheriff: (310) 855-8850

LAPD Hollywood Division: (213) 485-4302

LAPD Wilshire Division: (213) 473-0476

LA Gay & Lesbian Center: (800) 373-2227

The California Victim Compensation Program:

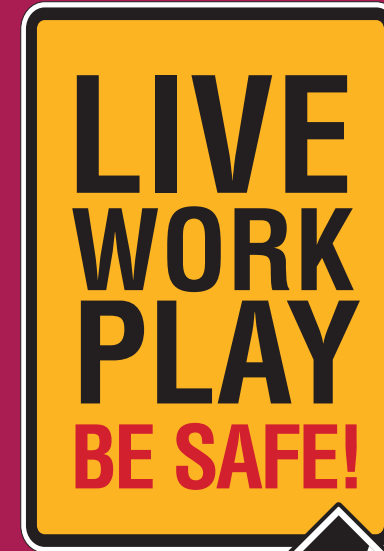
CalVCP Helpline: (800) 777-9229



City of West Hollywood
California 1984

A project of the Public Safety Commission

www.weho.org



**West Hollywood:
a "Hate-Free
City" with
respect for all**

**Know your rights
and report any
hate crime or
hate incidents
immediately.**

Crimes of Hate are flagged as a top priority at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, so please report all hate crimes and hate incidents.

Hate Crime:

Any **criminal act** or attempted act directed against:

- a person(s) motivated by bias (1) due to that person's (actual or perceived) race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender (including trans-gender) or disability (including mental) or (2) due to that person's association with any of the aforementioned protected groups; or
- a public agency or private institution which apparently is motivated due to the fact that the agency or institution is identified or associated with a person(s) with an identifiable protected characteristic (i.e., race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or disability).

Hate Incident:

Any **non-criminal act**, including words, directed at a person(s) motivated by bias against a person or group based on that person's race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or disability.

Hate incidents include, but are not limited to, the following:

- utterance of epithets;
- distribution of hate materials in public places;
- posting of hate materials without causing property damage; and the display of offensive materials on one's own property.

Safety Tips:

- ✓ **Learn neighborhood danger zones and avoid them:** dark parking lots, alleys, walk ways along tall shrubs, walls and fences.
- ✓ **While walking at night do not listen to music with headphones on.** If you absolutely must, have the volume very low or use only one earbud to ensure that you can hear street sounds and be aware of what is going on around you.
- ✓ **Walk confidently and make eye contact** with those you pass by. Be extra mindful of your surroundings, especially to the pedestrians and cars nearby.
- ✓ **Use public transportation** if possible such as the PickUp Line, Uber, a bus or taxi cab.
- ✓ **Use tracking features on your smartphone** to help others track your routes of travel. Share these details with family or friends.
- ✓ **Move away from unsafe situations. Call 9-1-1 if you feel threatened.**
- ✓ **Avoid walking alone at night.**
- ✓ **Know Before You Go:** if you go home with someone you don't know, first introduce them to friends, bartenders or others you know.
- ✓ **Exchange names and phone numbers.**
- ✓ **Remember drinking and partying affects your judgment:** Play Safe!

Know Your Rights:

California Civil Code Section 51.7 states **“All persons within the jurisdiction of this State have the right to be free from any violence, or intimidation by threat of violence, committed against their persons or property because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, or position in a labor dispute.”**

Anyone who violates the right provided by Section 51.7 is liable for each and every offense for the actual damages suffered by any person determined by a court of law.

