



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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April 27, 2023

RE: Affirming Our Stance Against Hate

Dear Humboldt County Residents,

Recently the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors received a vicious message containing bigoted and racist hate speech that threatened the lives of the LGBTQIA2S+ and Black communities in Humboldt County. In response, we, the undersigned government agencies, higher education organizations, and leaders, come together to affirm our ongoing commitment to foster a safe, equitable environment for all community members to live and thrive. We are adamant in our belief that all people must feel free to present their full and authentic selves safely in Humboldt County and within the agencies and institutions we represent.

Humboldt County is a [Sanctuary County](#) where all residents, regardless of nationality or citizenship status, should feel welcome, safe, and celebrated to be who they are. We are committed to protect and preserve the values of democracy and freedom for all Humboldt County residents including, but not limited to, Tribal communities, people of color, immigrants, the LGBTQIA2S+ community, people of all religions, individuals with disabilities, and all vulnerable and historically excluded populations. Throughout history, and in many cases for generations, these communities have experienced trauma due to acts of violence, hate, and discrimination.

Our democracy encourages us to express different opinions and beliefs. However, this does not justify sharing abhorrent views that marginalize or threaten community members who have historically been targeted by acts of hate. Hate speech of any kind is not welcome in our agencies or in Humboldt County. Words have power to cause destructive and even lethal actions. We condemn hate speech, threats, and acts of violence.

Hateful rhetoric only serves to reinforce our commitment to uphold values that celebrate the beauty of our diverse communities. We will continue to provide diversity, equity and inclusion learning opportunities for our staff and the people we serve. We are committed to providing our agencies with resources to combat acts of hate, racism, bigotry, and xenophobia and ensure hate crimes are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

If you are a community member who has been targeted by acts of identity-based hate, support is available to you. Please reach out to any of our organizations for assistance. Incidents of discrimination may be reported to the [Humboldt County Human Rights Commission](#), whose primary purpose is to recommend actions to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to address issues related to human rights in our county. To report a hate crime, please dial 9-1-1 or contact your local law enforcement agency.

We believe all people deserve the right to live their lives safely and without prejudice. We vehemently stand united against hate in our community.

Sincerely,

Steve Madrone
Chair-Board of Supervisors

Rex Bohn
Vice-Chair-Board of Supervisors

Michelle Bushnell
2nd District Supervisor

Mike Wilson
3rd District Supervisor

Natalie Arroyo
4th District Supervisor

Sheriff William F. Honsal,
Humboldt County Sheriff



Stacey Eads
Humboldt County District
Attorney

Elishia Hayes
County Administrative Officer


Connie Beck
Director, Humboldt County
Department of Health & Human
Services



Zachary O'Hanen
Director, Humboldt County
Department of Human Resources

Juan P. Cervantes,
Clerk, Recorder, Registrar of Voters

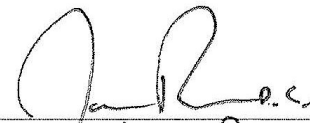
The undersigned stand with the County of Humboldt against hate:



Ted Hernandez
Chairman, Wiyot Tribe



Michelle Vassel
Tribal Administrator, Wiyot Tribe



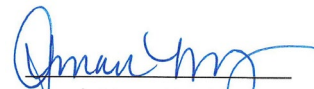
Jason Ramos
Tribal Administrator, CEO Tribal
Business Enterprises, Tribal
Council, Blue Lake Rancheria



Debra Garnes
Mayor, City of Rio Dell



Dr. Keith Flamer
President/Superintendent,
College of the Redwoods



Mandy Mager
City Manager, City of Blue Lake

Karen Diemer,
City Manager, City of Arcata

Kyle Knopp
City Manager, City of Rio Dell

Merritt Perry
City Manager, City of Fortuna

Leslie Castellano
Councilmember - Ward 1,
City of Eureka

Meredith Matthews,
Vice-Mayor, City of Arcata

Miles Davies-Hughes
Humboldt County Superintendent
Schools, Humboldt County
Office of Education

Sarah Schaefer
Mayor, City of Arcata

Roger MacDonald
Superintendent, Northern
Humboldt Union High School
District

Miles Slattery
City Manager, City of Eureka

Bryna Lipper
CEO, Humboldt Area Foundation
Wild Rivers Community
Foundation

Gregory Gehr
Executive Director, Northern
California Indian Development
Council

Aristea Saulsbury
Co-Interim Director,
McKinleyville Family
Resource Center

Theresa Grosjean
President, Northern Humboldt
Unified School District Board
of Trustees

Ron White,
Senior Advisor, Racial Equity,
Leadership & Empowerment,
Humboldt Area Foundation

Meridith Oram,
equity partners, LLC

Beth Burks
Executive Director, Humboldt
County Association of
Governments

Robin Baker
Co-Interim Director,
McKinleyville Family
Resource Center

Monica Topping
Administrative Director, Ink People
Center for the Arts

Gregg Foster
Executive Director,
Redwood Region
Economic Development
Commission

Connie Stewart,
Executive Director, California
Center for Rural Policy

Susan Seaman
Program Director, Arcata
Economic Development
Corporation

Eli Naffah
City Manager, City of Trinidad

Jason Moore
Trustee, Northern Humboldt Unified
School District Board of Trustees

Joanna Mauro
Sexuality and Gender Acceptance
Club Co-Advisor, Arcata High
School

Kimberly White
Councilmember, City of Arcata

Sister Gia T
Eureka Sisters of the
Perpetual Indulgence

Natalie Giannini
Trustee, Northern Humboldt
Unified School District Board of
Trustees

Len Wolff

Pat Bitton

Rabbi Bob Rottenberg

Alex Stillman
Councilmember, City of Arcata

Brian Gerving
Director of Public Works,
City of Eureka

