



Resolution

OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION CONDEMNING AND DENOUNCING ACTS OF BIAS AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE WAKE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, in the wake of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the United States and New Jersey have seen an alarming surge in reports of anti-Asian incidents of bias, racism and xenophobia; and

WHEREAS, in just a one-month period, the STOP AAPI HATE reporting center has received nearly 1,500 reports of coronavirus-related discrimination from Asian Americans across the country; and

WHEREAS, a survey conducted for the Center for Public Integrity found that more than 30 percent of Americans have witnessed someone blaming Asian people for the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has warned that a surge in hate crime incidents against Asian Americans will endanger Asian American communities; and

WHEREAS, history has shown how the scourges of racism and xenophobia have inflicted harm upon communities of color, as well as other marginalized populations and society as a whole, resulting in structural inequalities and the advancement of oppression and violence; and

WHEREAS, Asian-Americans make up some 10 percent of the state's population, accounting for more than 940,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, recent weeks have seen media reports of alleged hate speech and vandalism in Hoboken, as well as a violent attack on a 55-year-old Asian-Pacific American woman in Edison by a group of local juveniles; and

WHEREAS, state and national bar associations across the country, including the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey, have called for unity and support in these challenging times; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey State Bar Association is the largest organization of attorneys in New Jersey, and stands steadfast in opposition to xenophobia and discrimination of any kind;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that New Jersey State Bar Association condemns and denounces acts of bias and discrimination against Asian Americans in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and joins with our colleagues with the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey and numerous other organizations in their calls for unity and support.

The above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees on May 12, 2020 and affixed with the corporate seal of the New Jersey State Bar Association on this 13th day of May, 2020.