

## HATE CRIME INVESTIGATIONS

The Chicago Police Department's response to hate crimes involves many Divisions working together. The Civil Rights Section of the Preventive Programs and Neighborhood Relations Division is primarily responsible for the investigation of all reported hate crimes. Working in conjunction with the Detective Division, Patrol Division, and Youth Division, reported hate crimes are investigated in a timely manner and attempts are made to arrest all persons alleged to have violated the rights of others. When arrests are made, all information relative to the investigation is presented to the Felony Review Unit of The Cook County States Attorney's Office for further review and approval of charges.

### THE CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION OF THE PREVENTIVE PROGRAMS AND NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONS DIVISION

In Addition to its enforcement responsibilities, the Civil Rights Section is responsible for the documentation and distribution of hate crime statistical data displayed in the Chicago Police Annual Hate Crime Report and the F.B.I. yearly statistical report in compliance with the Federal Hate Crime Statistics ACT. Also, members of the Civil Rights Section regularly speak on hate crime matters at CAPS meetings, community meetings, religious congregational meetings, and to other

organizations on request. Requests for speakers can be made by calling the Preventive Programs and Neighborhood Relations Division's, Civil Rights Section at (312) 745-5827 and TDD/TTY (312) 745-6885.

The key to an effective law enforcement response to hate crime is the building of trust and partnerships between the police and victim communities. Citizens must have the confidence that when they come forward to report a hate crime, the police will receive the report seriously and professionally, as they would any other serious crime. The police must remember that just as positive police behavior builds community confidence, negative perceptions of police behavior can erode community trust and affect the partnership needed to deal effectively with hate crime.




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# HATE CRIME

HELP US  
HELP YOU

Chicago Police Department  
Bureau of Staff Services  
Preventive Programs and  
Neighborhood Relations Division  
Civil Rights Section  
3510 S. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60653



The City of Chicago is proud of its diverse population. Its residents mirror nearly every race, religion, nationality, and culture in the world.

Unfortunately, there are individuals and hate groups who would disrespect this diversity by committing crimes or acts targeting individuals or groups based on an actual or perceived hate due to race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or gender. These crimes or acts are known as **Hate Crimes** or **Hate Incidents**.

## **HATE CRIMES**

A hate crime is any attempted or actual criminal act perpetrated on a person or persons due to the victims actual or perceived race, color, creed, ancestry, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or gender. The following are examples of hate crimes:

- \* Criminal acts which inflict injury regardless of severity
- \* Threats of bodily harm or violence that look like they can be carried out
- \* Criminal acts which result in property damage
- \* Any criminal act or attempted criminal act directed against public

or private agencies, schools, churches, synagogues, mosques, temples or religious institutions

## **HATE INCIDENTS**

Hate incidents are non-criminal actions by any person or group directed toward the person or property of another due to a victims race, color, creed, ancestry, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or gender. Following are examples of hate incidents.

- \* The circulation of offensive printed material, handwritten material, or drawings placed on lawns, porches, stairways, automobiles, vestibules or in mailboxes
- \* Offensive communication from one person to another such as insults, jeers, signs, and body language that does not constitute a criminal act

## **REPORTING HATE CRIMES**

If you are the victim of, or are a witness to a hate crime, immediately report the incident to the Chicago Police Emergency, 9-1-1, or go to the nearest police station to report it. **Tell the person taking the report why you feel hatred was the motivating factor.**

After the report is prepared, the Civil Rights Section of the Preventive Programs and Neighborhood Relations Division and the appropriate Detective Division Area will be immediately notified and a thorough follow-up investigation will be conducted.

The Chicago Police Department encourages those who have information relative to hate crimes to give this information to the police. Public cooperation is essential in solving these crimes and everyone should help create a community attitude that hate crimes are not tolerated.

If you have information, questions, or concerns regarding a hate crime or a hate crime report, contact the Civil Rights Section, Preventive Programs and Neighborhood Relations Division at **(312) 745-5827** and **TDD/TTY (312) 745-6885**

**WITH YOUR COOPERATION WE CAN ACHIEVE COMPLETE AND PROPER DOCUMENTATION OF HATE CRIME**

