# Understanding Hate Crimes in Connecticut





# **Hate Crimes Investigative Unit**

The Hate Crimes Investigative Unit (HCIU) was established into Connecticut Law in July 2022. HCIU is currently the central repository for law enforcement-related hate crime information across the State. HCIU reviews statewide hate crimes, hate incidents, and crimes with bias elements. HCIU provides guidance and resources to law enforcement, all communities, and various public and private organizations. Additionally, HCIU attends various events to help bridge the gap between law enforcement and the communities we serve.

# <u>Additional Resouces & Support</u>

State of CT Judicial Branch Office of Victim Services
Victim Assistance Program
Phone: 800-822-8428
ovs@jud.ct.gov

Victim Compensation Program Phone: 888-286-7347 ovscompensation@jud.ct.gov

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
Phone Number: 1-800-505-9000
Toll-Free Phone Number: 1-888-771-3126

Office of the Victim Advocate Phone Number: 860-550-6632

Reporting hate crimes is vital to keeping communities safe

#### What is a Hate Crime?

Hate crimes are criminal offenses motivated by bias against race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability.

#### What is a Hate Incident?

Hate incidents refer to acts of prejudice that are not crimes and do not involve violence, threats, or property damage.

## **How to Report**

Contact your local Police Department, for Emergencies Dial 911!

## Why Reporting Matters

- 1 Assists Law Enforcement in prevention of future hate crimes
- 2 Allows Law Enforcement to identify trends of hate/bias
- 3 Unaddressed offenders may continue to conduct hate crimes
- 4 Strengthens the community trust and safety for all

## What Happens After You Report

- Officers will review incident and determine if the incident meets the level of a hate crime.
- 2 If the incident is not a hate crime, your report helps brings attention to community safety concerns.





