

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-16

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MARIN
CONDEMNING AND COMBATING RACISM, XENOPHOBIA, AND INTOLERANCE AGAINST
ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS**

WHEREAS, the County of Marin is committed to inclusion and advancing equity and justice for people of all races, national origins, and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, the County of Marin is home to an estimated 258,000 residents, of which Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) comprise a minimum of 6.9%; and

WHEREAS, AAPI communities are immensely diverse, consisting of multiple ethnicities, languages and dialects, wide-ranging socioeconomic characteristics, and distinct immigration patterns; and

WHEREAS, the belief that AAPIs are a monolithic group and achieve universal success, also known as the "model minority myth," perpetuates stereotypes and masks disparities within these communities, particularly among Southeast Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

WHEREAS, Racism and scapegoating toward AAPIs have persisted since the 19th century and contributed toward policies like the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which prohibited immigration of Chinese laborers, and introduction of the term "yellow peril," which portrayed East Asians as dangerous and threatening to the United States; and

WHEREAS, racist policies continued into the 20th century with the Immigration Act of 1924, effectively banning all immigration from Asia; Executive Order 9066 in 1942, authorizing the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II; and other policies that have impacted Southeast Asian Americans, South Asians, Muslims, and Sikhs, among others; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the Asian American community mobilized for justice after a young Asian American was stabbed at a local supermarket. The incident resulted in the first felony hate crime conviction in Marin County and acted as a catalyst to galvanize a community toward action; and

WHEREAS, since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, harmful and xenophobic rhetoric related to the geographic origins of this disease resulted in a rise in reported hate incidents and crimes against AAPI individuals, communities, and businesses throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, Stop AAPI Hate, a national coalition aimed at addressing anti-Asian discrimination amid the pandemic, and founded by the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies Department, documented over 3,800 hate incidents targeting AAPIs in the United States since March 2020, with women reporting hate incidents 2.3 times more than men; and

WHEREAS, the AAPI community continues to mourn the loss of life due to the March 18, 2021 massacre in Georgia, where six of the eight victims were Asian women, targets of the sordid and persistent objectification, sexualization, and fetishization of Asian women throughout our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, in history and at this moment in time, the County of Marin acknowledges the multiple harms and trauma that have existed and converged simultaneously in marginalized communities of all backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, AAPIs in Marin County are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given the rise of racially motivated attacks and hate crimes in the county; and

WHEREAS, despite these increasing acts of hate and bigotry, AAPIs have made Marin County and our nation more secure throughout its history and during the COVID19 pandemic, with an estimated 2 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders serving on the front lines of this crisis as healthcare providers, first responders, and in other essential roles; and

WHEREAS, the County of Marin will work to ensure that all members of AAPI communities — no matter their background, the language they speak, or their religious beliefs — are treated with dignity and equity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY OF MARIN:

1. Hereby condemns and will combat racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and
2. Will work with AAPI community partners in support of victims reporting hate crimes; and
3. Will work jointly with members of the AAPI community to develop tangible, community-led solutions that acknowledge the experiences of AAPI residents, root out systemic racism, and uplift racial solidarity.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held on this 13th day of April, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:	SUPERVISORS	Damon Connolly, Katie Rice, Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Judy Arnold, Dennis Rodoni
NOES	NONE	
ABSENT	NONE	



PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:



DEPUTY CLERK