



Members of the San Diego City Council:

We write today on behalf of the nearly 10,000 members of the San Diego County Bar Association, the region's largest law-related organization, to urge you to adopt R-2020-557, Council President Gomez's proposed resolution outlined in Agenda Item #333, and publicly denounce racism and xenophobia.

Earlier this week, the *Union-Tribune* noted 28 reported incidents of discrimination and verbal and physical threats, including four assaults, against members of the Asian American Pacific Islander community in San Diego since March 17. The frequency of incidents spiked significantly in the wake of COVID-19, and we strongly condemn these acts—whether documented or unreported.

Community and inclusion are two of our Association's core values. We are proud to foster an environment of respect, civility, and collaboration among our members, the legal community, and the community at large. As our society grapples with the global pandemic wrought by novel coronavirus COVID-19, those values matter more than ever.

We urge you to adopt this resolution and send a clear message that hate and intolerance have no place in San Diego.

Respectfully,

Johanna Schiavoni
President, San Diego County Bar Association

Jill Epstein
Executive Director, San Diego County Bar Association