



## COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5th Street, Suite 112, Eureka, CA 95501-1153

Telephone (707) 445-7266 Fax (707) 445-7299

[cao@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:cao@co.humboldt.ca.us)

April 27, 2023

RE: Affirming Our Stance Against Hate

Dear Humboldt County Residents,

Recently the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors received a vicious message containing bigoted and racist hate speech that threatened the lives of the LGBTQIA2S+ and Black communities in Humboldt County. In response, we, the undersigned government agencies, higher education organizations, and leaders, come together to affirm our ongoing commitment to foster a safe, equitable environment for all community members to live and thrive. We are adamant in our belief that all people must feel free to present their full and authentic selves safely in Humboldt County and within the agencies and institutions we represent.

Humboldt County is a [Sanctuary County](#) where all residents, regardless of nationality or citizenship status, should feel welcome, safe, and celebrated to be who they are. We are committed to protect and preserve the values of democracy and freedom for all Humboldt County residents including, but not limited to, Tribal communities, people of color, immigrants, the LGBTQIA2S+ community, people of all religions, individuals with disabilities, and all vulnerable and historically excluded populations. Throughout history, and in many cases for generations, these communities have experienced trauma due to acts of violence, hate, and discrimination.

Our democracy encourages us to express different opinions and beliefs. However, this does not justify sharing abhorrent views that marginalize or threaten community members who have historically been targeted by acts of hate. Hate speech of any kind is not welcome in our agencies or in Humboldt County. Words have power to cause destructive and even lethal actions. We condemn hate speech, threats, and acts of violence.

Hateful rhetoric only serves to reinforce our commitment to uphold values that celebrate the beauty of our diverse communities. We will continue to provide diversity, equity and inclusion learning opportunities for our staff and the people we serve. We are committed to providing our agencies with resources to combat acts of hate, racism, bigotry, and xenophobia and ensure hate crimes are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

If you are a community member who has been targeted by acts of identity-based hate, support is available to you. Please reach out to any of our organizations for assistance. Incidents of discrimination may be reported to the [Humboldt County Human Rights Commission](#), whose primary purpose is to recommend actions to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to address issues related to human rights in our county. To report a hate crime, please dial 9-1-1 or contact your local law enforcement agency.

We believe all people deserve the right to live their lives safely and without prejudice. We vehemently stand united against hate in our community.

Sincerely,

Steve Madrone  
Chair-Board of Supervisors

Rex Bohn  
Vice-Chair-Board of Supervisors

Michelle Bushnell  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor

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Mike Wilson  
3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor



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Stacey Eads  
Humboldt County District  
Attorney



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Zachary O'Hanen  
Director, Humboldt County  
Department of Human Resources



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John Ford  
Director, Humboldt County  
Department of Planning  
& Building



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Tom Mattson  
Director, Humboldt County  
Department of Public Works

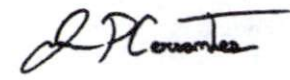
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Natalie Arroyo  
4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor



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Elishia Hayes  
County Administrative Officer




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Juan P. Cervantes  
Humboldt County Clerk, Recorder,  
Registrar of Voters



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Cody Roggatz  
Director, Humboldt County  
Department of Aviation



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Luke Brownfield  
Humboldt County Public Defender



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Sheriff William F. Honsal,  
Humboldt County Sheriff



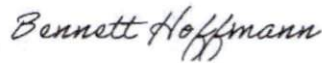
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Connie Beck  
Director, Humboldt County  
Department of Health & Human  
Services



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Howard LaHaie,  
Humboldt County Assessor



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Bennett Hoffman  
Director of Child Support Services  
North Coast Regional Department  
of Child Support Services

The undersigned stand with the County of Humboldt against hate:



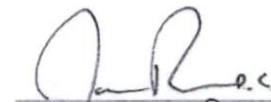
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Ted Hernandez  
Chairman, Wiyot Tribe



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Michelle Vassel  
Tribal Administrator, Wiyot Tribe



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Jason Ramos  
Tribal Administrator, CEO Tribal  
Business Enterprises, Tribal  
Council, Blue Lake Rancheria



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Debra Garnes  
Mayor, City of Rio Dell



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Dr. Keith Flamer  
President/Superintendent,  
College of the Redwoods



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Tom Jackson, Jr.  
President, Cal Poly Humboldt



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Karen Diemer  
City Manager, City of Arcata



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Kyle Knopp  
City Manager, City of Rio Dell



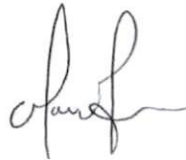
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Merritt Perry  
City Manager, City of Fortuna



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Leslie Castellano  
Councilmember - Ward 1,  
City of Eureka



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Meredith Matthews,  
Vice-Mayor, City of Arcata



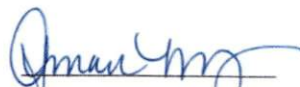
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Michael Davies-Hughes  
Humboldt County Superintendent  
of Schools, Humboldt County  
Office of Education



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Miles Slattery  
City Manager, City of Eureka



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Mandy Mager  
City Manager, City of Blue Lake



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Sarah Schaefer  
Mayor, City of Arcata



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Roger MacDonald  
Superintendent, Northern  
Humboldt Union High School  
District



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Bryna Lipper  
CEO, Humboldt Area Foundation  
& Wild Rivers Community  
Foundation



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Gregory Gehr  
Executive Director, Northern  
California Indian Development  
Council, Inc.





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Aristea Saulsbury  
Co-Interim Director,  
McKinleyville Family  
Resource Center



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JoAnn Moore  
Northern Humboldt Unified School  
District Board of Trustees



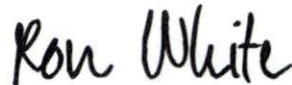
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Theresa Grosjean  
President, Northern Humboldt  
Unified School District Board  
of Trustees



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Robin Baker  
Co-Interim Director,  
McKinleyville Family  
Resource Center



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Ron White,  
Senior Advisor, Racial Equity,  
Leadership & Empowerment,  
Humboldt Area Foundation



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Meridith Oram,  
equity partners, LLC



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Beth Burks  
Executive Director, Humboldt  
County Association of  
Governments




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Joanna Mauro  
Sexuality and Gender Acceptance  
Club Co-Advisor, Arcata High  
School



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Monica Topping  
Administrative Director, Ink People  
Center for the Arts



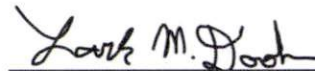
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Gregg Foster  
Executive Director,  
Redwood Region  
Economic Development  
Commission



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Connie Stewart,  
Executive Director, California  
Center for Rural Policy



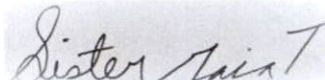
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Lark Doolan  
Executive Director,  
Queer Humboldt



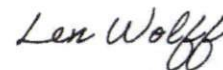
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Brian Gerving  
Director of Public Works,  
City of Eureka



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Sister Gia T  
Eureka Sisters of the  
Perpetual Indulgence



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Len Wolff



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Calder Johnson  
Managing Artistic Director,  
North Coast Repertory Theatre

*Natalie Giannini*

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Dr. Natalie Giannini  
Northern Humboldt Unified School  
District Board of Trustees



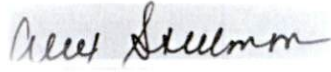
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Susan Seaman  
Program Director, Arcata  
Economic Development  
Corporation



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Kimberley White  
Councilmember, City of Arcata



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Alex Stillman,  
Councilmember, City of Arcata



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Eli Naffah  
City Manager, City of Trinidad



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Raven Coit  
Principal & Superintendent  
Peninsula Union School  
District



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Rabbi Bob Rottenberg



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Jacqueline Dandeneau  
Executive Artistic Director  
Playhouse Arts



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Wesley Chesbro  
Retired California State Senator



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Jennifer Berube  
Sexuality and Gender Acceptance  
Club Co-Advisor, Arcata High  
School

/Pat Bitton/

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Pat Bitton



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Stacy Atkins-Salazar,  
Councilmember, City of Arcata