## California Department of Justice CALIFORNIA JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION Joe Dominic, Chief



## INFORMATION BULLETIN

Subject:

Revisions to Hate Crime Event Reporting

<sup>Vo.</sup> 18-14-CJIS

Date:

01-01-19

Contact for information:

Criminal Justice Statistics Center hatecrime@doj.ca.gov

## TO: ALL CHIEFS OF POLICE, SHERIFFS, AND STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 13023, all California law enforcement agencies (LEAs) are required to submit hate crime event reports to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC), for any criminal acts or attempted criminal acts where there is a reasonable belief that the crime was motivated, in whole or in part, by the victim's gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

In May 2018, the California State Auditor (CSA) released *Hate Crimes in California* (Report Number: 2017-131, <a href="https://www.auditor.ca.gov/reports/2017-131/summary.html">https://www.auditor.ca.gov/reports/2017-131/summary.html</a>). The CSA determined that not all hate crimes were properly identified or reported to the DOJ, by LEAs. The CSA also requested that the DOJ provide more assistance to LEAs concerning hate crime training and auditing, and identified some potential methods for improving the reporting process. Over the summer of 2018, the DOJ conducted a pilot study for all hate crimes reported between January 1, 2018, and March 31, 2018. During this time, DOJ analysts contacted LEAs to request copies of the LEAs' incident reports and completed an in-depth review of each incident report associated with the reported hate crime event to identify any reporting errors. The effort also provided the opportunity to assess training needs.

Effective January 1, 2019, for all reported hate crimes that occur after January 1, 2019, the DOJ will require that a copy of the incident case report be submitted for each hate crime event reported to the DOJ. The DOJ analysts will conduct a thorough review of the case report and provide feedback and training to LEAs. The DOJ will not retain the incident case report once the hate crime event is validated and submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

The incident case reports may be submitted to the CJSC by emailing the reports to <a href="https://hatecrime@doj.ca.gov">hatecrime@doj.ca.gov</a> or faxing them to 916-227-3561. Please contact <a href="https://hatecrime@doj.ca.gov">hatecrime@doj.ca.gov</a> with any questions regarding the new Hate Crime Event Reporting procedures.

Sincerely,

JOE DOMINIC, Chief

California Justice Information Services Division

For

XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General