



March 26, 2021

Dear Chapter Members:

In response to the recent increase in violence and hate crimes targeting the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, culminating in last week's horrific murders in Atlanta, the Executive Committee of the Minnesota Dakotas Chapter of AILA wishes to make the following statement to our members.

Unfortunately, our country has a long history of racism and xenophobia targeting Asian individuals, dating back to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the Japanese internment camps during World War II, to recent discrimination targeting Asians and Asian Americans since the start of the pandemic. As a chapter, we denounce this spate of violence against the Asian and Asian American community and stand with our Asian and Asian American members and the AAPI community at large.

As part of our chapter's commitment to promote anti-racist policies supporting all communities of color, we encourage members to participate in the [Stop Asian Hate Commemoration Rally](#), on Sunday, March 28 at the Minnesota State Capitol. We also encourage members educating themselves on how to support the AAPI community as outlined in the resources listed below:

- Stop AAPI Hate's [reports](#) on anti-AAPI hate incidents
- NAPABA's [statement](#) denouncing racism
- NPR: [The History of Anti-Asian Sentiment in the U.S.](#)
- Othering & Belonging Institute: [Asians Must Be a Part of Our Story, Too](#)
- MNAPABA's list of [local resources](#) for discussing and combating anti-AAPI racism, including an invitation to the larger Twin Cities community to join their recently formed Anti-AAPI Racism, Discrimination, & Violence Outreach Working Group
- [Minnesota Asian Safety Squad](#), a local organization providing community patrols and individual escorts for vulnerable Asian Minnesotans
- The Coalition of Asian American Leaders' (CAAL) list of [ways to combat](#) anti-Asian racism in Minnesota, including reporting hate incidents, donating to AAPI community organizations, attending a bystander training, and calling legislators to support stronger hate crime laws
- New York Times: [Talking to Children About Anti-Asian Bias](#)
- Virtual bystander intervention [trainings](#), conducted by Asian Americans Advancing Justice

As leaders of our chapter, we ask each of you to make the same commitment to stand with our members, clients and those in our community who may be subject to anti-Asian discrimination and hate.

AILA Minnesota Dakotas Chapter 2020-2021 Executive Committee