



NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CONSORTIUM PRESS RELEASE

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NAPALC Announces the Release of On-Line Hate Crimes Poll

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Washington, D.C. - The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) is pleased to announce the introduction of its online hate crime poll. Developed by NAPALC with the help of its Affiliate the Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (APALC), the poll is hosted on *Asian Avenue's* portal, www.asianavenue.com. The poll is available for approximately two weeks, from August 19th through September 3rd, and consists of 4 questions.

The hate crimes poll is Phase I of a special NAPALC project and is supported by funding from the Verizon Foundation. NAPALC hopes the poll will gauge participants' knowledge of hate crimes. Phases II and III will involve online forums. During the Phase II forum, NAPALC will invite users to share personal stories of discrimination and hate violence. The topic of the Phase III forum will be determined by the outcomes of the Phase II forum and by current events. NAPALC would like to emphasize that the identity and email addresses of the users will be protected throughout. NAPALC strongly encourages everyone to participate.

"Although NAPALC has had a long time presence on the Internet through its site, www.napalc.org, this is our first interactive venture. We chose AsianAvenue.com because of its subscriber base reaching Asian American youth and young adults, often the target of hate crimes," said Karen Narasaki, President and Executive Director of NAPALC.

Stewart Kwoh, Executive Director of APALC stated, "In the two months following September 11th, 243 hate crimes were reported against Asian Pacific Americans. There is an undoubted need to both raise awareness and to educate the APA community about hate crimes."

AFFILIATES

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The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (www.napalc.org) is a national civil rights organization dedicated to advancing and defending the civil rights of Asian Pacific Americans. The Asian Pacific American Legal Center (www.apalc.org) is the only organization in Southern California dedicated to providing the Asian Pacific American community with multilingual, culturally sensitive legal services and civic education.