FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Molly Nichelson
Public Information Manager
(714) 834-7218
Molly.Nichelson@ocgov.com

Orange County Releases 2017 Hate Crimes Report

Santa Ana, Calif. (September 18, 2018) – On September 25, 2018, the public is invited to participate in the release of the County of Orange 2017 Hate Crimes Report. The report will also be available online upon release at www.occommunityservices.org/oc_human_relations_commission.

In an effort to increase awareness, strengthen hate crime prevention programming, and promote a bias-free community, the County produces and publishes an annual hate crimes report.

The 2017 report reflects an increase in hate crimes targeting Muslims, people perceived to be Middle Eastern and the Jewish community.

“This violence has to stop; innocent people are being hurt. It is important to recognize that each of these incidents represents one of our neighbors, who was simply targeted because of some aspect of their being, whether it be ethnicity, religion, race or sexual orientation. The County takes these incidents seriously and continues to invest resources in studying contentious issues related to discrimination, intolerance and prejudice; mediating conflicts and educating institutions and individuals in Orange County about issues pertaining to change, diversity, fear and bigotry. We need to stand together against hate,” said Chairman Andrew Do, First District Supervisor.

The County of Orange would like to thank the Orange County Human Relations Commission, which is contracted by the County to work closely with law enforcement, nonprofit organizations, diverse faith leaders, and community members to respond and track hate crimes and incidents on behalf of the County. The County would also like to thank the OC Human Relations Council for making printed copies of the report available to the public at this event.

To learn more about services provided by the County through the Human Relations Commission, please visit www.occommunityservices.org.

Report Release Information:

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018
Time: 9 – 10:30 a.m.
Location: OC Human Relations, 1801 E. Edinger Ave., Suite 165, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Event will also feature the following presentations:

Hate Groups in Orange County: Presented by Dr. Pete Simi, Director of Earl Babbie Research Center and Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Chapman University.
Prevention of Bias-Motivated Violence: Presented by Brette Steele, Regional Director of Strategic Engagement Office of Terrorism Prevention Partnerships.

###