The Preliminary Investigation

Law enforcement officials will first conduct a preliminary investigation at the scene of the crime.

The Follow-Up Investigation

There may be a follow-up investigation. Officers may conduct interviews, document the incident and apparent motives, arrest suspects, notify the FBI.

Hate Crime Indicators

Law enforcement officials will consider the following bias indicators: racial, ethnic, gender and/or cultural differences; comments, written statements, or gestures; drawings, markings, symbols, or graffiti; organized hate groups; previous bias crimes or incident.

FBI Involvement

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is the lead agency for enforcing federal civil rights law. The Hate Crimes Unit of the FBI’s Civil Rights Division investigates crimes motivated by bias toward race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or gender.

Develop Talking Points

Identify a specific target audience and create messages that will achieve your goals. Specify what you want people to do, how they should do it, and why.

Issue A Press Release

If the topic is newsworthy, consider answering these questions in a press release: Who? What? When? Where? Why? And how? Keep the press release short and include your contact information.


Write Blog / Social Media Post

Summarize your main points, establish your credibility, and use evidence. Be as concise and to the point as possible. For social media, be sure to use the hashtag #StopAAPIHate to maximize visibility.

Note: Before speaking with the media, consider the victim’s concerns regarding publicity. You may want to seek legal advice.

Resources for more information on...

Legal aid, working with law enforcement, mental health and more, visit the National Asian Pacific Bar Association’s (NAPABA) Hate Crime Resources at: [www.napaba.org/page/HateCrimeResources](http://www.napaba.org/page/HateCrimeResources)

COVID-19, visit the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum’s website at: [www.apiahf.org](http://www.apiahf.org)