

Hate Crime:

A crime against a person, group, or property motivated by the victim's real or perceived protected social group. Hate crimes can be prosecuted either as a misdemeanors or felonies depending on the acts committed.

Hate Incident:

An action or behavior motivated by hate but legally protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression. If a hate incident starts to threaten a person or property, it may become a hate crime.

Examples of *hate incidents* include:

- Display of offensive material on one's own property
- Posting of hate material that does not result in property damage
- Distribution of materials with hate messages in public places



If you are the victim of a hate crime, please contact your local law enforcement agency.

For additional information, please visit oag.ca.gov/HateCrimes