TO: ALL CALIFORNIA LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The California Department of Justice, informed by public reporting and other information, is providing this information bulletin to alert local law enforcement across California regarding the potential for violence against Muslim places of worship, Islamic schools, and Arab community centers, museums, monuments, businesses, and other gathering places. Local law enforcement should ensure they are prepared to address any such violence in response to increased threats to the Arab and Muslim communities in California and across the country and world.

The Department of Justice also reminds local law enforcement that it stands prepared to deploy Department of Justice resources pursuant to our Hate Crime Rapid Response Protocol. Under this Protocol, the Department of Justice can amplify the resources of local law enforcement in responding to a triggering event by providing agencies access to its full resources, including law enforcement, forensics, legal, and community engagement support. A triggering event includes any of the following incidents:

1. Hate crimes resulting in a death, especially in jurisdictions with fewer resources available to address the investigation and prosecution of a homicide or a hate crime;
2. Acts of arson resulting in significant damage;
3. Use of explosives; and/or
4. A mass casualty incident.

This Protocol does not supplant the Department’s ongoing and active partnership with local and federal law enforcement authorities with respect to the investigation and prosecution of crimes, whether hate crimes or other forms of crime or victim’s services. Additionally, the Department of Justice remains ready and available to assist in circumstances that do not constitute a “triggering event.”

For questions about this Information Bulletin, please contact Senior Assistant Attorney General Michael Newman in the Department’s Civil Rights Enforcement Section at (213) 269-6280.