

# RACIAL JUSTICE BUREAU FACT SHEET

The California Department of Justice (DOJ) Racial Justice Bureau (RJB) is committed to increasing focus on racial and social justice issues across DOJ's civil rights work and supporting new and ongoing efforts to protect all Californians. RJB works to address unlawful race, color, and ancestry-based discrimination in the state in a variety of areas including voting rights, immigration, law enforcement, and hate crimes.

# **DOJ IS ADVANCING RACIAL JUSTICE BY:**

#### **COMBATTING DISCRIMINATION**

From fighting for equal access to places of public accommodations to ensuring equal opportunities in housing and employment for all Californians regardless of race, color, national origin, or immigration status, the DOJ works to protect all Californians from unlawful discrimination across private and public settings. The DOJ does this through investigations, litigation, guidance, and public reports.

### FIGHTING AGAINST HATE CRIMES AND BIAS

The California Department of Justice has tools and resources to aid and assist local, state, and federal law enforcement authorities in the investigation of possible hate crimes, including the identification, arrest, prosecution, and conviction of perpetrators of those crimes. Among other things, the DOJ provides local law enforcement agencies technical support to help identify, prevent, and respond to hate crimes and bias in communities. The DOJ also provide the public information and resources to help prevent and respond to possible hate crime and bias incidents.

#### **PROTECTING VOTING RIGHTS**

The right to vote is a fundamental to our democracy. A critical element of DOJ's work is defending the right to vote and protecting voters from intimidation and dilution of their voting power. To that end, the DOJ has conducted investigations into redistricting and allegations of voter dilution. The DOJ has also issued public guidance regarding the right of voters to be free from coercion, intimidation, or dissuasion. DOJ has supported voting rights in courts throughout the nation through amicus briefs.

# **ADVANCING RACIAL JUSTICE IN POLICING**

Racial and identity profiling and biased policing harms marginalized communities, contributes to racial disparities in our criminal justice system, and undermines public safety. Through investigations, public reports, and education the DOJ promotes in law enforcement diversity, racial and cultural sensitivity, and compliance with California legal prohibitions against racial and identity profiling and biased policing.

#### **PROTECTING IMMIGRANTS**

As the State with the highest number of immigrants of any in the union, protecting the rights of California's immigrant residents is a key component of RJB's work. The RJB advances immigrants' rights through its Immigration Detention Facility Reviews, implementation of the California Values Act, and advocacy in court and in the federal regulatory process to promote fair and humane federal immigration policies.



# **DEMYSTIFYING THE DOJ**

# RACIAL JUSTICE BUREAU PRESENTATION REFERENCED LINKS & RESOURCES 09/18/2024

# **RACIAL JUSTICE BUREAU**

- RJB website
  - o Racial Justice Bureau | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General

## **COMBATTING DISCRIMINATION**

- Denying Hotel Accommodations Based on Tribal Status
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta: Denying Hotel Accommodations Based on Tribal</u>
     <u>Status Is Unlawful and Discriminatory | State of California Department of Justice Office of</u>
     the Attorney General

### **COMBATTING BIAS IN POLICING**

- Torrance PD Investigation (Slide 10)
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Launches Independent Review of Torrance Police</u>
     Department | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General
- RIPA (Slide 11)
  - o Homepage: <u>AB 953: The Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2015 | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
  - Current report page and past reports: <u>oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/ripa-board-re-port-2024.pdf</u>
  - Last year's report: <u>2023 RIPA Board Annual Report Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory</u> Board - California Department of Justice

# **IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS**

- Immigration Detention Reviews
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Becerra, Senator Lara Announce California Department of</u>
     <u>Justice to Review Conditions in Immigrant Detention Facilities | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Becerra Releases First Report on Immigration Detention</u>
     <u>Facilities in California | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney</u>
     <u>General</u>
  - Most recent report: IDF 2022 COVID Report (ca.gov)
    - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Releases New Report on Immigration Detention Facilities in California | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>



#### Implementing SB 54

- o 2018 LE Bulletin: <u>DLE-2018-01 Information Bulletin Responsibilities of Law Enforcement</u>
  Agencies Under the California Values Act, California TRUST Act, and the California TRUTH Act
  - Press Release: Attorney General Becerra Issues Law Enforcement Bulletins Providing Guidance to California's Public Safety Authorities Under the Values Act | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General
- Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Advises California Law Enforcement on Legal Uses</u> <u>and Management of Automated License Plate Recognition Data | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General</u>
  - 2023 LE Bulletin: <u>23-01-CJIS Updated California Value's Act's Database Guidance</u>

# Defending DACA

- DACA homepage: <u>Status of California's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Litigation</u> |
   State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General
- Attorney General Bonta Co-Leads Multistate Coalition Opposing Texas' Irresponsible Attempt to End DACA | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General
- Attorney General Bonta, Multistate Coalition Push Back Against Ongoing Effort to End DACA
   State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General

# Settlement in Border Wall Litigation

- Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Secures Settlement Regarding Unlawful Construction</u> of Trump Border Wall | <u>State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney</u> General
- Protecting Minors in Immigration Detention
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Leads Multistate Coalition in Seeking Enhancements</u> to <u>Unaccompanied Children Program Rule | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General</u>
  - Press release for law lawsuit: Attorney General Becerra Leads Coalition Defending Human
     Rights of Children in Civil Immigration Detention | State of California Department of Justice
     Office of the Attorney General

#### Maintaining Robust Asylum System

Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta, Multistate Coalition Urge Federal Government to</u>
 <u>Ensure Robust Access to Asylum | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General</u>

#### Supporting CAM Program

- Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Joins Coalition in Support of Federal Program to Re-unite Migrant Children with Parents | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
- Supporting Recission of "Remain in Mexico" Policy
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Urges U.S. Supreme Court to Uphold Humanitarian</u>
     <u>Protections for Asylum Seekers | State of California Department of Justice Office of the</u>
     Attorney General



- Supporting Humanitarian Parole
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Joins Multistate Coalition in Support of Biden's</u>
     <u>Administration's CHNV Parole Program for Migrants Fleeing Violence | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
- U Visas
  - o LE Bulletin: 2024-DLE-05 Information Bulletin (ca.gov)

# **VOTING RIGHTS AND ELECTION PROTECTION**

- USPS Election Mail Settlement
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Becerra Steps Up Legal Pressure to Protect U.S. Postal Service from Trump Administration Attacks</u> | <u>State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
- Championing Voting Rights Nationwide:
  - o RJB Homepage: <u>Racial Justice Bureau | State of California Department of Justice Office of</u> the Attorney General
    - Search for "recent work" on the page. Under heading "Amicus Curiae Briefs", the efforts mentioned will be under "Voting Rights".
  - Attorney General Bonta Joins Amicus Brief to Stand Up for Voter Protections in Mississippi |
     State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General
  - Attorney General Bonta Joins Multistate Coalition Supporting Delaware's Early Voting Law |
     State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General
- LE Bulletins Re: Voter Intimidation
  - LE Bulletin: <u>2024-DLE-04 Information Bulletin March 5, 2024, Presidential Primary Election Protecting California Voters and Elections Workers on Election Day and During Early Voting</u>

### **COMBATTING HATE**

- Hate Crimes
  - DOJ hate crimes webpage: <u>Hate Crimes | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
  - Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Releases 2023 Hate Crime Report, Highlights Continued Efforts to Combat Hate | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
- June 26, 2023 Hate Crime LE Bulletin: 2023-DLE-104 Information Bulletin (ca.gov)
- Muslim, Arab, and Jewish Hate Crime Resources
  - LE Bulletin: <u>Alert Regarding Threats Against Jewish Community and Availability of Department of Justice Resources to Combat Hate Crimes (ca.gov)</u>
  - o LE Bulletin: Microsoft Word 2023-DLE-10 Information Bulletin 10.20.2023 FINAL (ca.gov)



- Protecting Free Speech on College Campuses while Ensuring Non-Discriminatory Environments
  - 10/20/2023 LE Bulletin: <u>Microsoft Word 2023-DLE-09 Information Bulletin\_10.20.2023\_Fl-NAL.DB (ca.gov)</u>
    - Please note that this LE Bulletin is dated 10/20/2023, whereas the presentation states 10/23/2023 as the publishing date.
  - o 11/9/2023 LE Bulletin: OAG-2023-03: Guidance regarding students' free speech rights and schools' obligation to prevent discrimination and harassment (ca.gov)

#### **REPARATIONS**

- Reparations Task Force
  - AB 3121 homepage: <u>AB 3121: Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for Af-</u> rican Americans | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General
  - o 2023 Final Report: <u>The California Reparations Report | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>
  - Press Release: <u>California Reparations Task Force Unveils Comprehensive Final Proposals to</u>
     <u>the Legislature Regarding Reparations for African Americans | State of California Depart-</u>
     <u>ment of Justice Office of the Attorney General</u>

# Housing

- Crime-free Housing Attorney General Rob Bonta Announces Guidance to Prevent Discriminatory
  Housing Practices | State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General
- Press Release: <u>Attorney General Bonta Applauds Biden Administration's Efforts to Reduce Barriers</u>
   <u>to Affordable Housing for Justice-Involved Individuals | State of California Department of Justice -</u>
   Office of the Attorney General

