



**The Fairfax County Democratic Committee
Expresses Sympathy to the Victims and
Condemns the March 16, 2021 Atlanta-Area Shootings**

Whereas,

The March 16, 2021 Atlanta-area shootings, of which six of the victims are Asian American women, are the latest in hate crimes against minorities.

Anti-Asian American hate crimes surged by 150 percent in 2020 while overall hate crimes dropped by 7 percent.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, former President Trump and other Republican leaders have continually blamed the virus on China, and the organization, Stop AAPI Hate, reported over 3,800 incidents of anti-Asian hate crimes nationwide, more than two-thirds of which are against Asian women.

At least 150 anti-Asian hate crimes have been reported in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. In January and February 2021, the Fairfax County police met with Asian Americans about burglaries targeting their businesses in Annandale and Falls Church.

Everyone in America should be respected and feel safe. No one should be afraid to walk in their neighborhood, afraid that someone will verbally harass them, vandalize their businesses, assault or murder them just because of their race or ethnicity. Such a climate of hostility must not be tolerated for any community.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Democratic Committee:

1. Expresses sympathy to the victims and condemns the March 16, 2021 Atlanta-Area shootings;
2. Commits to help ensure that Fairfax County is inviting, welcoming, and safe for all communities, including the Asian American community;
3. Commends the Virginia NoHateVA.com resource for focusing on and helping victims and witnesses of the rise of anti-Asian hate, abuse, discrimination, and violence that has coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic; and
4. Thanks President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, the first African American and Asian American Vice President, for meeting with Asian American and Pacific Islander leaders in the Atlanta Georgia area after last week's shootings.

PASSED and APPROVED on this 23rd day of March 2021.