

## ENDING HATE CRIME

Hate has no place in our city. Amidst national crises that have exacerbated bias and discrimination, hate crimes over the past year nationally rose to the [highest level in over a decade](#), seeing more hate-motivated killings than any year in recorded history. The trauma of hate crimes victimizes entire communities, and rooting out that hate is critical to the city's recovery. Lucy is committed to ensuring that the Manhattan District Attorney's office makes addressing hate crimes a priority, and focuses on rebuilding the city, premised on the values of dignity and tolerance. Hate has no home in Manhattan.

As DA, Lucy will:

- **Designate hate crimes leadership whose sole responsibility is supervising and handling *only* hate crimes cases.** Hate crimes deserve the full attention of attorneys assigned to address them, and those who investigate and prosecute such crimes need the capacity and resources to focus on them exclusively. Under Lucy, hate crimes leadership will be dedicated full-time to investigating such cases, with the support of experienced ADAs and robust investigational resources.
- **Break the cycle of hate by responding seriously to every hate crime -- without sacrificing core values.** Being serious about hate crimes cases doesn't mean abandoning the principles of using jail and prison as a last resort, which requires legal analysis about available sentencing options as part of charging decisions. With the consent of victims, the District Attorney's Office will consider responsive sentencing, including mental health treatment and restorative justice, as possible resolutions in appropriate cases.
- **Communicate transparently and broadly with the public to encourage reporting and make reporting accessible to all regardless of language barriers and mental and physical ability.** Hate crimes by their very nature often target members of vulnerable populations who distrust police and the District Attorney. Understandably, these victims will be disinclined to report the crimes against them. Lucy will meet directly with vulnerable community members and organizations representing them on a consistent basis. Lucy pledges to be accessible and responsive to the needs and concerns of these community members and will train all office staff to be sensitive to and respectful of their experiences and concerns. She will advertise the hate crimes unit and its reporting mechanisms broadly in community meetings and across media and social media platforms in multiple languages to encourage reporting of hate crimes.
- **Include trauma-informed cultural humility training for all ADAs who handle hate crimes.** Survivors of hate crimes can come from marginalized communities that require a survivor-centered approach and supportive services to encourage their cooperation with the District Attorney's Office. All lawyers and staff who work with such communities will be trained to facilitate a procedurally just experience for hate crime survivors.
- **Work with the Mayor's Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes to engage with the community.** The DA's obligation to our community starts before crime happens, and Lucy is committed to working with other city bureaus and officials to support educational and other efforts to stop hate crime before it occurs. That includes using the resources of the DA's Office to create citywide partnerships with our communities.
- **Take all allegations of hate crimes seriously.** Historically, hate crimes have been considered particularly difficult to prosecute and prove. But difficulty cannot be a bar to justice. The District Attorney's Office will take every hate crime allegation seriously and investigate every case thoroughly. Lucy will treat hate crimes as hate crimes.