

A3PCON

ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY & PLANNING COUNCIL

Dear A3PCON members,



From all of us to you - Happy Lunar New Year! We hope this newsletter finds you in good health, happiness and fortune. In the year of the Ox, we celebrate the traits of hard work and calm.

While we look forward to Lunar Year as a time of family, food and celebration, this year, many of our elders are experiencing hate, fear and trepidation due to the escalation of targeted violence against our community members. A string of attacks concentrated in the Bay Area has left many of us reeling emotionally and moved to action.

Most recently, in a fatal incident captured on camera, an elderly Thai man was killed after being pushed to the ground while on a walk in his neighborhood in San Francisco. This news comes on the heels of another incident captured on camera which took place in Oakland, where an elderly man was violently pushed to the ground in public. Earlier in January, an elderly Asian man was fatally assaulted in San Francisco.

On February 9th, [Stop AAPI Hate](#) joined more than 40+ Asian American organizations in the Bay Area to denounce the violence against our communities and demand action. The [press conference](#) can be viewed below.



Community Leaders from over 40+ AAPI organizations came together to condemn the recent attacks on AAPI elders and lay out a plan of action

In their official [Press Release](#), Stop AAPI Hate leadership issued the following remarks:

“We are outraged by the disturbing incidents we’ve seen this past week where Asian American elders have been attacked in the San Francisco Bay Area. These violent assaults have a devastating impact on our community as they are part of an alarming rise in anti-Asian American hate during the COVID-19 pandemic.

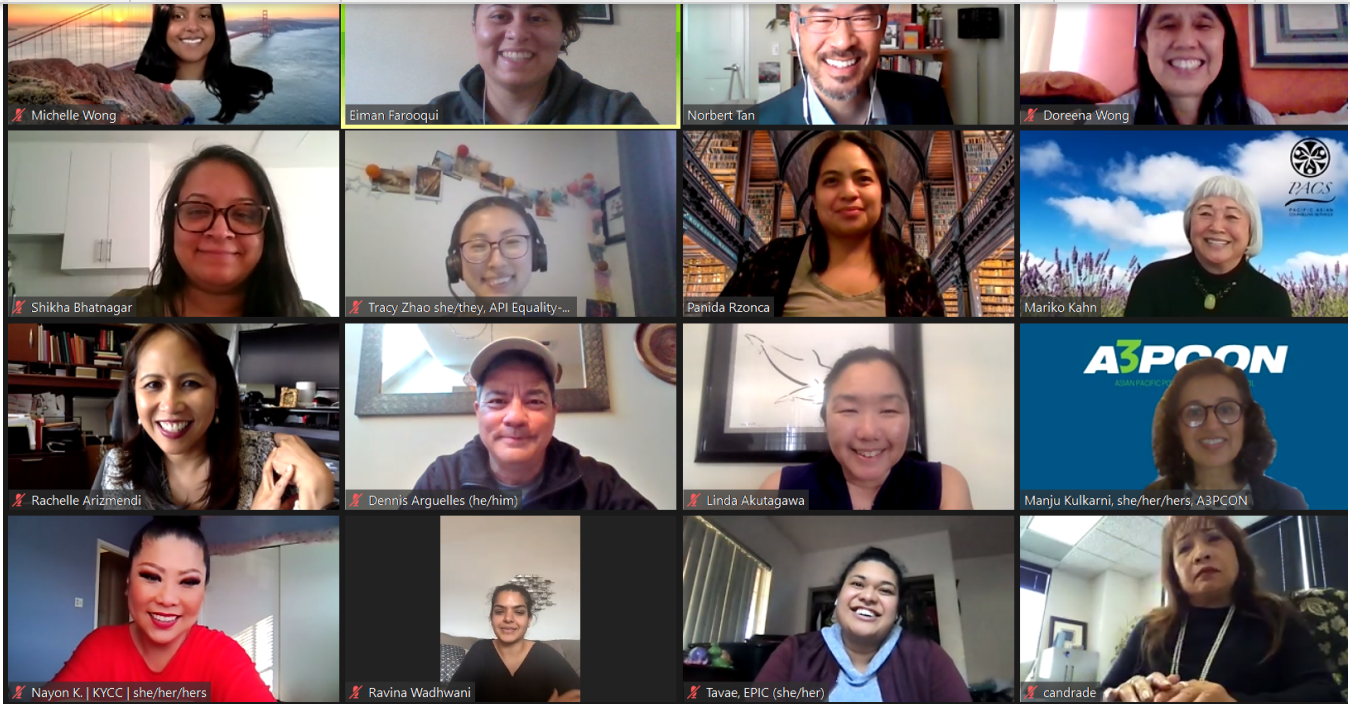
These recent incidents are stark reminders that urgent action must be taken to protect our AAPI community from hate, discrimination and violence. It is up to all of us — businesses, the government, and community partners — to come together and immediately support victims and families affected by these incidents, and work together to create long-lasting solutions that empower our communities with resources, support and education.”

The press release, “[Anti-Asian Hate Incidents Against Elderly and Total National Incidents in 2020](#)”, shared that elderly Asian Americans (60+ years old) were involved in 7.3% of the 2,808 self-reported incidents nationally - which account for 126 cases between March 19 and December 31, 2020.

- Elderly report being physically assaulted (13.5%) more than the Asian American population overall (8.7%)
- Verbal harassment (67.5%) and shunning (15.1%) make up the highest types of discrimination against elderly
- Elderly report more clear civil rights violations (12.8%) — workplace discrimination, being barred from establishments or ride-shares — than the overall AAPI population (8.0%)
- Elderly women are attacked 1.5 times more than elderly men
- States with high Asian American populations report the most incidents, with CA (56.4%); NY (7.9%); WA (7.9%); and NV (5.6%) have the highest rates of elderly abuse
- In the San Francisco Bay Area, 8.2% involved Elderly Asian Americans (35 cases)

A3PCON NEWS

On February 10th, A3PCON held our annual board retreat to reflect on the year past and vision the year ahead. While COVID-19 safety restrictions did not allow us to collaborate in person, we were able to virtually discuss A3PCON’s successes in 2020 and the organization’s plans in the year ahead. We are grateful for the leadership and support we’ve received from our newly-elected board of directors in what has been an incredibly challenging year.



Option 2 - (From Top L - R: **Michelle Wong** - Program Director, **Eiman Farooqui** - Operations Manager, **Norbert Tan** - Interim Deputy Director, **Doreena Wong** - Public Health Committee Co-Chair. 2nd Row: **Shikha Bhatnagar** - Board Member At-Large, **Tracy Zhao** - Treasurer, **Panida Rzonca** - API Human Trafficking Task Force Co-Chair, **Mariko Kahn** - Mental Health Committee Chair. 3rd Row: **Rachelle Arizmendi** - President, **Dennis Arguelles** - Board Member At-Large, **Linda Akutagawa** - Board Member At-Large, **Manju Kulkarni** - Executive Director. Last Row: **Nayon Kang** - Secretary, **Ravina Wadhvani** - Mental Health Committee Co-Chair, **Tavae Samuelu** - Vice President, **Celia Andrade** - Environmental Justice Committee Co-Chair.

Joining A3PCON as our new **Program Director** is Michelle Wong! Prior to joining A3PCON, Michelle worked at the Children's Aid Society, one of the largest poverty-fighting organizations in NYC. Throughout her almost 20 year career Michelle has worked in many capacities throughout the five boroughs of NYC. She has worked as a public school educator, held leadership positions in youth-serving organizations and taught pre-natal yoga to low-income women in the BIPOC community. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Michelle!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Following a success start to our two-part webinar series on anti-Asian violence and discrimination, strategies for reducing bias, and legal rights and obligations with DFEH, we will be hosting our second webinar on Thursday, February 18th at 10AM PST. **MCLE credit will be available.**

Register for the webinar [HERE](#).

UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING ANTI-ASIAN BIAS

A two-part webinar series presented by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing and Stop AAPI Hate



- **For Employers, Housing Providers, Business Owners, and State-Funded Organizations**

Thursday, February 4, 2021 / 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

TOPICS: Know Your Legal Obligations, Strategies for Bias Prevention and Conflict Resolution, and Recent Data on Increased Anti-Asian Bias in California

[REGISTER](#)

- **For Employees, Tenants, Consumers, Community Members, and Social Service Organizations**

Thursday, February 18, 2021 / 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

TOPICS: Know Your Rights, Strategies for Bias Prevention and Conflict Resolution, and Recent Data on Increased Anti-Asian Bias in California

[REGISTER](#)

FREE REGISTRATION • MCLE CREDIT*

*An application requesting 1 hour of MCLE credit (elimination of bias) for this activity is pending approval by the State Bar of California.

Recent data indicate increased violence and discrimination against individuals and communities of Asian descent. The California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) and the Stop AAPI Hate coalition – Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), and San Francisco State University (SFSU) – invite you to a free two-part webinar series to raise awareness about anti-Asian racism and xenophobia in California, everyday strategies for reducing and preventing bias, and legal rights and obligations enforced by DFEH, California's civil rights agency.



Copyright © 2020 Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, All rights reserved.

The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) is a coalition of community-based organizations that advocates for the rights and needs of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in the greater Los Angeles area with particular focus on low income, immigrant, refugee and other disadvantaged sectors of the population. We set up this mailing list to keep you updated on API related issues. This includes community announcements, key news items, resources, and training. We will send you no more than 5 messages a month.

Our mailing address is:

Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council
905 E 8th St
Los Angeles, CA 90021

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)



[Donate to A3PCON today!](#)