



PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 13, 2021

The City of Brisbane Condemns Recent Rise in Violent Crimes Against Elderly Asian Americans

BRISBANE, CA – One of the adopted values of the City Council is Safe Community – that residents and visitors will experience a sense of safety. A rise in anti-Asian American incidents have taken place during the COVID-19 pandemic, including, just in the past two weeks: the assault and death of an 84-year-old San Francisco resident and grandfather Vicha Ratanapakdee, the brutal attack of a 91-year-old man in Oakland Chinatown, an Asian man attacked outside the Bank of America in San Leandro, the assault and robbery of a 64-year-old Vietnamese grandmother in San Jose, and the violent attack of a Filipino man with a box cutter on the subway in New York City, leaving his face disfigured. Visit, stopaapihate.org, hateisavirus.org, and compassioninoakland.org to learn more.

Asian Americans make up nearly 30% of Brisbane's total population; we want to make sure our Asian American residents and neighbors know that the City stands united against hate and any cowardly acts of racism and/or violence against our Asian American residents, community members, and businesses. During this Year of the Ox, we will work hard to raise awareness of this issue; we also want you to know you can rely on the City and its Police Department to protect you and your family members.

If you are a victim of a crime or a witness to a crime, including verbal abuse in a public space, please speak up. It is crucial that incidents are reported to the Brisbane Police Department; the District Attorney and Department of Justice will base their response on the statistics they see reported. That number needs to be an accurate reflection based on what is going on. Remember, **if you see something, say something and call the 24/7 Dispatch Line at (415) 467-1212 immediately** so they can quickly respond and apprehend the person(s) responsible. We are a community at its strongest when we watch out for and do what we can to ensure the protection of one another.

###