

What is a Hate Crime?

Oregon law defines hate crime as illegal acts committed by a person or persons against another "because of the actor's perception of that person's race, color, religion, national origin or sexual orientation." (For example, an assault motivated by a bias toward the victim's race). Oregon hate crime law also prohibits offensive physical contact motivated by the above biases. (For example, physical harassment motivated by the victim's sexual orientation). Finally, Oregon law prohibits the desecration of religious objects and places of worship. (For example, the vandalism of a church).



Disability Gender Identity Race Religion Sexual Orientation

DIRECTORY

(LOCAL)

Emergency.....	911
D.A.'s Office	503-325-8581
Victim's Assistance	503-325-1599
Juvenile Victim Assistance	503-325-8601
	(STATE)
Oregon Crime Victim's.....	800-503-7983
Oregon Dept. of Justice.....	503-378-4400
	(FEDERAL)
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee	202-244-2990
Anti-Defamation League.....	202-452-8310
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center	202-393-3572
FBI Civil Rights Squad	202-278-2000
Sikh American Legal Defense & Education Fund (SALDEF)	202-393-2700
U.S. Department of Justice—Community Relations Service	202-305-2935
Victim Witness Assistance Unit U.S. Attorney's Office	202-514-7130

Local Police Departments

Astoria Police Dept.	503-338-6411
Cannon Beach Police Dept.	503-436-2811
Clatsop County Sheriff.....	503-325-8635
Gearhart Police Dept.	503-738-5501
Seaside Police Dept.....	503-738-6311
Warrenton Police Dept.	503-861-2235



Warrenton Police Department
225 S. Main Ave.
P.O. Box 250
Warrenton, OR 97146

Phone: 503-861-2235
Fax: 503-861-2863
E-mail: policechief@ci.warrenton.or.us

HATE CRIMES & CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS



Warrenton Police Department
Pride in Community - Excellence in Service

Tel: 503-861-2235



WPD Policy

The Warrenton Police Department recognizes and places a high priority on the rights of all individuals guaranteed under the Constitution and the laws of this state. When such rights are infringed upon by violence, threats, or other harassment, this department will utilize all available resources to see that justice is served under the law. The WPD policy provides members of this department with guidelines for identifying and investigating incidents and crimes that may be motivated by hatred or other bias.

Bias Incident

A bias incident is defined as conduct, speech, or expression that is motivated by bias or prejudice towards a group of people. A bias incident does not involve any actual crime and often may not involve a clear violation of state or federal law. Bias incidents are typically behavior protected by the First Amendment. Bias incidents can include neo-nazi rallies, racist fliers distributed on lawns, and hateful speech.

Civil Rights Violation

Civil rights violations include any attempt made to prevent individuals from exercising their Constitutional rights based on their race, religion, or national origin. This includes the right to vote, travel, engage in commerce, and live in a residence. An example would be housing discrimination based on a person's race.

Oregon Hate Crimes Laws

ORS § 181.642

Mandates training on the investigation, identification and reporting of crimes "motivated by prejudice based on the perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation or beliefs, membership or activity in or on behalf of a labor organization or against a labor organization, physical or mental handicap, age, economic or social status or citizenship of the victim."

ORS § 181.550

Mandates the reporting of crimes "motivated by prejudice based on the perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation or beliefs, membership or activity in or on behalf of a labor organization or against a labor organization, physical or mental handicap, age, economic or social status or citizenship of the victim."

ORS § 166.075

Defines crime of abuse of venerated objects as the intentional abuse of a place of worship.

ORS § 166.155

Covers acts committed by a single person against another because of the actor's perception of that person's race, color, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.

ORS § 166.165

Covers acts committed by two or more persons acting together against another because of the actors' perception of that person's race, color, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.

Can you be the victim of a hate crime?

Yes, a victim is **any person** who is threatened or injured or has his/her property damaged because of his/her race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender or sexual orientation. However, a victim may also be threatened or injured because the criminal **perceives** the victim to be of a certain race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender or sexual orientation. For example, if the criminal perceives the victim to be Irish and the criminal injures the victim because he believes the victim is of Irish descent, a hate crime has been committed even if the victim is of another origin.

What should you do if you believe you are the victim of a hate crime?

- 1) *Call the police immediately.*
- 2) *Seek medical attention for injuries.*
- 3) *Document the exact words spoken to you by the criminal as soon as possible*
- 4) *Photograph property damage.*
- 5) *Save any evidence which might aid in the apprehension and prosecution of the criminal.*

If you report your victimization to the police, you do not have to reveal your sexual orientation, religious preference or national origin. In order to prosecute a hate crime, the prosecutor need only prove what the criminal perceived and that that perception was the substantial reason for the commission of the crime.

Hate Crimes can be reported online at:

(Federal) <https://tips.fbi.gov/>

(State) http://www.doj.state.or.us/pages/hate_crime_report.aspx

(Local) <http://ci.warrenton.or.us/police/tips>

**STOP
HATE
CRIME**