

More Information

The information on hate crimes prevention in this pamphlet is provided by UNITED SIKHS. For more information, please visit http://www.unitedsikhs.org/h-r_c-i/

If you feel that you or someone you know has been the victim of a hate crime, please contact UNITED SIKHS at law-usa@unitedsikhs.org or 1-646-688-3525 for more information.

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UNITED
SIKHS

Recognize the Human Race as One

UNITED SIKHS

Know Your Rights: Hate Crimes Prevention



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**Phone: 1-646-688-3525
Email: law-usa@unitedsikhs.org**

www.unitedsikhs.org

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Have You Been the Victim of a Hate Crime?

The tragic events of 9/11 have had severe implications for the global Sikh community. Since 9/11, there has been an increase in racial and religious profiling of Sikhs and other minority communities. The Sikh community, because of their external religious identity, have experienced a sharp increase in hate/bias-related crimes.

What is a Hate Crime?

Examples of hate crimes include racial slurs and rudeness, such as spitting, name-calling, indirect discrimination in the workplace, behavior such as refusal of entry to places of leisure because of one's particular racial features, physical assaults against people resulting in loss of life, and damage to property, including Gurdwaras (Sikh houses of worship) and homes.

UNITED SIKHS has undertaken data collection on hate/bias crimes and incidents against Sikhs to ensure that justice is properly served. UNITED SIKHS works in North America, the United Kingdom and the rest of the world in partnership with other organizations to raise awareness of hate/bias-related incidents and crimes against Sikhs, and to encourage the practice of reporting such incidents within the Sikh community.

Help Us Help You

Please help UNITED SIKHS help you by reporting all such incidents by contacting us at law-usa@unitedsikhs.org or by filling out our hate crimes report form at <http://www.unitedsikhs.org/reporthc.php>.

Remember, no incident of discrimination is too insignificant to take action against.

Please also ensure that you do report hate/bias-related crimes/incidents to the police, as they can only act if they are made aware of such incidents. You can contact the police by calling 311 or visiting your local precinct or, in the event of an emergency, dialing 911.

What Can YOU Do?

- Be alert and vigilant!
- Participate in education and awareness efforts about Sikhs and Sikhism and educate others about the importance and significance of Sikh articles of faith.
- Know your rights. Educate yourself about hate crimes, look up your local hate crimes statute, and know who to contact in case you are the victim of or witness to a hate crime.

To Report a Hate Crime:

- Report any violent threat, intimidation or harassment to the police immediately. You can contact the police by calling 311 or visiting your local police precinct.
- In cases involving attack or serious physical injury, or any other emergency, seek medical assistance immediately by calling 911.

Steps to Take When Reporting a Hate Crime:

1. Report the hate crime immediately to the Police Department and ask that the incident be treated as a "hate crime."
2. Document the incident. Write down exactly what was said and/or done by the offender. Get names of witnesses. Save evidence. Take photographs.
3. Act quickly. The incident must be dealt with when it happens and without delay.