



LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY / EAST / HARBOR / MISSION / PIERCE / SOUTHWEST / TRADE-TECHNICAL / VALLEY / WEST

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

May 18, 2022

Dear LACCD Colleagues,

Once again, our hearts are heavy as racial hatred has reared its ugly head and manifested itself in two horrific acts of gun violence and domestic terrorism:

- On May 14, a mass killing of 10 innocent people and the wounding of three others at a grocery store in a predominately Black/African American community of Buffalo, N.Y.;
- On May 15, another mass shooting against a Taiwanese church congregation in the Laguna Woods community of south Orange County, Calif., leaving one dead and five wounded.

Authorities are investigating both unprovoked attacks as racially motivated hate crimes—one against Black/African Americans and the other against Asian Pacific Islanders. The shootings perpetrated by these gunmen are senseless and gut-wrenching, and a visceral reminder of our society's inability to thwart racism and curb gun violence.

At LACCD, we stand united in solidarity with our Black/African American and Asian Pacific Islander communities. LACCD is held accountable to our [Framework for Racial Equality and Social Justice](#). We strongly denounce hatred and violence, including these recent repugnant and racially motivated crimes. We beseech our lawmakers to strengthen our gun laws and to address the ruptured support structures that provide much-needed mental health services to our community.

Our hearts and prayers go out to all who have been impacted by these shootings. These incidents can affect us deeply and differently, and I encourage you to seek out any support that you might need through our own [Employee Assistance Plan](#), including the new LifeWorks program, (800) 581-1485; the [Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health](#), (800) 854-7771, or your own private resources. Also check with your college as additional counseling services for students and staff may be available through the health centers on campus.

We can and must confront systemic racism, white supremacy, and domestic terrorism. Our District stands in steadfast solidarity and allyship with individuals and organizations working towards the common goal of racial equity and social justice for all.

With respect and determination,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francisco C. Rodriguez".

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor