

# HOUSTON COALITION AGAINST HATE™

**\*MEDIA ADVISORY\***

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## **THE STATE OF HATE IN HOUSTON**

*Houston Coalition Against Hate to release report, host virtual panel discussion examining FBI statistics showing few reported hate crimes in Houston region*

**WHAT:** Virtual panel discussion on the state of hate and hate crimes in Houston.

**WHO:** Marjorie Joseph, Executive Director of Houston Coalition Against Hate. Panelists include Fort Bend County Judge KP George, Sarah Haider of Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom, and Harrison Guy of Fifth Ward Redevelopment Corporation.

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 10, 2020. 2 to 3:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Streaming live in English on [www.facebook.com/HCAHTX](http://www.facebook.com/HCAHTX) and in Spanish on [www.facebook.com/HTXimmigration](http://www.facebook.com/HTXimmigration).

**HOUSTON, December 7, 2020** – Over the past four years, discrimination, hate, and White supremacist ideology have shifted from the fringes of society to the mainstream. Yet on paper, Houston's hate crime numbers are astonishingly low for a city of its size. On Thursday, December 10, 2020, Houston Coalition Against Hate (HCAH) will release its first research report examining why hate crimes are underreported in Houston and offering suggestions for improvement.

In conjunction with the report's release, HCAH is planning a virtual panel discussion featuring Fort Bend County Judge KP George, who led the push for an anti-hate resolution in his county during this summer's racial unrest. George, an Indian-born U.S. citizen, has received numerous hate-filled messages on social media since he was elected the county's chief executive in 2018. He shared several expletive-laden threats this summer as he advocated for the resolution.

The panel will also include Harrison Guy, director of arts and culture at the Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation, and Sarah Haider of the Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom, an organization that works to build trust, respect, and relationships between Muslim and Jewish women.



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Guy and Haider are both members of Houston Coalition Against Hate, a network of 55+ organizations, institutions, and leaders working together to reduce hate and encourage belonging in Houston. HCAH does this through education, research, relationship building, and prevention initiatives, as well as partnering with organizations to host events that celebrate the diversity that makes Houston strong.

The webinar will stream live from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2020 on [HCAH's Facebook page](#). Spanish interpretation will stream simultaneously on [Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative's Facebook page](#).

The research was funded by Houston Endowment and conducted by Dr. Anita Kalunta-Crumpton, Professor of Administration of Justice at Texas Southern University. The report analyzes 11 years of Houston-area data released by the FBI and two local community-based organizations, the Anti-Defamation League-Southwest and the Montrose Center. It also compares Houston's statistics and practices to those recorded by five other cities across the country to offer suggestions on best practices that could be adopted here.

For additional information, or to receive an advance copy of the report, please contact HCAH Assistant Director Liz Peterson at [liz@houstonagainsthate.org](mailto:liz@houstonagainsthate.org) or 832-263-3436.

## **About Houston Coalition Against Hate:**

HCAH was founded in 2017 when over 30 community stakeholders came together to develop a coordinated community-wide plan to reduce incidents of bias and hate. To learn more, visit <https://www.houstonagainsthate.org>.

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