LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
CITY / EAST / HARBOR / MISSION / PIERCE / SOUTHWEST / TRADE-TECHNICAL / VALLEY / WEST

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this week, a shocking video surfaced in news media reports that shows a racist, verbal tirade by a motorist leveled against a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department deputy during a routine traffic stop on April 23, 2021. The motorist's actions are highly offensive, hateful and repugnant.

The video does not identify either the driver or the deputy, but the video has now been seen by millions of people around the world through extensive news media reports and social media posts. As part of the initial news coverage, a Fox Broadcasting Company cable television show aired an interview with the Los Angeles County Sheriff during which the person seen in the video is incorrectly identified as a current employee at Los Angeles Southwest College.

This is absolutely false.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is fully expected to correct the erroneous statement used during the interview, which has now caused unwarranted reputational damage to our colleges and to the mission and values of the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD).

The District, our Board of Trustees and our nine colleges denounce racism and xenophobia in all its forms. We are repulsed by the motorist's actions and urge the appropriate officials to investigate the verbal assault as a hate crime. We stand united together in strong support of our colleagues at Los Angeles Southwest College and at all nine LACCD colleges for the good work they do, every day, to serve and empower their students and the surrounding communities.

LACCD also stands by, and is held accountable to, our Framework for Racial Equality and Social Justice and our District's actions denouncing hatred and violence against others, including the Armenian community and Asian Pacific Islanders.

We call upon everyone to "Stop the Hate" and to denounce racism wherever and whenever it is found.

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Steven F. Veres
President, LACCD Board of Trustees