

HATE CRIME BILL – PUBLIC ACT NO. 22-9

Public Act No. 22-9 establishes a Hate Crimes Investigative Unit within the State Police. The highlights of this bill include an infrastructure for centralized information, a standardized reporting system, a response timeframe, and the provision for educating the public on its right to report such crimes.

Henry Lee Institute Annual Hate Crimes Symposium at the University of New Haven

FBI officials, state leaders, and members from the Hate Crimes Advisory Council attended the 45th Annual Hate Crimes Symposium to evaluate issues surrounding hate crimes such as classification, underreporting, and forensic techniques.



Partnership with Dedication to Community (D2C)

The rise of hate crimes during the Coronavirus pandemic brought a rise in tensions between police officers and members of community. In February 2022, CWCSEO partnered with D2C, an organization dedicated to establishing positive relationships - predominantly between community and law enforcement - as they piloted their workshops across the State of Connecticut.

Podcast

Founder M Quentin Williams, Northeast Vice President Vinny O'Banner, and Florida Senior Instructor & Director of Programs Kim Varner joined Executive Director Steven Hernández and AAPI Policy Analyst Megan Baker on the Hartford Times Podcast to discuss their work. ([*Listen to Podcast*](#))

Life Celebration at Hai An Pagoda

In October 2022, Hai An Pagoda Temple in New Britain held a week-long retreat that culminated into a special three-hour Trai Dan Chan Te ceremony. The temple had its beginnings in 1974 as many Vietnamese fled their home and resettled in the local CT area. Prayers were held for the community and Vietnamese around the world, including those who did not make it to the U.S. or lived desperate lives following the end of the war in Vietnam.

[AAPI Resource Panel Discussion](#)

The Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity virtual panel highlighting various resources from across the state available to the CT AAPI community.

[We Are Here Project](#)



The CWCSEO staff kicked off Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month by creating the "We Are Here" exhibit located at the concourse between the Legislative Office Building (LOB) and the Connecticut State Capitol from May 16 through May 27. The "We Are Here" project highlighted AAPI community activists, legal professionals to educators and law enforcement personnel from across Connecticut so that visitors could read their stories and share in celebrating AAPI Heritage Month.

[Podcast on the Model Minority Myth](#)

The Model Minority Myth – which is an assumption made, most commonly with Asian-Americans, that they are smart, successful, good with subjects like math and science, polite and law-abiding. While that might sound flattering, this stereotype not only ignores the diversity in the Asian-American culture, but it positions the community as not needing resources and programs to help them. Hartford HealthCare's Steve Coates talks with Mui Mui Hin-McCormick, Clinical director of Adult Residential Services with Rushford, part of the Hartford HealthCare Behavioral Health Network.

2022 Lunar New Year Cultural Celebration & Conversation



To celebrate Lunar New Year, CWCSEO hosted a panel discussion, comprised of state government officials and community members, that celebrated culture within Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities while also pivoting to a transitional conversation surrounding pertinent issues within these communities – looking onward to the new year and the prospective possibilities for positive change. AAPI community members shared their individual experiences and their own celebrations of Lunar New Year, then engaged in a critical dialogue with the Commission and other members of the legislature surrounding AAPI curriculum and language access.