

FARGO/MOORHEAD HATE CRIME PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to establish a procedure for appropriate and timely local responses to hate crimes and incidents in the FM area. The goal is to show strong support for victims of hate and zero tolerance for such incidents. In addition, the plan strives to raise awareness of hate related issues in the community.

Most importantly, people should not feel alone when a hate incident occurs -- hate is a community problem, not an individual problem. The Fargo Moorhead community stands together against acts of hate. Although all hate incidents are unique, and individual judgment should be used in each case, this plan endeavors to provide a course of action that should prove useful when a hate crime or hate incident occurs in the area.

The Fargo Human Relations Commission and the Moorhead Human Rights Commission do not investigate hate crimes and incidents. Rather, both commissions provide support to victims and communities, along with leadership in preventing hate crime through educational and collaborative efforts to stand against prejudice and bigotry.

1. When a hate crime or incident is reported to the Fargo Human Relations Commission or the Moorhead Human Rights Commission, the victim and/or community should be encouraged to contact the police immediately.¹ An offer should also be made by a representative of the Fargo Human Relations Commission or Moorhead Human Rights Commission to accompany the victim or group to the police department. In addition, victims should be encouraged to document specific details, including what was said, by whom, when and where and if any threats were made.
2. Together, the police, human rights/relations commissions and city staff will determine the appropriate level of community response, including any necessary public statements.
3. If local law enforcement finds that a hate crime or incident has occurred, it will report the incident to the appropriate state and federal agencies and local human rights/relations commission.
4. If appropriate, the human rights/relations commissions will also call upon partners in the Hate Crime Prevention and Response Network (listed in this document) to determine a further response. The Hate Crime Prevention and Response Network will identify follow-up measures for victim and community support. Examples of follow-up include:
 - a. Meet with neighborhood groups and residents in target communities to ally concern and respond to the incident specifically
 - b. Encourage the larger community to step forward and show solidarity
 - c. Assure the victim and community that the crime or incident is being taken seriously
 - d. Expand, where appropriate, existing hate prevention programs, such as anti-hate seminars and response workshops

¹ If you are a victim or witness to a hate crime, call 911 immediately. If it is a non-emergency, call 701-235-4493 (Fargo Police Department) or 218-299-5111 (Moorhead Police Department).

5. The Fargo Human Relations Commission and Moorhead Human Rights Commission should review the hate crime prevention and response process annually and provide recommendations to the Fargo City Commission, Moorhead City Council and police departments.
6. The Fargo Human Relations Commission and Moorhead Human Rights Commission should also periodically sponsor hate crime prevention and response workshops to promote understanding and provide continuing education to the Hate Crime Prevention and Response Network.²

Hate Crime Prevention and Response Network:

In order to provide a timely and meaningful response to victims and communities of hate crimes and incidents, the Fargo Human Relations Commission and Moorhead Human Rights Commission will partner with citizens and organizations in the Hate Crime Prevention and Response Network. Key partners are listed on page 3.

² **Hate Crime Defined:** The states of Minnesota and North Dakota do not have the same laws relating to hate crimes.

Therefore, the definitions are different:

Minnesota: A hate crime, as defined by Minnesota Statute Section 609.223 1, Subd. 4, is a criminal act committed against a person, institution, or property, of which the primary motivation is the victim's affiliation with a protected class. This includes such criminal acts as arson, assault, vandalism, threats, harassment, and physical acts of violence.

Minnesota state law established the following protected classes: *race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, and national origin*. In Minnesota, convictions resulting from hate crimes carry enhanced penalties.

North Dakota: North Dakota does not have a hate crime statute at this time. However, a hate crime is defined in the North Dakota Century Code Section 12.1-14-04, as intentional injury or intimidation of another because of a person's *sex, race, color, religion, or national origin*. North Dakota Century Code, Section 12.1-14-15 criminalizes acts committed by force, threat of force or by economic coercion that injures or intimidates another because the person exercises civil rights. In addition, City of Fargo ordinance 4081, Article 15-02, discourages all forms of discrimination on the basis of *race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, the presence of any mental or physical disability, status with regard to marriage or public assistance, sexual orientation, or lawful activity off an employer's premise during nonworking hours*. In North Dakota, convictions resulting from hate crimes do not carry enhanced penalties.

United States: For purposes of data collection, the FBI defines a hate crime as a criminal offense committed against a person or property which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against the victim's race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin, or sexual-orientation.

Hate Crime Prevention and Response Network:

Law Enforcement	Schools and Universities	Supportive Services
Fargo Police Department 222 4 St N Fargo, ND 58102 701-241-1437	Minnesota State University Moorhead 1104 7 th Avenue South Moorhead, MN 56560 218-477-2156	Moorhead Human Rights Commission P.O. Box 779 Moorhead, MN 56561 218-299-5296
Moorhead Police Department 915 9 th Avenue North Moorhead, MN 56560 218-299-5121	Concordia College 901 8 th Street South Moorhead, MN 56560 218-299-4321	Fargo Human Relations Commission 200 3 St N Fargo, ND 58102 (701) 241-1474
Cass County Sheriff's Office 211 9 th Street South Fargo, ND 58103 701.241.5800	North Dakota State University 1301 12 th Avenue North Fargo, ND 58102 701.231-8011	Cultural Diversity Resources 303 Roberts Street North Fargo, ND 58102 701-232-2170
Clay County Sheriff's Office 915 9 th Avenue North Moorhead, MN 56560 218-299-5151	Fargo Public School District 415 North 4 th Street Fargo, ND 58102 701-446-1000	Fargo Moorhead Pride Collective 116 12 th Street South Moorhead, MN 56560 218-287-8034
ND States Attorney's Office 600 East Boulevard Avenue Bismarck, ND 58505 701-328-2210	Moorhead Public School District 2410 14 th Street South Moorhead, MN 56560 218-284-3330	Rape and Abuse Crisis Center 317 8 th Street North Fargo, ND 58102 701-293-7273
Clay County Attorney 807 11 th Street North Moorhead, MN 56560 218-299-5035	Fargo Catholic Schools Network 1825 11 th Street South Fargo, ND 58103 701-232-7461	Fargo Mayor's Office 200 3 rd Street North Fargo, ND 58102 701-241-1310
Minnesota County Attorney's Office 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101 1-800-657-3787	Oak Grove Lutheran School 124 North Terrace Fargo, ND 58102 701-227-0210	Moorhead Mayor's Office 500 Center Avenue Moorhead, MN 56560 218-299-5166
	Minnesota State Community and Technical College 1900 28 th Avenue South Moorhead, MN 56560 218-299-6500	Freedom Resources for Independent Living 2701 9 th Avenue SW Fargo, ND 58103 701-478-0459
		North Dakota Human Rights Coalition PO Box 1961 Fargo, ND 58107 701-239-9323
		People Escaping Poverty Project (PEPP) 116 12 th Street South Moorhead, MN 56560 218-236-5434
		Area places of worship – Churches, Synagogue and Islamic Center
		Community Residents
		Cultural, and Neighborhood Organizations
		Local Media Fargo Forum 701-235-7311 High Plains Reader 701-235-1553 KXJB TV 4 701-282-0444 WDAY TV 6 701-237-6500 KVLY TV 11 701-237-5211 KVRN TV Fox 701-277-1515