

Executive Memo on Recent Incidents of Violence

ASuop President, Angel Zhong

Date: January 30, 2023

Dear Pacificans,

Following the murder of Tyre Nichols at the hands of five Memphis Police Department officers, we are once again—as a community and as individuals—called to reexamine the anti-Black roots of our nation’s institutions and history. We are once again called to heal when past wounds have yet to scar. We are once again called to come together. Violence should not—and never be—the norm.

The horrific bodycam footage of Nichols’ assault was released days after two devastating mass shootings, the first in the predominantly Asian American community of Monterey Park, and the second in Half Moon Bay. In the span of thirteen days, California has suffered six mass shootings. As the affected communities mourn these continuous losses, we must actively refuse to accept this violence as the norm—and the systems that repeatedly fail to protect us.

Trauma can be experienced at both an individual and collective level, as well as across generations. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) defines historical trauma as, “intergenerational trauma experienced by a specific cultural group that has a history of being systematically oppressed.” Historically marginalized communities grapple with the socioemotional and structural repercussions of their historical trauma each and everyday—while witnessing, navigating, and being victimized by present-day systemic injustice. The ACF also states that, “Current lifespan trauma, superimposed upon a traumatic ancestral past creates additional adversity.”

In solidarity, we encourage Pacificans on the Stockton campus to attend the community sessions happening **today, January 30:**

- The Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi Students Services and Black Student Services in the **McCaffrey Student Center, 2nd floor from 4:00 - 4:45pm**; and
- The Center for Identity and Inclusion for a unifying candlelight at **5:00pm outside the Don DeRosa University Center (DUC)**.

Campus resources for support and processing include:

- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): **209.946.2315 ext. 2**
- The Center for Identity and Inclusion: **thecenter@pacific.edu**
- Dean of Students Care Team: **caremanagers@pacific.edu**
- ASuop Department of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: **asuopdei@pacific.edu**
- Religious and Spiritual Life: **religiouslife@pacific.edu**
- Student Victim Advocate: **moliva@pacific.edu**
- Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: **mlomax@pacific.edu**
- Crisis Therapist (24-hour mental health support): **209.946.2315 ext. 3**

Signed,

ASuop President

Angel Zhong