

## American Probation and Parole Association A Force for Positive

c/o The Council of State Governments 1776 Avenue of the States Lexington, KY 40511-8536 Phone: (859) 244.8203 Fax: (859) 244.8001 Email: appa@csg.org www.appa-net.org

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October 31, 2018

The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) is an organization that finds much of its strength in the diverse nature of its membership. Our nation is also strengthened by the great differences we share. Crimes such as those committed last week – the mailed explosive devices to CNN, the 44th President of the United States, current and former public officials, and others; the murders of two people in a Kroger store rampage in Kentucky; and the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting have absolutely no place in America, or anywhere for that matter.

It is difficult to believe that fellow citizens feel such hatred when we live in an incredible nation full of natural beauty, wealth, and freedom. The fabric of diversity that characterizes the United States strengthens us. Such hate crimes do nothing to improve a civilized society. The perpetrators of these crimes seek to instill fear and increase ill will. We need to respond to this hate with the resolve to come together in our communities, supporting one another.

APPA stands for equity, inclusion, and unity. Its members, staff, and governing body strongly condemn these horrific acts. We ask that you keep those victimized as well as their friends and families in your thoughts and prayers. We are a resilient people and we must come out the other side stronger and with a resolute determination to stand against hate and speak out against it every day.

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