March 19, 2021

Dear UCR BFASA,

As many of us have seen the increased violence against the Asian American Pacific Islander communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, the recent events of what took place in Atlanta, GA with the hate fueled shooting of 8 individuals, including the tragic deaths of 6 Asian women in their place of work, is a devastating tragedy. The anti-Asian racism and discrimination against the AAPI communities is not a new phenomenon in this country and has only been amplified by the recent pandemic.

BFASA stands as allies and in solidarity of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities who have been impacted by violence and systemic racism*.* We cannot be silent. We must do what we can as allies to acknowledge, spread awareness, and support our brothers and sisters in the AAPI community.

BFASA stands against all violence and racism against all communities of color, including Asian American Pacific Islander, Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities.

Please take the time to reach out to your AAPI friends and/or family and check in with them.

We encourage you all to educate yourselves on the historical nature of anti-Asian sentiment in this country. Below is a short NPR interview to help start your journey.

<https://www.npr.org/2021/03/18/978832077/the-history-of-anti-asian-sentiment-in-the-u-s>

Standing in Solidarity,

UCR Black Faculty and Staff Association