



**Workers United Stands in support of Asian American Pacific Islanders; Condemns hate crimes as cowardly acts of violence**

Workers United is grieving for the loss of life of eight workers in Atlanta, GA, six of whom were Asian women, in a hate crime against Asians.

We condemn the cowardly actions of the shooter, who chose to lay blame for his issues, rather than address it.

We condemn all acts of hate rhetoric and violence. They are the words and actions of those who choose not to respect the basic human rights of individuals in this country and across the world.

The increasing violence against Asian Americans today stems from a long history of pervasive racism, misogyny and xenophobia that dehumanizes Asian Americans as the perpetual foreigner. The surge in anti-Asian rhetoric during the COVID-19 pandemic and the contentious Presidential election only served to amplify incidents of anti-Asian hate and violence, leading to almost 4000 incidents in the past year.

President Biden's proposed Covid-19 Hate Crimes Act, spearheaded by Rep. Grace Meng, D-N.Y., and Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, would equip law enforcement with support to address hate crimes related to the Covid-19 pandemic. It will be a good start.

America has been built on the blood and sweat of immigrants, and our diversity is what makes us a torch bearer to the world.

As one of the most socially progressive unions in this country, Workers United has always fought for the rights of our members, regardless of race and creed. Our diversity has always been our strength. Asian Americans have always been integral to our membership.

We embrace diversity. We encourage dialogue. We seek tolerance. We promote compassion. These have always been our values.