

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from the Human Rights Commission of the City of Binghamton

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Binghamton received a report in September of the painting of swastikas at the Southside Commons. While it is deeply disturbing that public property has been defaced, it is far more tragic that symbols of hate and evidence of antisemitism have been aggressively expressed in our community.

The Human Rights Commission strongly condemns this conduct. Hate in all its forms is reprehensible, and we denounce actions promoting hate, whether expressed through symbols, speech, or behavior, directed against Jewish, Muslim, Black, Latino, Asian, Indigenous, immigrant, LGBTQIA+, or other marginalized communities.

We stand firmly and unapologetically against racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, and all forms of discrimination and bigotry. Such conduct has no place in our community. We urge all residents to remain vigilant, reject and challenge hateful acts wherever they appear, and take steps to report incidents to the appropriate authorities, including the Human Rights Commission of the City of Binghamton.

Together, we must commit to building a community rooted in respect, dignity, and justice for all people. To learn more or to report a concern, please contact us at HRC@CityofBinghamton.gov.