



STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE RIGHT OF ALL CALIFORNIANS TO WORSHIP SAFELY

Santa Ana, Calif. (May 18, 2026) – While the full circumstances surrounding today’s incident at the Islamic Center of San Diego are still unfolding, violence targeting a place of worship or school is deeply disturbing and must be unequivocally condemned. We must stand united in condemning this act of violence.

At a time when the United States is actively engaged in unnecessary military actions abroad, and tensions are running high nationally, Orange County is not immune from expressions of hate or violence targeting people based on their faith or culture.

Now more than ever, we must reaffirm our commitment to protecting the right of every person to worship in peace, whether at a mosque, synagogue, church, or any other place of faith. We must continue building communities that are welcoming of people of all backgrounds, and collectively stand against violence, discrimination, or hateful rhetoric.

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento was elected to the Orange County Board of Supervisors in November 2022. He represents the Second District, which includes Santa Ana and portions of Anaheim, Garden Grove, Orange, and Tustin. For additional information, visit <https://d2.ocgov.com/supervisor>.