6 THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND
If You are the Target of a Hate Incident.

A hate incident is generally a non-criminal act of hostility directed against a person(s) based on their actual or perceived race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, gender identity/expression, disability or sexual orientation. We understand that experiencing or witnessing a hate-motivated attack can be distressing; we encourage you to take care of yourself.

1. Make sure you are safe. Get to a public location, a police station or a friend’s home to secure yourself against further harm.

2. If safety is an issue, call the police immediately. Video or audio record the situation, if safe and possible to do so.

3. React calmly and do not engage with the aggressor.

4. If you have no choice but to engage the aggressor, then react to the issue – not the person.
   - Don’t reveal personal information.
   - Don’t try to educate the perpetrator. (Getting your point across is not particularly effective during a hostile exchange).
   - Try to build a safe environment. Enlist the help of bystanders.

5. Preserve evidence (e.g., photographs, video, emails, voicemails, names/contacts of witnesses).

6. Report the incident. No matter the severity of the hate incident and even if you decide not to press charges, you can help prevent it from happening to someone else.