

City of Olympia | Capital of Washington State

601 4th Avenue E. | P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507-1967

Dear Olympia Business Owners, Organizations, Students and Residents,

The Olympia Police Department is proud to announce its new "SAFE OLYMPIA" initiative. This program is specifically designed to reduce hate crimes and harassment to our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) residents and visitors. It also aims to stop LGBTQ student bullying in Olympia area schools and to encourage the victims of these crimes to report incidents so the perpetrators can be held accountable.

We request your participation by posting "SAFE OLYMPIA" decals at the front entrance of your business, organization or school as an easily identifiable symbol of safety. We encourage you to educate your employees, staff and students to fully understand what the "Safe Olympia" concept means and how important their support is in assisting anyone who is a victim of a hate crime. We are also requesting your assistance in helping the victims of hate crimes by providing them with a temporary "SAFE PLACE" until Olympia Police Officers arrive.

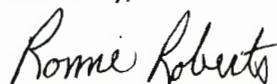
If a crime victim enters your premises your staff should **CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY** (on the victim's behalf) and **ALLOW THE VICTIM TO REMAIN ON YOUR PREMISES UNTIL POLICE ARRIVE**. If the victim leaves prior to police arrival, re-contact 911 and update the operator with the victim's and/or suspect's description and direction of travel. ***As with any emergency situation your staff should use due care and caution when providing the victims of crime safe shelter while being mindful of the safety of other patrons, co-workers and compliance with company policy.***

"SAFE OLYMPIA" is a new model of police and community collaboration aimed at reducing hate-related crimes and harassment. Together, we will send a strong message to those individuals who commit these crimes that the City of Olympia will not tolerate hate or violence of any kind!

For more information about "SAFE OLYMPIA", please contact the OPD's LGBTQ Liaison (Sergeant Ren Emerson) at 360-753-8090 or remerson@ci.olympia.wa.us.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Ronnie Roberts
Chief of Police

WE PROTECT. WE ASSIST. WE CALL 911.

This location is a safe place for victims of, and witnesses to, anti-LGBTQ crimes and harassment to call 911 and wait for police to arrive.



Olympia

*The Olympia Police Department
is committed to your safety.*



Safe Olympia

Thank you for promoting and supporting a Safe Olympia. The goal of the program is to cultivate and send the message that Olympia is a caring and safe environment for everyone who lives, works and plays in the City of Olympia.

Businesses or organizations that display the Safe Olympia decal proclaim themselves as allies of the LGBTQ community.

By placing this sticker at your business or organization you agree to provide a safe haven for members of the LGBTQ community who need to report a crime and wait for the police.

Working together we can ensure safe and progressive Olympia for all.

For Questions: Or need more information contact



Sgt Ren Emerson, LGBTQ City Liaison
360.972.4947
lgbtq@ci.olympia.wa.us



Olympia Credit Union joins the Safe Olympia program.

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of persons in the employment and the delivery of services and resources. CS 201515