



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett**

Media Release

Sheriff Garrett Speaks at Portland Hate Crimes Forum

August 14, 2017 – Sheriff Pat Garrett participated in a panel discussion on Saturday at the Portland Hate Crimes Forum, hosted by the Coalition Against Hate Crime and held at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

On Saturday, August 12, 2017, Sheriff Pat Garrett participated in a panel discussion which addressed the topic of “Responses to Hate from Local & Federal Law Enforcement Agencies.” The panel was part of the Portland Hate Crimes Forum, an afternoon event hosted by the Coalition Against Hate Crime and held at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education in Portland.

Sheriff Garrett enjoyed participating in this free, public event and said that such community discussions help law enforcement better understand how to respond to victims of hate crimes. This event also allowed representatives from federal and local law enforcement agencies to explain how hate crime investigations are conducted. Sheriff Garrett praised this forum for including diverse community voices and perspectives. He said the panel reminded all forum participants of their roles in “rejecting hate, working to improve relationships and reporting crimes or suspicious activities.”



Hate crimes are defined on www.fbi.gov as a “criminal offense against a person or property motivated...by an offender’s bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity.” The Washington County Sheriff’s Office celebrates the diversity of our community and is committed to the investigation of hate crimes. We encourage anyone who has been the victim of a hate crime to immediately make a report to 911 or via the non-emergency line at 503-629-0111.

Also participating in this event were representatives from the Portland Police Bureau, the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Attorney’s Office, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Anti-Defamation League and leaders from the Muslim, Sikh, LGBTQ, Interfaith and Disability communities.