



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 18, 2021**

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### **Message from Sonoma County Mayors**

#### ***Sonoma County Mayors and Board Chair Issue Statement in Response to Racial Epithets Directed Toward Rohnert Park Vice Mayor***

**Sonoma County** – In response to a recent action taken by the Rohnert Park City Council to support a ban on the sale and use of fireworks within the city limits, racial epithets were directed toward Vice Mayor Elward for her decision on the controversial issue.

Sonoma County Mayors value the diversity of our residents and our elected officials who represent them and acknowledge that our diversity is critical to our collective cities' cultural, social and economic well-being. The Mayors of Sonoma County remain resolute in a collective commitment to condemn racism, discrimination and all forms of hatred, none of which will be tolerated in our cities. We condemn all threats and racist behavior used as weapons to intimidate any member of our community including our locally elected officials.

Sonoma County Mayors stand with our community of Sonoma County, in particular our Black, Hispanic/Latinx, Indigenous and Asian community members and residents as well as members of our LGBTQI community. We stand in opposition to any and all racism in our cities. As leaders we are committed to supporting an inclusive community in Sonoma County grounded in equity, empathy and justice.

**This statement has been approved by the Mayors of the nine cities in Sonoma County and the Chairman of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.**

**Cloverdale Mayor Jason Turner**  
**Cotati Mayor John C. Moore**  
**Healdsburg Mayor Evelyn Mitchell**  
**Petaluma Mayor Teresa Barrett**  
**Rohnert Park Mayor Gerard Giudice**  
**Santa Rosa Mayor Chris Rogers**  
**Sebastopol Mayor Una Glass**  
**Sonoma Mayor Logan Harvey**  
**Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Chair Lynda Hopkins**  
**Windsor Mayor Dominic Foppoli**

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