

*We meet the first Wednesday of the month*



*Celebrating Our 18th Year!*

**NOT JUST POLITICS AS USUAL**

**[longmontdems.org](http://longmontdems.org)**

**[longmontareadems@gmail.com](mailto:longmontareadems@gmail.com)**

LONGMONT AREA DEMOCRATS

*it's a new year..*

FTLOG  
finally!

providing strategies for **THE GREAT REBUILDING**  
with a presentation from **Boulder County DA Michael Dougherty:**

# Bias & Hate Crimes Initiative

Wednesday, January 6 • 6:30pm



Go to [longmontdems.org](https://longmontdems.org)

or email us for the **zoom** link at:  
[longmontareadems@gmail.com](mailto:longmontareadems@gmail.com)

*not just politics as usual*



*Thanks for logging on...*

# *Welcome!*

**You were muted upon entry. Please remain muted unless you are a presenter.** (Background noise even if minimal, is distracting.)

**Thanks for waiting** in the waiting room while we checked for attendee status. (For instance, you might have been asked how you heard about our meeting.)

**Our objective** is to make this meeting enjoyable and informative.

***We have a packed agenda and will move quickly.***



# ZOOM BASICS

**If you are new to zoom,** you can choose from “Gallery” or “Speaker” view up at the top of your screen...

Hover your mouse over your zoom window and you’ll see this part of your menu and tools:

*You’ll see these icons in the menu at the bottom of your Zoom screen:*



**If you have an announcement to make, or a question during our meeting, please let us know in the chat window.**



And we are monitoring the chat window and waiting room throughout the meeting...

*Any shenanigans and we'll boot you.*

**THANKS!**



# ***Elected Officials:***

**Please let us know in the chat box if you've joined our meeting tonight — and thanks for being here!**





# 2021 LAD Board Members



JULIE  
DADONE



*At Large*



PAT  
DAVIS



*At Large*



MARISA  
DIRKS



*Media*



VIRGINIA  
GEBHART



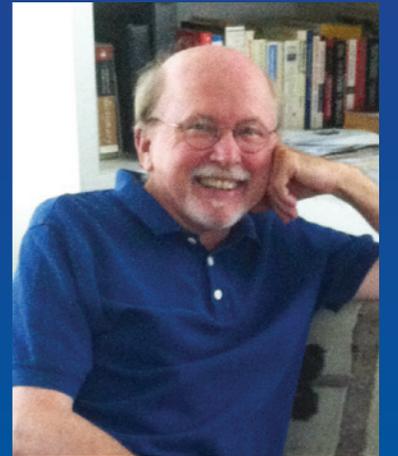
*President*



STAN  
GELB



*At Large*



MIKE  
HART



*At Large*



MARILYN  
HUGHES



*Emeritus*



SUE  
McCUE



*Treasurer*



RICH  
MARSH



*At Large*



INGRID  
MOORE



*Vice President*



BETH  
UTTON



*Secretary*



AMY  
WEINSTEIN



*At Large*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have an announcement, please let us know in the chat window — we'll call on you, thanks!*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Become an Advocate for Affordable Housing: Housing For All, Every Second Monday, January 11– April 12, 7–8:30pm. East County Housing Opportunity Coalition (ECHO) presents a 4-part training series.**

**Register using QR code:**



**Lanterns Around Loomiller, Sunday, January 17, gather at 5:15, Loomiller Pond, 1700 11th Ave (north of LHS).** Practice safe social distancing, and light lanterns in honor of MLK and in remembrance of those lost to Covid-19.

**VIRTUAL Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Monday, January 18, 10am.**

**Eventbrite link, here:**



**YouTube link, here:**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*



## **Speaking of Civil Rights Foot Soldiers, Longmont's Arkansas Strider Benston**

was filmed by local filmmaker Craig Stevens, documenting Strider's experiences and

remembrances of key Civil Rights leaders who Strider knew, and who had passed away over the summer of 2020: Constance Corry, C.T. Vivian and Representative John Lewis.

**Use this QR code to watch the video:**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*



**Facebook Live Inauguration Event, Wednesday, January 20, 10am–noon, MST.** Join Women's March Action for a LIVE watch party for the Inauguration! Get

your Converse and pearls on, and watch with us! Submit your information for a raffle of one-of-a-kind WMA Converse All Stars!

**Register using QR code:**



# TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Recognize Electeds
- **TONIGHT:** Boulder County's Bias and Hate Crimes Initiative — Boulder County DA Michael Dougherty
- Current News & Updates, Looking Ahead
- Wrap Up / Next Event / Where to Find Us



TONIGHT:



Boulder County District Attorney

**Michael  
Dougherty**



District Attorney's Office  
*Bias & Hate Crimes Initiative*

District Attorney Michael Dougherty

January 6, 2021

# Mission of District Attorney's Office

- **Enhance community safety & improve the justice system.**
- Do justice in every case – all 11,000 of them.
- Programs and efforts to help people and reduce the rate of re-offense.
- A significant goal of improving the justice system is to build trust in the community.

# Immigrant Protection Program

- Victims and witnesses can safely call the police and our DA's Office. These individuals will never be asked their status or country of origin. If we do find out, we do not share this information.
- Help victims to find justice and safety, regardless of immigration status.
- Developed an Immigration Policy for handling criminal cases, by which immigration consequences can be considered in reaching the just outcome.
- Immigrants in our communities are particularly vulnerable to crimes like fraud, wage theft, and bias-motivated crimes.
- Other steps include: Wage Theft bill, U-Visa Program, community outreach, Fresh Start Program, & Hate Crimes Initiative.

# Protecting Vulnerable Communities

- Wage Theft
  - Worked closely with Rep. Singer on Wage Theft bill
  - Helped lead trainings for DAs throughout the state
  - Partner with Towards Justice and unions
  - Public Rights Project selection and Fellow
- U-Visa Program
- Community outreach

# FRESH START

Take care of your Boulder County Warrants without arrest.

## HOW IT WORKS

### IF YOU PARTICIPATE, YOU CAN:

- \*Talk to Deputy District Attorney and try to resolve your case.
- \*Speak with a free defense attorney
- \*Speak to an immigration attorney
- \*Speak with a volunteer

If you don't resolve your case, you will receive a new court date.

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- \* Check your eligibility at [www.bouldercounty.org/district-attorney/](http://www.bouldercounty.org/district-attorney/) or call the hotline at 303-413-7574
- \* Come to Boulder or Longmont Courthouse
- \* May participate in person OR
- \* May participate via Zoom using QR code or link on website above- MUST HAVE VIDEO AND AUDIO CAPABILITIES

Scan image with smart phone camera or QR reader to call in virtually to the event.



**Boulder County Courts**  
1777 6th St.  
Boulder, CO 80302

**1035 Kimbark St**  
Longmont, CO 80501

**Saturday, November 7,  
2020 9:00am–3:00pm**  
**drop or call in anytime!**

Individuals appearing for the event will not be arrested on their active warrants regardless of eligibility.

# Warrant Forgiveness Program

# The Rise In Hate Crimes – Since 2016

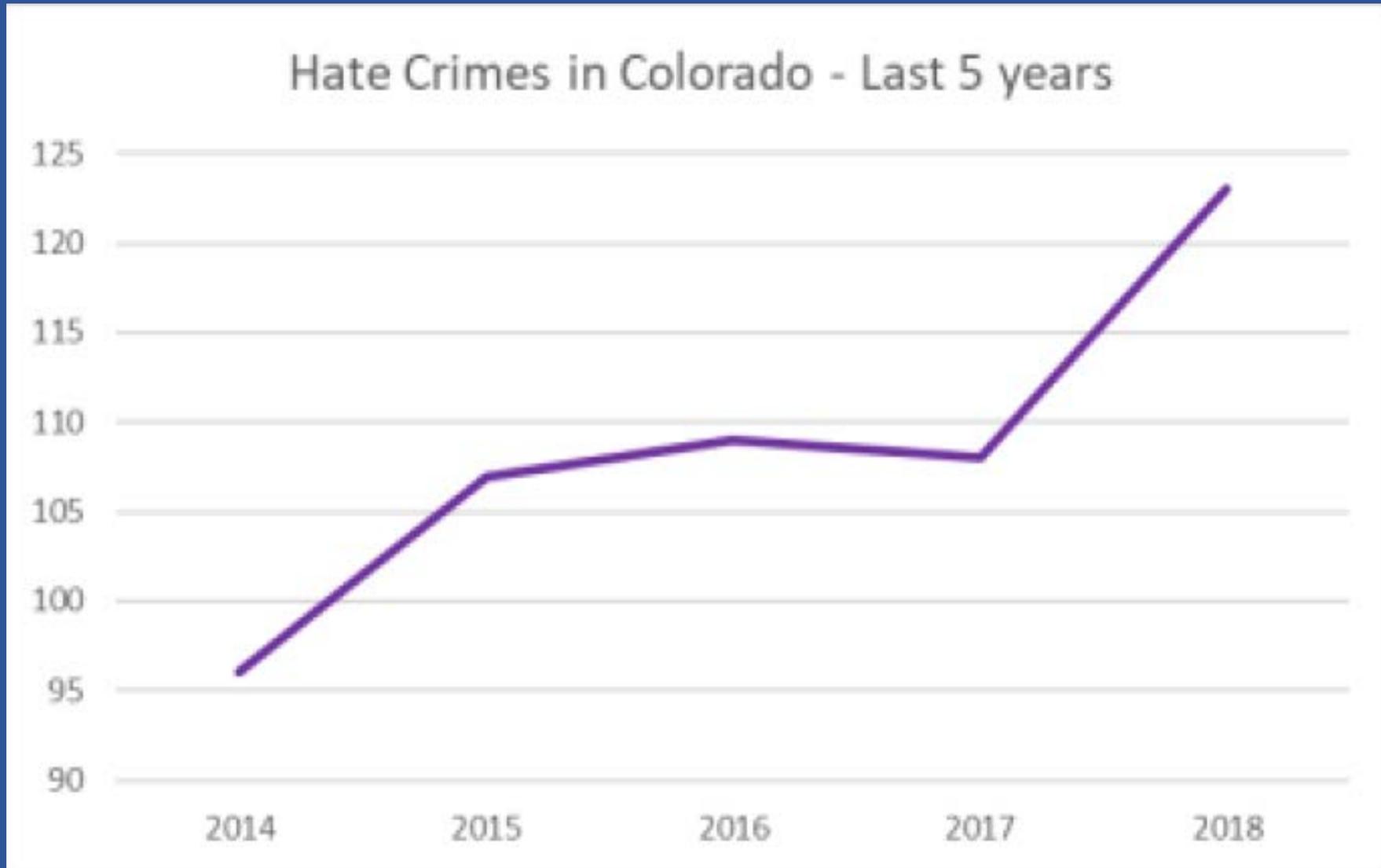
- The FBI's annual Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA) report reveals that 2019 was the deadliest year on record with 51 hate crime murders – a 113-percent increase over the previous record of 24 set in 2018. Total hate crime incidents rose to 7,314, marking the fourth increase in the past five years.
- The numbers in Colorado are particularly concerning, with reported hate crimes increasing from 121 in 2018 to 210 in 2019. That is a **nearly 74% increase**. The top categories are Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry, Sexual Orientation, and Religion.
- Colorado must rise above divisive rhetoric and acts of hate. We have come too far from Amendment 2.
- In 2018, the District Attorney's Office partnered with law enforcement, Out Boulder County, the Anti-Defamation League, and other community groups to launch a Hate Crimes Initiative because hate crimes cut against the very fabric of our nation.

# Trends Over Time

Hate Crimes Nationally - Last 5 years



# Trends Over Time



# Bias & Hate Crimes Initiative

- Bias and hate crimes cannot be tolerated in our society. We are taking specific steps to fight these crimes in Boulder County:
  - Dedicate prosecutors for training and expertise on prosecuting hate crimes.
  - Work proactively with law enforcement to identify hate crime cases and gather necessary evidence.
  - Regularly meet with leaders in the affected communities.
  - Provide educational programs at schools, in the community, and media.
  - Started the *Bias & Hate Crimes Initiative* with a DA Hotline number.

# WHAT IS A **HATE CRIME**?

Any **crime** motivated by a bias against a person or group based on their **actual** or **perceived**:  
race, color, religion, ancestry,  
national origin, physical or  
mental disability, or  
sexual orientation.



*These crimes can either be committed against an individual or their property.*

# BIAS and HATE CRIMES - Defined

## 1. BIAS/HATE Crime:

Crime committed *based on* victim's *actual / perceived*:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- Ancestry
- National origin
- Physical or mental disability
- Sexual orientation

## 2. Physical / Mental Disability: Defined in CRS 18-6.5102(11). Examples:

- Blindness
- Deafness
- Intellectual disability
- Developmental disability
- Mental impairment
- Severe physical impairment (*e.g.*, loss of hand or foot)

## 3. Sexual Orientation: A person's actual or perceived orientation toward heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or transgender status.

# EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

1. **KEY:** Examine *defendant's intent*  
– was crime *based on or motivated by* bias or hate?

- Determine specific language used
- Photograph graffiti, symbols, or other such indicia of bias and hate
- Collect fliers or literature located on scene, even if relevance is not obvious
- Be aware of relevant dates – i.e., did the event occur during or around a religious holiday or celebration
- Does defendant have clothing, tattoos, indicates affiliation with hate groups

2. Are there alternative motives?

3. Is victim minority within relevant community (e.g., school, office, neighborhood)

4. Has victim been subject to prior acts of similar nature?

**NOTE:** Identity-based crimes generate emotional responses. Show compassion. Listen. Do not hurry and do not minimize. The *manner* of investigation is just as important its quality.

# Hate Crimes are a priority

- Establish DA hotline
- Events to raise community awareness
- More outreach to affected communities
- Provide enhanced trainings
- Law enforcement liaisons



# Boulder County Responds to Hate

Throughout the country, there has been an increase in reported hate crimes. The DA's Office is launching a Bias & Hate Crimes Initiative to raise community awareness and improve the collective response to these offenses.

Join District Attorney Michael Dougherty, community leaders, law enforcement, and school representatives for important panel discussions on "Fighting Hate in Our Communities" and "Social Media & Bullying."

**Monday, October 29, 2018**

**5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**

**Boulder Jewish Community Center**

**6007 Oreg Avenue, Boulder, CO**

**<https://tinyurl.com/BoulderCoAntiBias>**

If you have experienced a hate crime or incident,  
or in the event of an emergency, please call 911.

The DA's Bias hotline for non-emergency reporting is 303-441-1595.





## Office of the District Attorney

Twentieth Judicial District

# Bias & Hate Hotline 303-441-1595

**The Boulder District Attorney's Office  
has created a hotline designated for  
members of our community to report  
hate or bias-motivated crimes.**

***\*THIS HOTLINE IS FOR NON-EMERGENCIES  
ONLY. CALL 911 FOR CRIMES IN PROGRESS.\****

### Definition of a Bias-Motivated Crime:

A person commits a bias-motivated crime if, with the intent to intimidate or harass another person because of that person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, physical or mental disability, or sexual orientation, he or she:

- a) Knowingly causes bodily injury to another person; or
- b) By words or conduct, knowingly places another person in fear of imminent lawless action directed at that person or that person's property and such words or conduct are likely to produce bodily injury to that person or damage to that person's property; or
- c) Knowingly causes damage to or destruction of the property of another person.

[www.bouldercounty.org/district-attorney/](http://www.bouldercounty.org/district-attorney/)

**Michael T. Dougherty**  
District Attorney

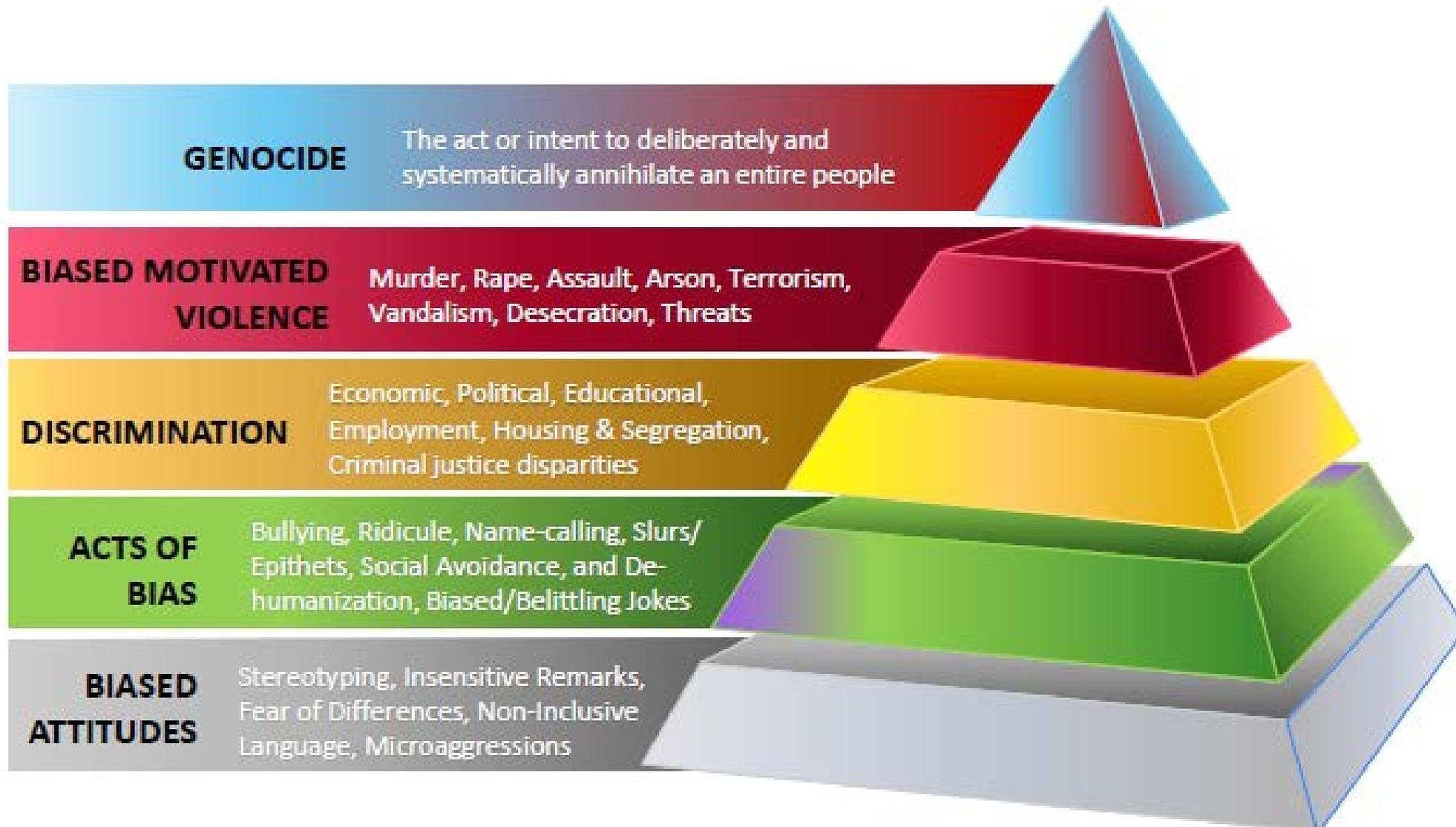


# Hate Crimes *versus* Hate Incidents

- Our laws draw a distinction between hate incidents/speech and hate *crimes*.
- Hate crime laws come into play when an individual, motivated by bias, commits a **crime** and **intentionally** targets another person or another person's property.
- Hate incidents/speech are often protected by the First Amendment.

# Hate Crimes *versus* Hate Incidents

- A hate incident is a bias-motivated act that does not rise to the level of a crime. The act may consist of words (“hate speech”), actions or behaviors. These are legally protected by the First Amendment’s guarantee of freedom of expression. Examples:
  - name-calling,
  - insults,
  - distributing hate material in public places, and
  - displaying hate material on one’s own property.



# Boulder Municipal Ordinance

- Offense is committed by reason of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, **religious expression**, national origin, **age** disability, **sex**, sexual orientation, **gender**, gender identity or **gender expression** of another individual or group of individuals, regardless of any other motivating factor or factors.
- Crimes:
  - Assault
  - Physical Harassment
  - Threatening Bodily Injury
  - Use of Fighting Words
  - Brandishing a Weapon
  - Graffiti Prohibited
  - Posting Signs on Property of Another
  - Aiming a Weapon at Another
  - Flourishing Deadly Weapon in Alarming Manner



**Increased Max Sentence** – 364 Days in Jail and/or \$2,000 fine

# CU–Boulder Policy

- Experiences of bias involve behavior, speech, or expression that is motivated by bias based on perceived race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender identity, gender expression, disability, age, **veteran status**, **pregnancy**, **political philosophy or affiliation**, or sexual orientation and has a negative impact.
- **Protected class harassment** is unwelcome verbal or physical conduct related to one's protected class and has impact.
- **Discrimination** occurs when an individual suffers an adverse consequence on the basis of a protected class. Examples include failure to be hired or promoted or denial of admission to an academic program on the basis of their protected class.



# What Can the Public Do?

- It starts in the home. Talk with family members.
- Don't let bullying or hate go unaddressed.
- Volunteer with affected groups.
- Strong law enforcement - community partnerships are critical to preventing hate crimes.
- Start awareness campaign.
- Monitor speech and behavior on social media.

Questions?

Thank You!

DA Michael Dougherty

303-441-3798

WHAT A WEEK ALREADY!

**2021:**

**11,780 is already a meme.**



**Does this ever happen to you? I was  
cleaning and removed the couch cushions  
and found 11,780 votes.**



Ed Weyler  
PoliticalCartoons.com  
CagleCartoons.com



# **don't be distracted.**

**Raffensberger's office is responsible for purging 198,000 Georgia voters prior to the runoff elections yesterday, because they had "moved". Only, they hadn't. But the Georgia SOS office still has not reinstated the voters' eligibility.**



# **don't be distracted.**

**Also on the call was Cleta Mitchell, prominent conservative republican lawyer (and former Democratic lawmaker), who has been working closely with ALEC (American Legislative Exchange Council — Koch Brothers), to challenge the presidential election. Mitchell also resigned from her law firm Monday. Her firm was “concerned by” her role in the call.**



# **don't be distracted.**

**The powerful, corporate-funded ALEC is also battling to change the US Constitution to eliminate Senate elections, leaving it up to state legislatures to appoint US Senators. Remember, other states do not vote down ballot as robustly as Colorado.**



# **don't be distracted.**

**And we know ALEC all too well here in Colorado  
— it's a “Bill Mill”, providing conservative and  
egregious legislation templates, that certain  
republican legislators dutifully sponsor  
and try to pass.**

*Thank Goodness for  
Colorado Democratic Majorities!  
(google “Colorado ALEC Politicians”)*



# **don't call trump "crazy".**

**As John Pavlovitz writes, it's too generalized a term, and can be written off as being hyperbolic — and we WILL be defending reason, decency and common sense more than ever in the months ahead. Pavlovitz suggests that we be real specific on what is so terribly wrong with trump. And, there are plenty of folks living with mental illness every day, so we shouldn't further stigmatize it, by overusing terms like "crazy".**



**Yes, trump is a pathological narcissist.  
But that's just diagnosing. As Pavlovitz writes:**

“Mental illness does not make people more prone to racism, it doesn't make them predisposed to misogyny, it doesn't increase their enmity toward humanity. Donald Trump's life is not characterized by such things because he's mentally ill—but because he's a really terrible human being who lacks empathy of any kind.

“Simply calling Donald Trump mentally ill assumes that his predatory behavior, his inability to accept reality, and his complete lack of accountability in these days are a product of a brain affliction. They are not. They are a symptom of sustained and stratospheric privilege. Trump is the product of a life continually shielded from accountability;



one where money and power have always afforded the luxury of buying or suing or lying or intimidating his way out of any responsibility for his criminality or any consequences of the injuries he causes. His entire existence has been spent in the cloistered penthouse opulence of gold-plated privilege, where reality is whatever he can pay for. He has never been inconvenienced by the truth in the way that he is now and soon will be.

“This is why we’re here: why nearly two months after a historic election loss, a sitting president is still tilting at windmills of fraud and generating flagged tweets and assailing the courts—and it’s why he’s calling Secretaries of State, trying to muscle his way into overturning the will of the people, like a cut-rate film noir mobster shaking down a store owner.



“It is not just because he is mentally ill that he is willing to discard democracy and obliterate the law (and ignore a pandemic all the while), it is because he has never had to lose (even when he has lost) and he has never had to reckon with a reality not of his own making.

“Not only that, it is because he is buttressed by a cadre of similarly privileged human beings who recognize that they live in the same fragile house of cards and that their survival is tied to his. They not only recognize his desperate machinations, they share them. It is not a collective mental illness on display in his party, it is simply a shared vile, ugly, garden variety lust for power that will hold on to it at any cost.

“Yes, Donald Trump has undiagnosed and or untreated mental illness, but these things do not explain him. His wealth, his whiteness,



his upbringing, and an experience of the world that has made him impervious to other people's suffering, explain him.

“I hope we can be more precise when talking about Trump and people like him, because the twenty percent of the world afflicted with mental illness deserve better than to be compared to a man whose complete lack of goodness and profound contempt for other human beings is something we will never be afflicted with.”

JOHN PAVLOVITZ,  
author of *Stuff That Needs to be Said*  
[johnpavlovitz.com](http://johnpavlovitz.com)



# Georgia Runoff Update



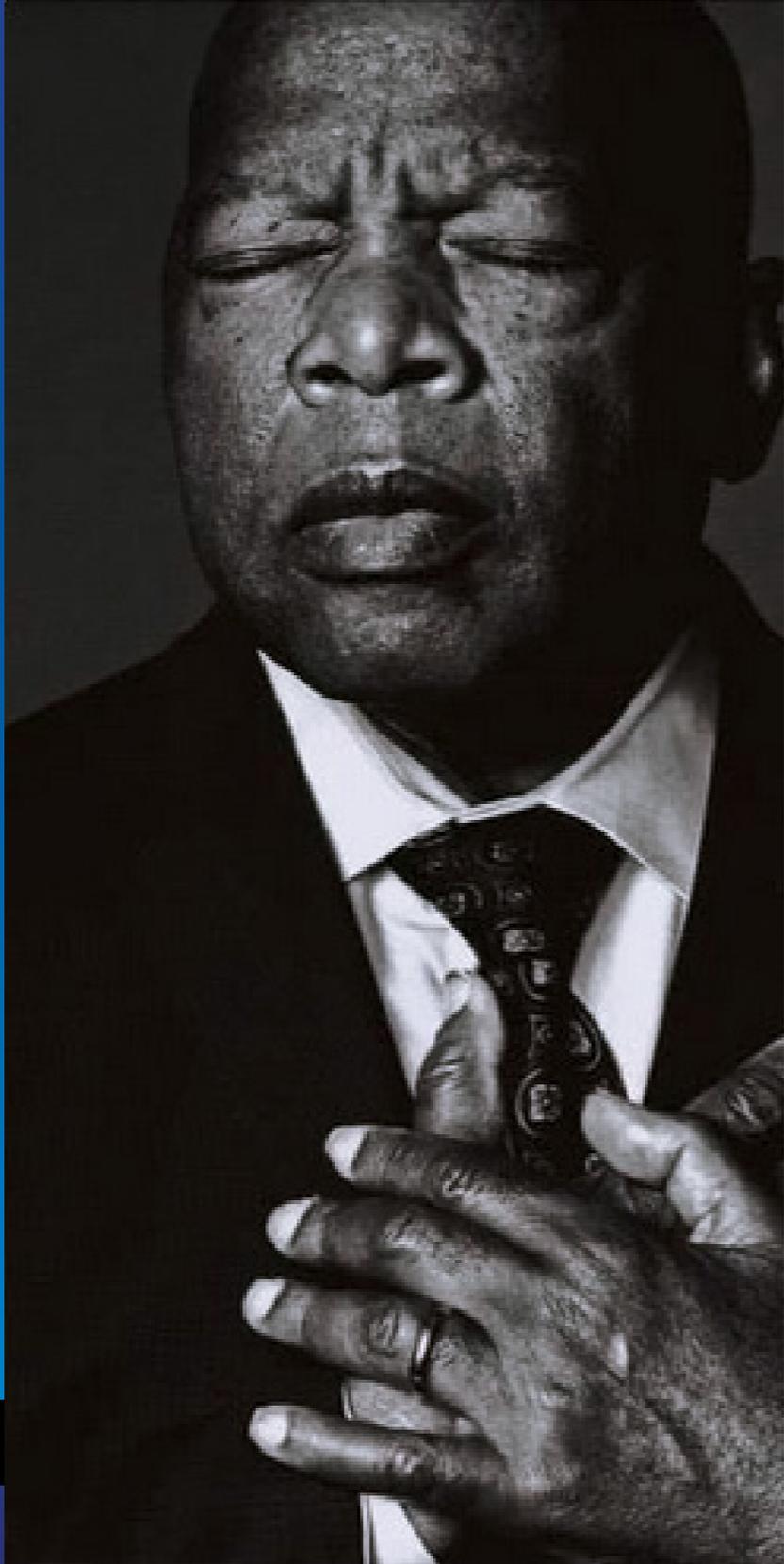
**JANUARY 5, 2021**

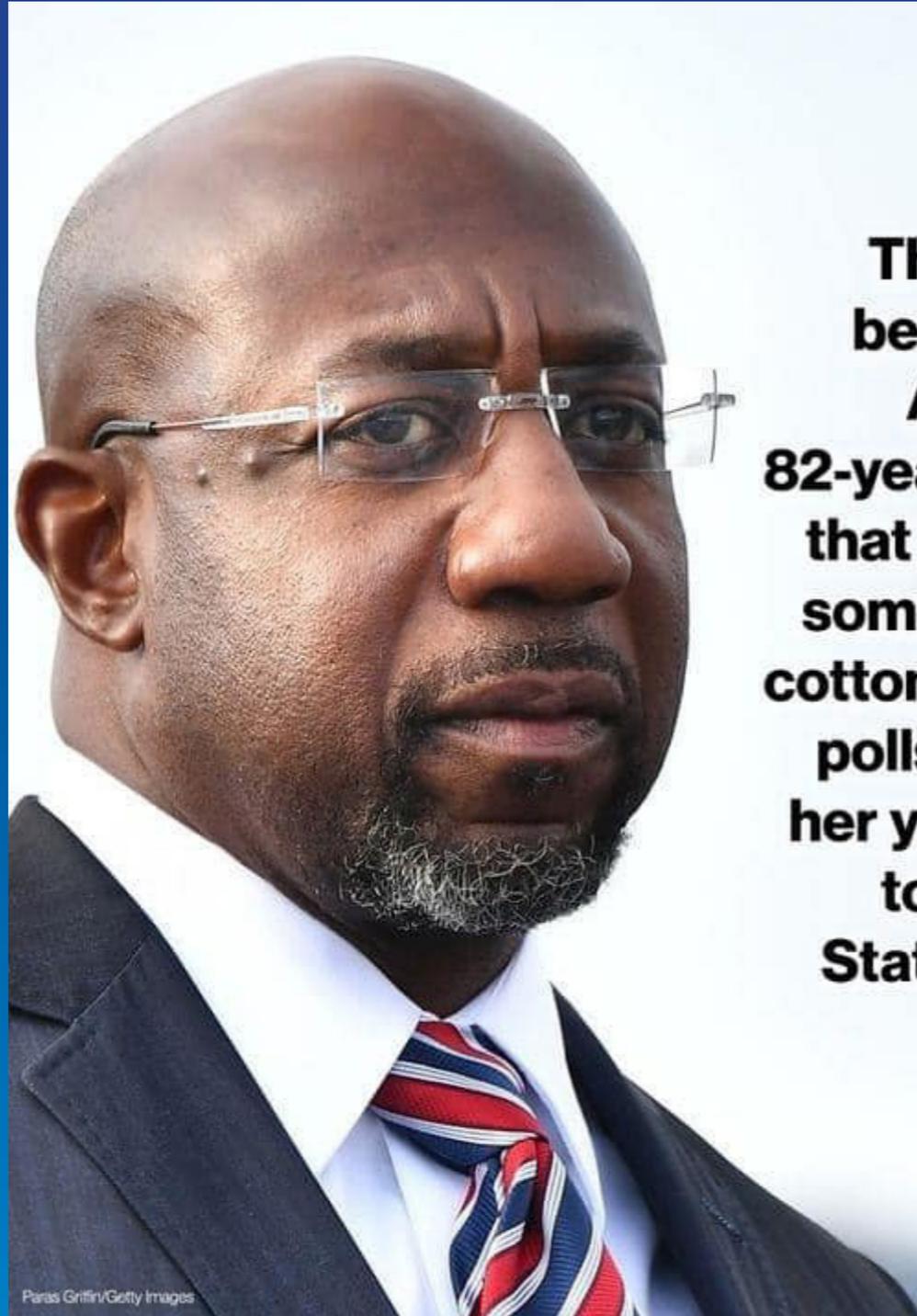
**THE DAY  
GEORGIA  
SAVED  
AMERICA!**











abc  
NEWS

“  
**The other day,  
because this is  
America, the  
82-year-old hands  
that used to pick  
somebody else’s  
cotton went to the  
polls and picked  
her youngest son  
to be a United  
States senator.”**

REV. RAPHAEL WARNOCK



Paras Griffin/Getty Images



Senate **Minority** Leader McConnell.



# Congressional Count of Electoral College Votes







**We know all about the trump voter.**

**But our nation needs to heal in more ways than one.**

In a recent interview, **Alicia Garza, co-founder of Black Lives Matter** said that the goal in 2021 is not to sweep the epidemic of racism under the rug, and her hope is that the Biden Harris administration take this on as a core component.



# **Garza said that 3 things need to happen:**

**1. An uprooting of racism in every aspect.** Racism is not about people being mean to each other. It's about rigged rules. Keeping people from power, decision making, and decency — from the things they need to live well.

**2. Re-allocation of resources.** Bloated budgets of police departments — re-allocate to mental health services, as one example.

**3. Strengthening of oversight models.**



# **We need justice and accountability.**

We'll keep a running list of republican senators and representatives that actively attacked democracy, before and since the election of trump, and who sought to undermine the will of an unprecedented turnout of voters in the 2020 Election.

That's why it's important to be mindful of the few republicans that did the right thing today.

But the hard reality is that elected republicans at best mismanaged a pandemic, at worst, denied it.



And they stoked a toxic, divisive base. They do not pass legislation to help Americans, and in fact cannot balance a budget, creating ever-larger deficits, with irresponsible tax breaks for the wealthy, jeopardizing a nation's critical revenue — when it's needed the most!

**If republicans cannot stand for anything except personal power, Democrats must be the problem solvers – the “adults in the room”.**



**And the only way we can solve problems is to secure majorities everywhere that we can.** The record turnout we created in November will have to be the norm going forward. Just as it was when elected Democrats built the foundation that survived the Depression, created Social Security, Medicare, with a nation united together in the war effort, ensuring a thriving middle class, an educated populace, innovation, and an economy that survived normal ebbs and flows. We had larger problems to solve: systemic racism, a threatened



environment, and income inequality, to name a few. We needed partners working with us. We lost that.

## **Now we will have to rebuild.**

And be creative when it comes to devising Democracy Safeguards. The ideas can come from congress, state legislatures, even a little club in Longmont — and you. Nothing makes a country appreciate its democracy more than when it comes close to losing it. ***But we can never forget what happened here.***



# **Ultimately, we'll need to reset the national discourse.**

“The future of democracy is topic number one in the animated discussion going on all over America,” a contributor to the New York Times wrote in 1937. Americans argued about it, and then they tried to fix it...In the Legislatures, over the radio, at the luncheon table, in the drawing rooms, at meetings of forums and in all kinds of groups of citizens everywhere, people are talking about the democratic way of life.”



**“It’s not too late,”** Jimmy Stewart pleaded with Congress, rasping, exhausted, in *“Mr. Smith Goes to Washington,”* in 1939. **“Great principles don’t get lost once they come to light.”**

**It wasn’t too late. It’s still not too late.**

— you can read the full article,  
*“The Last Time Democracy Almost Died”*,  
The New Yorker, 2/3/2020



**Next LAD Meeting:**  
**Legislative Session**  
**Starts Mid-February & More!**

**Wednesday, February 3 • 6:30pm**

**Stay tuned for details at [longmontdems.org](http://longmontdems.org)**



*We hope you've enjoyed this evening  
and found it informative.*

**Don't miss our next meeting...*Tell a friend!***



# THANK YOU

for attending our Holiday Potluck, for your membership,  
continuing membership, and **GENEROSITY!**

**MOST APPRECIATED.**



# longmontdems.org

DONATE

*thank you!*



# WHERE TO FIND US

[longmontdems.org](http://longmontdems.org)



**email:** [longmontareadems@gmail.com](mailto:longmontareadems@gmail.com)



Longmont Area Democrats



LongmontDems

SEND AN EMAIL WITH "SIGN ME UP" IN THE SUBJECT LINE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL BLASTS. SLIDES FROM THIS EVENT WILL BE POSTED ON [LONGMONTDEMS.ORG](http://LONGMONTDEMS.ORG) SOON... **THANKS!**



**THANKS FOR  
JOINING US  
TONIGHT! HERE'S  
A FEW BITS...**





**Bryce Tache** 🇺🇸

@brycetache



How this ends? Let me tell you. He loses. He's exposed as a fraud. A failure. A criminal. A traitor. Humiliated. Handcuffed. It ends with a ruined GOP. With kids at last freed from cages. And then we rebuild. We heal. That's how this ends. Watch.



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HEY,  
THAT'S NOT  
MAR-A-LAGO!

MARINE ONE

UNITED STATES

THE  
FINAL  
FLIGHT  
WE'D LIKE  
TO SEE

FEDERAL  
PRISON



