RESOLUTION NO. 9 SUPPORT FOR OUR ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAPI) COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara Community College District's Core Principles include: an environment that is psychologically and physically supportive of teaching and student learning; a free exchange of ideas in a community of learners that embraces the full spectrum of human diversity; and a commitment to excellence in all endeavors; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2021, the City of Atlanta experienced the trauma of a tragic hate crime, rooted in racism, misogyny, and white supremacy, resulting in the killing of eight Americans, simply because they were predominantly women of Asian descent. Their names are Delaina Ashley Yaun (33), Xiaojie Tan (49), Daoyou Feng (44); Paul Andre Michels (54), Hyun Jung Grant (51), Soon Chung Park (74), Suncha Kim (69), and Yong Ae Yue (63); and

WHEREAS, racism toward Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders has always existed, exemplified by the 19th-century practice of scapegoating those Americans of Asian descent as well as the more recent examples during the COVID-19 pandemic. These stand as painful, and often dismissed, components of a lengthy history of violence and discrimination. This history includes the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the assaults against Filipino farmworkers in the 1930s by white mobs, as well as the internment of Japanese Americans in the 1940s by the US Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, the recent rise in violence and harassment against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community is contrary to our Core Principles. About 31% percent of Asian Americans report having been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and 26% feared for their physical safety, according to a Pew Research Center report. To date, the reporting center **Stop AAPI Hate** has received 3,800 reports nationally of hate

incidents stemming back to March 2020¹.; and

WHEREAS, SBCC recognizes the need and right of all students and employees to participate in all our campus has to offer free of hate, discrimination, or fear of violence;

WHEREAS, our District wishes to acknowledge the excellent work of our many students, faculty, classified professionals and administrators for participating in personal and professional opportunities that increase our collective ability to treat one another with kindness and respect.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Community College District calls on all in the larger Santa Barbara community to join us in condemning racist attacks against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in all forms and in renewing our commitment to speak out against such attacks, defend and protect those targeted, and seek justice and accountability against those who commit hate crimes against anyone; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees at Santa Barbara City College Board stands with the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community and calls on all in the larger Santa Barbara community to join us in realizing our vision as we strive to build a socially conscious community where knowledge and respect empower individuals to transform our world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Community College District again denounces and has zero tolerance for racism, white supremacy, xenophobia, hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts against Asian Americans, and works to ensure that Asian students feel safe and welcome on campus and encourages all employees and students to report instances of discrimination on campus or through District communications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Community College District recognizes and celebrates the contributions and presence of our Asian American community in our district and campus and supports tangible ways of doing so.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Santa Barbara Community College District this 22nd day of April, 2021, by the following vote:

Ayes: Trustee Gallardo, Trustee Abboud, Trustee Parker, Trustee Miller, Trustee Everett, Trustee Croninger, Trustee Haslund

Noes: None

Absent: None

Concur: Student Trustee McKinney

Dr. Utpal K. Goswami, Superintendent/President Secretary/Clerk to the Board of Trustees

 Reported harm experienced by the Asian American community includes verbal harassment (68.1%), shunning (20.5%) which is the deliberate avoidance of Asian Americans, physical assault (11.1%), civil rights violations (8.5%) in workplace discrimination, refusal of service, and being barred from transportation, and online harassment (6.8%). Asian American women are twice as likely to be targeted and have reported hate incidents 2.3 times more than men