Asian Americans Advancing Justice Condemns Terrorist Attack on Muslim Worshippers in New Zealand

Atlanta, GA, March 16, 2019 — Yesterday in Christchurch, New Zealand, at least 49 of our Muslim brothers and sisters were killed while worshipping by a white supremacist in a terrorist attack and many more were injured.

Asian Americans Advancing Justice, an affiliation of five civil rights organizations, issues the following statement:

"The attacks in New Zealand confirm that white nationalism is a threat that the world can no longer ignore. Hatred of immigrants and Islamophobia are global phenomena, yet every attack continues to be personal for all of the communities that we serve.

People of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim and South Asian descent are no strangers to the violent scapegoating of minority communities, including physical attacks and killings post-9/11 and in an era of rising white nationalism. The Trump Administration shamefully perpetuates a narrative of fear through policies like the Muslim Ban and in the surveillance of mosques and Muslim communities. This fear-mongering has direct consequences for the lives of our people as we saw today in Christchurch.

Our hearts go out to the victims of the New Zealand mosque attacks and their families. We stand in solidarity with Muslim communities everywhere and pledge to fight for a world guided by values of love, dignity, and inclusion."

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Asian Americans Advancing Justice is a national affiliation of five leading organizations advocating for the civil and human rights of Asian Americans and other underserved communities to promote a fair and equitable society for all. The affiliation’s members are: Advancing Justice - AAJC (Washington, D.C.), Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus (San Francisco), Advancing Justice - Los Angeles, Advancing Justice - Atlanta, and Advancing Justice - Chicago.

About Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.

Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of
collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.