



**RESOLUTION  
HATE CRIME SENTENCING ENHANCEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police is committed to preserving the rights of all crime victims and is expressly opposed to bigotry and prejudice in any form; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police considers that a crime of hate that is perpetrated against any person or property because of, their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation, to be a very serious criminal offense; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of states have enacted legislation to redress bias-motivated crimes; and

**WHEREAS**, there currently is a need in the State of Georgia for alternative sentencing in cases where it is found that the perpetrator selected the victim based upon bias because of a persons race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police is supportive of legislation that enhances the criminal sentence of a perpetrator whenever the court determines beyond a reasonable doubt that the perpetrator intentionally selected any victim or any property of the victim as the object of the offense for which they are convicted, and the offense is one defined by Section (b) (1) of the Hate Crime Statistics Act, 28 U.S.C. 534 which is attached.



Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2005

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Louis M. Dekmar", is written over a horizontal line.

Louis M. Dekmar, President