

Hello Mr. Mayor and Council Members of Long Beach.

My name is Eric Avila and I am a student and local resident here in Long Beach. I am happy to state that council member, Robert Garcia invited me to speak today.

On Sunday July 24, 2011, Martin Daniel Sanchez fell victim to a senseless gay hate crime and beating in the city of Long Beach along the "LGBT friendly" Broadway corridor. Local authorities were able to capture the perpetrator, which we are very thankful for. Unfortunately, Martin was left with significant injuries and though he has medical insurance, not all expenses will be covered. Martin is a very special and loving person and I am proud to start a collection fund to help him deal with this horrible event. Please help my friend Martin and his family, overcome this financial burden with any assistance that you can provide, whether it be donations of cash or services. A fund has been established to help meet the medical and dental attention that Martin needs.

With a P.O. Box set up at: P.O. Box 402 143 Hesperia CA, 92340 payable to Martin D. Sanchez

Before I leave the floor I would like to state the following message... This hate crime is an act of terrorism. The perpetrator intentionally selected "Martin Daniel" for who he is, "being gay". The message and psychological effects that this hate crime sends out not only impacts our victim and his family but sends shock waves throughout our entire community and their families, resulting in a greater trauma then just to the physical well being of the individual. I don't want our community to feel terrorized.

I'm here today to send out another message, a positive message, for us as community members and leaders to rise above senseless acts such as this. Long Beach is a great city that houses great resources, for all different walks of life, groups and cultures. It's progressive and I am proud to be a part of it.

I'd like to commend the great work of the Long Beach Police Department for their cooperation and compassion through all of this, along with the city council members and staff that has contributed great leads on getting a variety of assistance for us.

I urge you to continue to educate our community against such violence both in the LGBT community and out, as we are looked upon as a leading community by our surrounding cities and beyond.

Go Team! Together We Make a Difference!



Friends



Family



Good Samaritans

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Martin Daniel Medical Fund



On Sunday July 24, 2011, Martin Daniel Sanchez fell victim to a senseless gay hate crime and beating in the city of Long Beach. Local authorities were able to capture the perpetrator, which we are very thankful for. Unfortunately, Martin was left with significant injuries and though he has medical insurance, not all expenses will be covered. Martin is a very special and loving person and I am proud to start a collection fund to help him deal with this horrible event. Please help my friend Martin and his family, overcome this financial burden. A fund has been established to help meet the medical and dental attention. Check or money orders can be made out and mailed and payable to:

Martin D. Sanchez
P.O. Box 402143
Hesperia, CA 92340

or
Wells Fargo Bank
Checking Account
#1010269039351