

California State University SAN MARCOS

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018

Campus Message about Thousand Oaks Shooting

Dear Campus Community,

Once again, we have woken up to tragic news of another mass shooting. This time, the event took place in our own state, at a crowded bar in Thousand Oaks popular with college students from area colleges, including CSU Channel Islands, Cal State Northridge, Pepperdine, Cal Lutheran and Thomas Aquinas College.

On behalf of Cal State San Marcos, I want to offer deepest sympathies and thoughts to the victims and all those suffering. We stand in solidarity to support and offer comfort, particularly to our CSU sister campuses and the other colleges and universities that are impacted, as well as the family, friends and loved ones of the victims. We also offer our thanks and appreciation to first responders, including the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, which lost a member of its agency, and medical staff involved in helping and treating.

If you or anyone you know may benefit from assistance during this time, I want you to be aware that staff from <u>Student Health and Counseling Services</u> are available. In addition, the <u>Office of University Ombuds</u> offers confidential and neutral assistance, and the <u>Cougar Care Network</u> and <u>SOAR</u> can provide information about on- and off-campus resources. For faculty and staff, the <u>Employee Assistance Program</u> is available.

Words often fail us following tragedies such as these, which are becoming all too frequent. This year alone, our nation has experienced 300 mass shootings and more than 12,000 gun-related deaths. However, central to our mission as a public university is our commitment to preparing tomorrow's leaders, building great communities, and solving critical issues. Together, I know that we have within us the power to contribute toward a better, more peaceful world. Please join me in recommitting to this goal.

Sincerely, Karen S. Haynes, Ph.D. President