

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Mayor of Troutdale Stands with Victim of Hate Crime**

Troutdale, Oregon – *March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017- Casey Ryan, Troutdale’s Mayor, has released the following statement responded to the stunning report of a hate crime in his city.*

“I was distressed to learn on Wednesday about a horrible attack against Mr. Afshar and his home. The account of this crime has left the Troutdale community shocked and seeking justice for Mr. Afshar. No one should have to experience the fear of being targeted or attacked based on their identity or for practicing their religion. I regret that this violence has penetrated our community, and it underscores the importance of working towards establishing more connections and compassion in our communities.

City staff has been in regular consultation with the Multnomah County Sheriff’s office since the crime occurred Tuesday evening. We know that they are devoting substantial resources to determine what happened and who could have committed such a despicable act.

As a community we stand committed to the belief that no one should be insulted or attacked because of their race, national origin, religion or sexual preference. We trust that the Sheriff’s office is doing everything possible to solve this crime and insure the continued safety of all residents.”

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