

# Bias Incident Notification: Goodyear 2nd Floor 10-19-21

**Subject:** Bias Incident Notification: Goodyear 2nd Floor

Dear Residents of Goodyear 2nd Floor,

On September 30th, there was an incident that occurred which is considered to be bias related in nature. On a white board, accusations of homophobia were written. This type of behavior is directly against the University of Connecticut's values of striving to create a safe and inclusive community for all students.

A bias-related incident is an incident that negatively targets, intimidates, or threatens an individual or group due to race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, physical, mental, and intellectual disabilities, as well as past/present history of mental disorders. This includes, but is not limited to, graffiti or images that harass or intimidate individuals or groups due to the above characteristics.

Below are links with information from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) about challenging biased language, as well as responding to jokes and slurs. Please take time to read and reflect on these articles. As a community, it is important for all of us to act as active bystanders to make our community in Goodyear Hall, Northwest, and the University, a welcoming place for all students.

<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/challenging-biased-language>

<https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/documents/assets/pdf/education-outreach/Responding-to-Jokes-and-Slurs.pdf>

As you move forward in immersing yourself into the community, please keep in mind that small actions have a major impact. We can be proactive and not reactive to situations like this by making the following changes in our daily behaviors: hold your peers accountable for their decision; if you see something, say something to your RA, or your Hall Director; remind your guests that you are responsible for their behavior and that you will not tolerate acts within your community.

If you encounter bias related incidents within the community, please do not hesitate to report it through the bias reporting form: <https://dos.uconn.edu/bias-reporting-2/>

Sincerely,

Blake Sherman & Victoria Clark

Northwest Hall Directors

Thank you,

Blake Sherman, M.Ed.

He | Him | His

Residence Hall Director: Northwest Quadrangle

Department of Residential Life – Residence Education

The University of Connecticut

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