

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hate Crimes Should Be Prosecuted

"We are calling on the State's Attorney to add a hate crimes charge to the current second-degree murder charge."

MIAMI BEACH, **FL** - On Monday morning, Andrea Dospassos, a 37-year-old trans woman was brutally murdered on the steps of the Miami City Ballet in Miami Beach. The safety of all residents of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County should be of the utmost importance, especially those in marginalized communities such as our transgender community.

The constant barrage of attacks and hate towards the Trans community coming from throughout the Republican Florida government has emboldened those who want to cause them harm. This week, we have seen it's horrible effect again in Miami Beach, in a clear example of a hate crime towards a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

In response, Kristen Browde, Vice President of the Flamingo Democrats (Miami Dade County's LGBTQ Democratic Caucus) released the following statement:

"We are calling on the State's Attorney to add a hate crimes charge to the current second-degree murder charge on the accused assailant who is in custody.

"Let it be crystal clear that if extremist right-wing politicians continue their attacks on the transgender community to score political points, this will not be the last person who has their life taken. Andrea's blood is on the hands of those who spew hatred and malice without thinking of the consequences of their words and actions. The LGBTQ+ community will continue to call out those that seek to erase us with not only their words but with their actions."