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STATEMENT FROM NYC COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER CARMELYN P. MALALIS ON THE ANTI-MUSLIM ATTACK IN LONDON, ONTARIO

The New York City Commission on Human Rights is deeply saddened to learn of the horrific anti-Muslim attack in London, Ontario yesterday. As reported by the media, four members of the Afzaal family were targeted and brutally murdered by a white nationalist because of their Muslim faith, leaving a fifth member of the family, a child, seriously injured. Our hearts go out to the surviving Afzaal family and the London, Ontario Muslim community as they mourn this tragic loss.

These murders are the most recent example in a disturbing pattern of attacks on Black, Indigenous, people of color and religious communities to further a white nationalist agenda. We have seen it in Charleston, Charlottesville, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, Christchurch, and Sunday, in London, Ontario. We unequivocally condemn this and all acts of hate and violence.

In New York City, there is no room for this type of hatred. Our Muslim communities are part of what makes New York City one of the most revered cultural hubs in the world. Every New Yorker must step up and do their part to stop anti-Muslim hate by speaking out against discrimination or reporting incidents to the NYC Commission on Human Rights.

All New Yorkers are protected by the New York City Human Rights Law. If you have experienced or witnessed anti-Muslim hate, discrimination, or harassment, please report it to the NYC Commission on Human Rights at 212-416-0197 or on the web at www.nyc.gov/reportdiscrimination. Commission staff speak over 30 languages, tips can be reported anonymously, and we never ask about immigration status.

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