



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
TODD SPITZER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Date: Dec. 15, 2023
Case #: 23WF0382

Greg Risling
Public Information and Affairs Administrator
Office: 714-347-8435, Cell: 657-303-5239
@ocdapa.org

Kimberly Edds
Director of Public Affairs
Office: 714-347-8405, Cell: 714-504-1917
@ocdapa.org

Dana Point Man Pleads Guilty to Hate Crime for Defacing Mural Celebrating Influential Latina Women with White Supremacy Graffiti in Costa Mesa

SANTA ANA, Calif. – A 28-year-old man pleaded guilty today to felony vandalism and a felony hate crime enhancement for spray painting white supremacy graffiti over a mural in Costa Mesa that recognizes prestigious Latinas from Orange County.

Daniel Hotte pleaded guilty to a court offer of one felony count of vandalism exceeding \$400 and the hate crime enhancement. He was immediately sentenced to 180 days in county jail, placed on formal probation for two years and received 90 days of credit for completing a 90-day drug treatment program.

On Oct. 31, 2022, Hotte was seen by several witnesses scratching out several names on the *Las Poderosas* mural, a public mural created in 2020 to honor eight *poderosas* – or strong women. He also spray painted “white power” and “PEN1 737,” a reference to Public Enemy Number 1, a documented white supremacist gang.

“Defacing a mural in the name of hate that honors Latina women who have played prominent roles in Orange County is despicable and deplorable,” said Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer. “This was a cowardly act and incidents like this remind us that any attempts to divide our diverse communities will not be tolerated.”

Senior Deputy District Attorney Cliff Page of the Gangs/TARGET Unit prosecuted this case.

###