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## **TAHIRIH STATEMENT ON MASS SHOOTINGS AND HATE CRIME IN EL PASO**

The Tahirih Justice Center stands in solidarity with the communities of El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio that were impacted by the weekend's heinous acts of violence. In response, Archi Pyati, Tahirih Chief of Policy, issued the following statement:

"We mourn the tragic loss of life in two horrifying shootings that occurred over the weekend, both despicable acts of violence. In particular, as an organization that works with and for immigrant survivors of violence seeking protection in the United States, we are shaken by the targeting of immigrant communities by the El Paso shooter. The shooter posted his motivations online, echoing the anti-immigrant, racist rhetoric that now floods our national media and social media on a daily basis. This and so many other acts of hatred and violence toward immigrants and other minorities, along with many real, harmful policies issued by the administration in quick succession, create a climate of fear for immigrants, including survivors. We must, as a nation, do better than this."

*Archi Pyati is available for comment on this topic. Please contact [dhajjar@mrss.com](mailto:dhajjar@mrss.com) to arrange an interview.*

### **About the Tahirih Justice Center**

The Tahirih Justice Center is the largest national direct service and policy advocacy organization focused on assisting immigrant women and girls fleeing violence. Tahirih will continue to monitor policy shifts that impact women and girls fleeing violence and advocate for the United States to honor its legal obligations to protect those fleeing human rights abuses.

*Tahirih Justice Center is a national non-profit that protects courageous immigrant women and girls who refuse to be victims of violence through free legal and social services, public policy advocacy, and training and education. Visit [www.tahirih.org](http://www.tahirih.org) for more information.*