



October 13, 2009

Community Alert – AVP Condemns Violent Hate Crime in College Point, Queens

The New York City Anti-Violence Project is saddened and outraged to learn of another incident of hate violence – the third in as many weeks – which occurred in College Point, Queens on Friday. The victim, Jack Price, was reportedly beaten by two men as he went to the store and was hospitalized and is in serious condition as of Monday afternoon. One suspect has been arrested and charged with a hate crime and another suspect is being sought. This follows two other publically reported incidents of violence against gay men, including Blake Hayes who was assaulted with two friends in Hell’s Kitchen where the police reportedly refused to take an incident report, and Jesse Archer who alleges the police assaulted him in Grand Central.

“This latest incident continues a national trend documented by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Projects in a recent report revealing that throughout 2008 and into 2009 severity of violence against LGBT people is increasing. Violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people throughout the city is reported to AVP practically daily,” said Kim, Fountain, Deputy Director of the New York City Anti-Violence Project, “This violence must stop. We will continue to work in coalition with organizations throughout the city to end anti-LGBT violence.”

“Our thoughts are with Mr. Price and his family and friends. AVP continues to work with elected officials, the NYPD and the MTA Transit Police to address these incidents of violence and police response,” said Sharon Stapel, Executive Director of the New York City Anti-Violence Project, “In this instance the police responded swiftly and appropriately. However, we continue to call for training of all NYPD and MTA police officers to assure that all anti-LGBT violence is dealt with in this same way: swiftly and appropriately. It is critical for people to report anti-LGBT violence. Whether or not they are comfortable reporting to the NYPD, they can always report to AVP’s 24-hour English/Spanish hotline at 212-714-1141.”

AVP encourages anyone who knows anything about the incident which occurred in College Point to contact the NYPD. We also encourage anyone who has experienced violence or is troubled by recent incidents to call AVP’s 24-hour bilingual hotline at 212-714-1141.