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dear mayor breed, chief william scott, members of the police commission and supervisors mar and fewer,

i am writing to express my disturbance and dismay regarding the above referenced incident.
as you all are aware, last wednesday, a muni bus driver was physically assaulted by three of his passengers. the driver suffered fractured fingers, bruises and other bodily injuries.
allegedly, during the course of the assault, the assailants spat at the driver, directed racial slurs against the driver, an asian-american, and then beat him with a bat.

the tuesday, july 28, the sf chronicle reported that a police dept spokesperson, officer robert rueca, said that this incident is being investigated as an "aggravated assault along with a health order violation."
the same new article reported that the "San Francisco police on Monday said the incident did not appear to be racially motivated."

please clarify how the sf police department arrived at such a conclusion. the assault, from all accounts, appears to be a hate crime.
as you all know, during already difficult pandemic times, many in the asian community have been blamed for the pandemic and have been, and continue to be, the target of racist attacks.

the muni driver is an asian american--racist slurs were directed at him, he was spat upon and physically assaulted with a baseball bat.
in this instance, the assailants' actions are a textbook definition of a hate crime--a criminal assault targeted against a person because of his perceived status.
if the chronicle's report and this recount is factually correct, then i am mystified by officer rueca's commends that this incident is NOT a racial attack which suggests that the police dept will not pursue enhanced hate crime charges. when is a hate crime not a hate crime; when the victim is an asian-american?
i urge the police department to conduct a thorough investigation, identify and arrest the perpetrators and, should the facts warrant it, charge them with the commission of a hate crime.
the city must send a strong message that the city will prosecute to the full extent of the law practitioners of intolerance, hate and violence.
thank you.
sincerely,
henry louie