FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Islamic Society of Orange County Responds to Online Misinformation and Reaffirms Commitment to Safety, Peace, and Community

Garden Grove, California — The Islamic Society of Orange County (ISOC) is aware of recent social media posts circulating on platforms such as Facebook and X that falsely accuse our institution of promoting anti-American values. These posts have generated harmful rhetoric, including hateful comments and threats of violence, causing understandable concern among our congregation and the broader community.

1. Safety is Our Highest Priority
The safety and well-being of all who visit our campus—including worshippers, neighbors, and guests—remains our top priority. ISOC is actively working in coordination with local law enforcement to ensure appropriate safety measures are in place. We take all threats seriously and are committed to maintaining a secure and welcoming environment for everyone.

2. A 50-Year Legacy of Service, Peace, and Community Engagement
For over five decades, ISOC has been a cornerstone of faith, service, and outreach in Orange County. As the first mosque in the region and one of the largest Islamic centers in the United States, ISOC has consistently promoted a message of peace, compassion, and civic engagement.

We have proudly hosted civic leaders, public officials, and clergy from diverse faith traditions, fostering dialogue and understanding through interfaith programs and community events. Our doors remain open to all people, regardless of faith or background. This includes our onsite food pantry, which is open to all, and is an official distribution partner of the OC Food Bank.

Our religious leaders, Sheikh Abdullah Misra and Dr. Muzammil Siddiqi, are widely respected for their advocacy of peace and unity. Their engagements have included meetings with global and

national leaders. Dr Siddiqi's meeting with Pope Francis and George W. Bush in the aftermath of September 11, are some examples where he represented American Muslims and emphasized a message of harmony, cooperation, and shared humanity.

3. Proudly American, Proudly Muslim
The Muslim community at ISOC embodies the very values that define this nation—hard work, service, family, and civic responsibility. We are your neighbors, educators, healthcare professionals, business owners, public servants, and students. We are deeply proud of both our faith and our country, and we reject any attempts to portray our community otherwise.

At a time when misinformation can spread rapidly, we call upon our fellow community members to stand together against hate and division, to remain vigilant, stay informed through trusted sources, and continue to embody the values of dignity, patience, and unity. As our community has always demonstrated, let us continue to rise above and not let those who incite hate change who we are. As the Qur'an teaches us, "Repel (evil) with that which is better." (Qur'an 41:34). ISOC remains committed to being a place of worship, learning, and unity—where people of all backgrounds are welcomed with dignity and respect.

Media Contact
Islamic Society of Orange County
9752 W. 13th Street
Garden Grove, CA 92844
(714) 531-1722
www.isocmasjid.org