#### Dear [Insert Title & Name],

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is celebrated by members of the Hindu, Sikh, and Jain faiths. Each faith has its own unique way of commemorating the holiday and it has now become a global event outside India that unites people of all faiths and backgrounds. Diwali is a multi day festival and the celebrations and festivities span multiple days before and after the official date of Diwali.

Diwali provides an opportunity for families and communities to get together through its diverse and colorful customs and traditions. One such tradition is the lighting of lamps, or divas, the illumination of which symbolizes the transition from darkness to light. The physical act of lighting lamps on Diwali signifies an individual's efforts to be the best version of themselves.

The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir (Hindu Temple) is honored to host one of Southern California's premiere and vibrant Diwali Celebrations. Activities include the festival of lights and the lighting of flame lamps, a grand *annakut* or food display offered to God, people from all walks of life praying and celebrating together, and a Diwali Light and Sound show enjoyed by people of all ages that truly brings the entire community together. Even though spiritual in origin, everyone is welcome to partake in the celebrations.

The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Hindu Mandir is a Hindu Temple that sits off the 71 freeway in Chino Hills, CA. Inaugurated in 2012, the traditional, stone carved Hindu mandir, open to all, is a key center point of Southern California's Hindu community. The mandir serves as a place of worship, bastion of community, cultural and charitable activities, and a monument to the preservation of ancient Indian art and architecture.

This year, BAPS cordially invites you, your family and/or your team to join us in celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights on either **November 12th or November 13th.** Please see the next below for event dates & details.

We would be honored if you could join us for this auspicious and wondrous occasion as Southern California's Hindu community and its supporters celebrate.

On behalf of BAPS, [Insert Volunteer Name]

# **EVENT DETAILS**

## DIWALI CELEBRATIONS AT THE BAPS SHRI SWAMINARAYAN MANDIR IN CHINO HILLS, CA

#### Diwali Day 1

Event Date: Sunday, November 12th, 2023

Event Time: 4:00pm - 9:00pm

(You are welcome to join us at anytime, for any duration of time during the event time)

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir - Chino Hills

15100 Fairfield Ranch Road Chino Hills, CA 91709

## Diwali Day 2

Event Date: Monday, November 13th, 2023

Event Time: 12:00pm - 8:30pm

(You are welcome to join us at anytime, for any duration of time during the event time)

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir - Chino Hills

15100 Fairfield Ranch Road

Chino Hills, CA 91709

During your visit, we will set up a tour and visit of the different aspects of the celebrations and do our best to set up a meet and greet with constituents and/or congregation members.

To RSVP, confirm your attendance, coordinate logistics, parking, entry, security or for other event inquiries, please reach out to Mehul Patel at <a href="mehulbaps@gmail.com">mehulbaps@gmail.com</a> or (770) 309-6432.