



Sunday, April 28, 2019

Contact: Noam Gilboord, Chief Operating Officer
Email: gilboordn@jrcny.org
Phone: 212-983-4800 ext. 146 or 917-456-7638
Interviews available upon request.

JCRC-NY STATEMENT ON THE CHABAD OF POWAY SHOOTING

We are horrified and outraged by the senseless, violent, and anti-Semitic attack on the Chabad of Poway, CA. This latest murderous incident targeting a house of religious worship, which left one dead and three injured, including a child, happened as the Jewish community completed the celebration of Passover and serves as a reminder that anti-Semitism and hatred continue to plague every generation.

As we mourn with our brothers and sisters in Poway, we send our heartfelt condolences to the family of Lori Gilbert-Kaye (60), who sacrificed her life to save others. Those who stood up against and drove out the shooter acted with incredible strength and courage, and we wish all who were injured a full and speedy recovery, including Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, Almog Peretz (34), and Noya Dahan (8). Synagogues and all houses of worship are places where communities gather to commune with God. No religious community should be made to feel unsafe while attending prayers.

Given the rise in hate crimes and violent attacks on religious communities in America and around the world, elected officials, media, and others with significant reach and impact must be sensitive to and responsible for the words they use and the material they publish. This is particularly important when religious symbols are involved. The overtly anti-Semitic cartoon in The New York Times is just the latest example of how hate that goes unchecked can lead to unspeakable atrocities.

As such, JCRC-NY works closely with the New York Police Department, the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security and other law enforcement agencies to ensure and enhance the safety of our communal religious institutions. We thank NYPD for carrying out protection protocols for synagogues immediately upon learning about the shooting. We will continue our work with the broader community to ensure our safety and security.

Charles S. Temel
President

Michael S. Miller
Executive Vice President and CEO