

## Statement on the Abhorrent Rise of Antisemitic Acts Across the Globe

Leaders of the Jewish community of San Antonio condemn the rising acts of antisemitism in the U.S. and across the world in recent days. We unequivocally support Israel's right to protect and defend itself from all aggressors and unwaveringly recognize its right to exist in peaceful coexistence with its neighbors.

According to the ADL, "[W]e are witnessing a dangerous and drastic surge in anti-Jewish hate. We are tracking acts of harassment, vandalism, and violence as well as a torrent of online abuse. It's happening around the world— from London to Los Angeles, from France to Florida, in big cities like NYC and in small towns, and across every social media platform. To those who choose to indulge in age-old antisemitic tropes, exaggerated claims, and inflammatory rhetoric, it has consequences: attacks in real life on real people targeted for no other reason than they are Jewish. This is antisemitism, plain and simple. And it's indisputably inexcusable in any context. ...We call on leaders throughout our country to speak out against antisemitism and stand alongside the Jewish community in the face of this wave of hate before it gets any worse."

We welcome the ceasefire announcement, and we mourn the innocent lives lost during the last two weeks. We pray for continued calm and stand with those seeking a sustainable and meaningful peace.

### Michael Swanson

Board Chair, Jewish Federation of San Antonio

### Winslow Swart

Chair, Jewish Community Relations Council

### Nammie Ichilov

President & CEO, Jewish Federation of San Antonio

### Lisa Epstein, Ph.D.

Director, Jewish Community Relations Council



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*The following agencies and synagogues have signed on to this statement.*

