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Jewish Federation of Broward County and Secure Community Network Announce Partnership to Bolster Community Safety and Security

Law Enforcement Veteran Dennis May Will Advise, Direct and Develop Community Security Program

[Jewish Federation of Broward County](#) and the [Secure Community Network \(SCN\)](#) today announced the launch of a new community security initiative led by Community Security Director Dennis May. The program is designed to significantly increase safety and security for all those who participate in synagogues, day schools, museums, service organizations, and other centers of Jewish life in and around Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood, Fla. SCN is the official safety and security organization for the Jewish community in North America.

“SCN is honored to work in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Broward County to ensure the safety, security, and resiliency of the Jewish people. This initiative is part of our effort to create a security shield over the Jewish community in North America,” said SCN National Director and CEO Michael Masters. “The heart of this effort is the establishment of a comprehensive security initiative in each Jewish population center, led by a full-time security professional, and we are fortunate to have that professional in Dennis.”

“Jewish Federation of Broward County is excited to partner with SCN and formally welcome Dennis to our team,” said President and CEO Audra Berg. “As America faces dramatic increases in antisemitic threats and incidents, Jewish communal security has never been more important. Dennis has extensive experience and knowledge of safety and security issues, making him an enormous asset to our community.”

Broward County joins the growing network of Jewish Federations and communities that have partnered with SCN to launch community-wide security programs designed around an “all threats, all hazards” approach to preparedness, safety, security, and resiliency. Each program is connected to SCN’s national operations, providing direct access to SCN’s [National Jewish Security Operations Command Center](#) and Duty Desk, as well as best practice security resources and support related to policies, procedures, physical security, facility assessments, training, and incident response.

The Broward County security initiative is being made possible through professional support from the Federation and SCN; funding through the collaborative efforts of the Federation and other local donors;

and national donor support from SCN and LiveSecure, the partnership between The Jewish Federations of North America and SCN to fund and create a collective security framework.

To lead the effort, public safety expert and law enforcement veteran Dennis May has been appointed the first Community Security Director for the Broward County area and completed an intensive onboarding process. May will serve as SCN's full-time representative to develop and administer a comprehensive program that provides risk mitigation, security consultations, assessments, and training to Jewish institutions throughout the region. He will teach SCN's flagship training courses such as Be Aware: Introduction to Situational Awareness, Countering Active Threat Training, and Stop the Bleed®.

May served as a Special Agent in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for more than 25 years. As a member of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and Rapid Deployment Team in the Los Angeles area, he handled terrorism matters requiring extensive coordination with domestic and international law enforcement agencies and coordinated international support for high priority investigations. May created the FBI's Central Texas Violent Crime Task Force, which is responsible for multi-law enforcement integration into complex criminal investigations.

After retiring from the FBI, May worked in the private security and investigations field, assisting clients with vulnerability assessments, cybersecurity programs, workplace violence training and protocols, risk and threat mitigation services, kidnapping avoidance and response, and other issues. Prior to his FBI tenure, May served as an infantry and military intelligence officer in the U.S. Army, where he attained the rank of captain. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

May will serve as an expert advisor to Jewish institutions and establish a system of collaboration, coordination, and communication among community organizations. He will also serve as a liaison to local, state, and federal law enforcement partners and represent the Federation and the Jewish community in public security forums.

"It's an honor for me to work in Broward County and contribute to the safety and security of the Jewish community," said May. "I look forward to leveraging my professional experience and community relationships to help everyone become more prepared and resilient against all forms of threats."

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*The **Secure Community Network** (SCN), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is the official homeland safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America. Founded in 2004 under the auspices of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, SCN serves as the central organization dedicated exclusively to the safety and security of the American Jewish community, working across 146 federations, 50 partner organizations, over 300 independent communities, and other partners in the public, private, nonprofit, and academic sectors. SCN is dedicated to ensuring that Jewish organizations, communities, life, and culture can not only exist safely and securely but flourish. Learn more at securecommunitynetwork.org.*

***Jewish Federation of Broward County** leverages the community's human and financial resources to create maximum impact and inspire philanthropy to invest in Jewish life. Federation programs support and advocate for Jews in Broward County, in Israel, and around the world. Programs include helping at-risk children and individuals with special needs; caring for seniors to guard against social isolation, financial challenges, food insecurity, and the effects of dementia; feeding the hungry, helping victims of domestic abuse; providing financial assistance to prevent homelessness; and ensuring families can afford safe, high-quality childcare. The Federation strengthens Jewish identity locally through Jewish camps, trips, day schools, youth groups, Israel programs, and more. Learn more at jewishbroward.org.*