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Contact: Bobby Ritter  
Phone: 914.234.7615  
Email: [britter@fleischercommunications.com](mailto:britter@fleischercommunications.com)

## **Jewish Long Beach and Secure Community Network Announce Partnership to Bolster Community Safety and Security**

*Law Enforcement Veteran Meredith Burke Will Advise, Direct and Develop Community Security Program*

[Jewish Long Beach](#) and the [Secure Community Network](#) (SCN) today announced the launch of a new community security initiative led by Community Security Director Meredith Burke. 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 the Long Beach area of California. SCN is the official safety and security organization for the Jewish community in North America.

“SCN is honored to work in partnership with Jewish Long Beach to ensure the safety, security, and resiliency of the Jewish people,” said SCN National Director and CEO Michael Masters. “This initiative is part of our collective effort to create a security shield over the Jewish community in North America. 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 Meredith as part of our team to do that.”

“Jewish Long Beach and our leadership have long understood our imperative to do all we can to ensure the security of our campus and the Long Beach area’s Jewish institutions,” said Chief Executive Officer Zach Benjamin. “I am immensely proud to be entering into this partnership with SCN and to be welcoming Meredith to our team. American Jews currently face dramatic increases in antisemitic threats and incidents, and thus Jewish communal security has never been more important. Meredith’s extensive experience and knowledge of the Long Beach region make her an enormous asset for our community.”

Long Beach 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 Long Beach 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 Meredith Burke has been appointed the first Community Security Director for the Long Beach area and completed an intensive onboarding process. Burke serves 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. She will teach SCN's flagship training courses, such as Be Aware: Introduction to Situational Awareness; Countering Active Threat Training; and Stop the Bleed®.

Burke served as a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for 21 years. She retired as the Senior Supervisory Resident Agent for the FBI's Long Beach office, supervising a squad that focused on public corruption, health care fraud, and complex financial crimes. She previously served as chief of the Internal Investigations Unit and a senior team leader on the Evidence Response Team. In her early FBI career, she led investigations into public corruption, complex financial crimes, international terrorism, national security, and aviation crimes.

Prior to her FBI service, Burke worked as an attorney at an international trial and litigation law firm. She earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and political science from the University of Michigan and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Minnesota.

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

"It's an honor for me to continue working in Long Beach and to contribute to the safety and security of the Jewish community," said Burke. "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](https://securecommunitynetwork.org).*

*Since 1948, **Jewish Long Beach** has worked to preserve Jewish life and strengthen Jewish advocacy, while helping people in need and at risk wherever they are. Collaborating as a Jewish Federation with individuals and across the community, Jewish Long Beach connects those who want to help with those who need help the most. The organization brings together fundraisers and expert facilitators who identify, convene and nourish the critical partners, programs, and services that touch thousands of lives, every day. Learn more at [jewishlongbeach.org](https://jewishlongbeach.org).*