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SCN Statement On The Guilty Verdict In The Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting Trial

PITTSBURGH, PA — Today, the shooter who killed 11 worshippers from the three congregations at the Tree of Life building in Pittsburgh on October 27th, 2018 was found guilty, convicted of 63 federal charges. The trial now moves to the sentencing phase. **In reaction to today's guilty verdict, Secure Community Network National Director and CEO Michael Masters issued the following statement:**

“We stand with the victims’ families and survivors of the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting – and the entire Jewish community in Pittsburgh – on the solemn occasion of today’s guilty verdict. We hope this will provide a measure of relief and solace for all they have been through. Today, justice has been done. With it, hate and violence have been held accountable by our justice system and through the strength of our community.

This trial – close to five years after the attack – is another reminder of the persistent need for vigilance against the acts of senseless hate, antisemitism, and violence that Jews around the world have faced for millennia, and the alarming rise in hate and antisemitism we have seen in recent years in the U.S. In the face of adversity, however, our Jewish community has become stronger. We have not succumbed to the forces of evil and violence, which have sought to eradicate Jewish life and diffuse Jewish identity. We do not have that luxury; we have risen up. We survive and thrive. Over the last five years, we have become more safe and secure. While there is still work to do, communities like Pittsburgh and local federations across the country — working with SCN and other partners, including law enforcement — are more prepared than ever to save lives and keep their community safe.”

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