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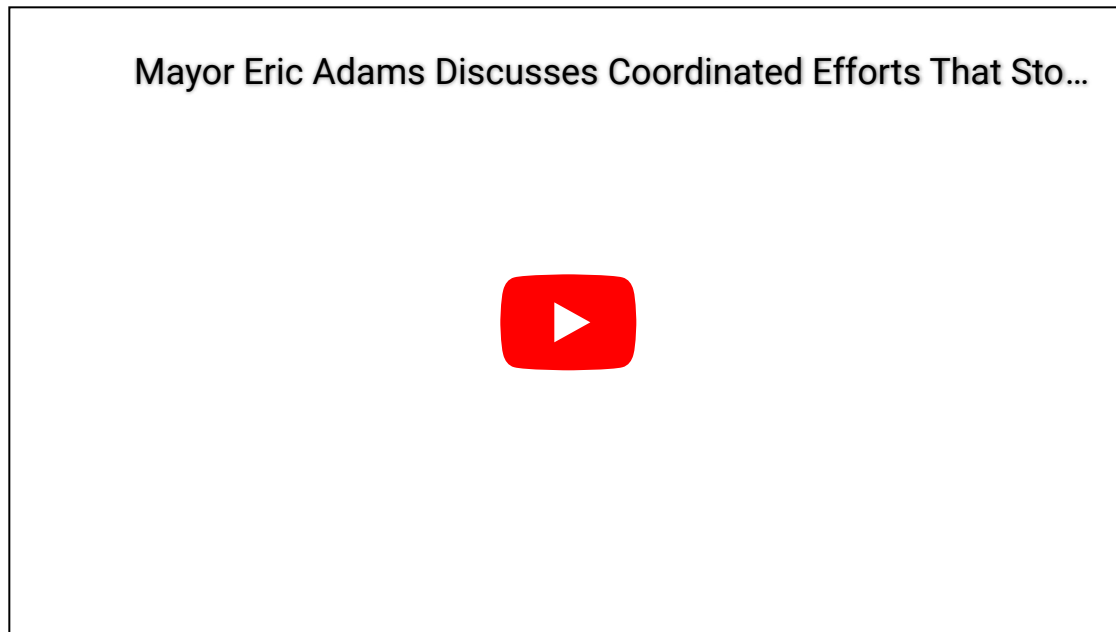
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Transcript: Mayor Eric Adams Discusses Coordinated Efforts That Stopped Potential Attack on Jewish Community

November 21, 2022

Video available at: https://youtu.be/ng6IRS_Fnr8



Deputy Mayor Philip Banks III, Public Safety: Thank you. Good morning. Thank you for joining us today. My name is Philip Banks III. I'm the deputy mayor for public safety. Thank you for joining us today to hear about the coordinated efforts by law enforcement at the city, state, and federal levels, to prevent attacks on the Jewish community this past weekend.

Teamwork. Something that the mayor has been stressing since day one of this administration. Can you imagine what we can accomplish if we work together as a team? Today, you are seeing an example of that teamwork. Multiple entities coming together in a short period of time to coordinate, communicate, develop, and implement their plan, a plan that saved lives. Teamwork.

I'd like to start by thinking all of those standing behind us today, including representatives from the NYPD, state police, the FBI, the Joint Terrorism Task Force, the MTA, the MTA Police Department, the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, the Office of the Prevention of Hate Crimes, and the Community Security Initiative, as well as numerous Jewish organizations, including the United Jewish Association, Federation of New York, Central Hatzalah, and the Flatbush Shomrim Safety Patrol.

We also have numerous, several religious leaders from the Jewish community here, including New York City Council Member Eric Dinowitz, who is the head of the New York City Council Jewish Caucus. We have Rabbi Liebowitz, Rabbi Steinmetz, Rabbi Miroznick, Rabbi Rothman, Rabbi Fink, Rabbi Tesser, Rabbi Heinz, and Rabbi Berish Freilech. Without further delay, I'd like to introduce the mayor of the City of New York, Mayor Eric Adams.

Mayor Eric Adams: Thank you, deputy mayor, and I too join ... I'm not as tall as you, so I'm going to move the stand over. I too join the deputy mayor in acknowledging the work of our partners. This past weekend, both the police commissioner and I were notified of a credible threat on Jewish New Yorkers and immediately communicated with our teams to take appropriate action.

The potential attack on Jewish New Yorkers, because of that coordination, was averted. It was due to heroic actions of the MTA Police Department Officer Ryan Fackner and Officer Conor Colasurdo. Both responded appropriately based on the information that was disseminated, and the dedicated efforts of the men and women who we are here today. The leadership is represented throughout those who are standing by. Both officers arrested two suspects at Penn Station on Saturday morning after one of the suspects was flagged by making antisemitic and threatening posts online, including references to perpetrate an armed attack on a synagogue.

Thanks to the exceptional investigative work of the FBI and NYPD Joint Terrorist Task Force, the NYPD Intelligence Bureau, and the MTA Police Department, the suspects were apprehended before they could act on the alleged plan to murder members of the Jewish community in our city.

This was not an idle threat. This was a real threat. After arresting the suspects, law enforcement officers recovered a Glock semi-automatic firearm, a ghost gun with an extended 30-round magazine and laser sight, a large hunting knife, a black ski mask, and a Nazi arm band. A Nazi arm band, in New York City, in 2022. Think about that for a moment.

Over 77 years ago, after allied soldiers liberated Auschwitz and exposed the full extent of the horrors of the Holocaust. Hate is on the rise in America, a dark cloud over our nation. It has become normalized by politicians and celebrities, amplified by social media and cable news, and weaponized by the easy availability of guns in this country. This was a ghost gun. That adds to the already over-saturation of guns in our city and cities across America. This is a toxic mix with frightening implications for our society.

From the massacre of Black shoppers in Buffalo to the killings at an LGBTQ+ nightclub in Colorado Springs over the weekend, we see communications and communities across the nation being targeted for their race, their beliefs, and their way of life. This hate cannot be allowed to take hold and build and gain further ground. America must defeat the rising threat of domestic terrorism. It is real. It is here. And we must have a formidable approach to it, and we must reject the hate and division that drives it.

This time, thanks to thorough coordination between multiple agencies at numerous levels of government, we were able to avert this threat. Law enforcement was able to prevent an attack like the shocking stabbings that took place at the rabbi's home in Monsey, New York during Hanukkah in 2019. But it's clear, there's others who share antisemitic beliefs and hateful ideas. We must and will be vigilant in the weeks leading up to Hanukkah and this holiday season. And the NYPD will do its part. I want to say thank you to everyone that's here that participated in the coordination over the weekend and the coordination during this holiday season.

Now I'm going to salute the leadership of Commissioner Keechant Sewell for a quick action and coordination without the men and women of our Police Department to avert this threat. There are a lot of critics out there, but I hope today they can and understand what the NYPD does every day for the city of New York. Protecting communities, families and New Yorkers of every faith from the violence as some want to inflict, keeping our Jewish communities and other communities safe in the face rising threats and antisemitism, getting dangerous weapons off our streets, and fighting the rise of violent domestic extremism in this country.

As the mayor of the largest Jewish community in the United States, it is my sacred duty to protect Jewish New Yorkers and this entire community from antisemitism and bigotry. And in my administration, we know this is one of our highest priorities is to protect all New Yorkers from violence and crime. We will continue to be vigilant and protect the communities involved in general, but specifically the Jewish community, with every resource that's necessary, because hatred and antisemitism would not take foothold in our city.

No one should feel threatened walking down the street or traveling on the subway. No one should ever feel threatened walking into their synagogue or place of worship. We're going to fight the rise in antisemitism and extremism and continue to support our law enforcement communities. Again, we want to thank all who were involved. Thank you very much.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Next, we'll hear from the commissioner of the City of New York, Commissioner Keechant Sewell.

Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Good morning. Thank you all for being here. In addition to our partners, I am pleased to be joined by Deputy Chief John Hart of our Intelligence Bureau, who was a big part of this investigation from the very beginning. The focused collective efforts of the NYPD and our partners were able to uncover, investigate, and most importantly, stop a threat to our Jewish community. This was an urgent multi-agency operation to address danger that was developing in real time.

This is a clear example of public safety being a shared responsibility. It takes all of us working together to effectively safeguard the people we serve. And these partnerships that we are highlighting today are at the heart of that effort. We have to remain vigilant and monitor threats of any kind, symbols of hate written online or posted on social media every day. The job of the NYPD and our colleagues here is to put public safety first and protect the people of this city. We coordinated with our partners, we communicated, organized and established a plan, and the result was a high level of committed collaboration that averted a threat of targeted violence. It is important that our communities know and we will never tolerate hate or violence in New York City. We will use our resources and partnerships to stop, investigate, arrest, and hold accountable anyone who threatens the safety of the people of this city.
Deputy Mayor Banks.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Thank you, commissioner. Now, we're going to hear from Mike Driscoll, the assistant director of the FBI's New York field office.

Michael Driscoll, Assistant Director, FBI New York Field Office: Good morning. Thank you all for coming. I appreciate the invitation from the mayor's office and the police commissioner to speak to all of you today. On Friday evening, the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Force received information regarding an individual believed to pose a physical threat to an unidentified synagogue. With a significant sense of urgency, members of the JTTF set about identifying the individual or individuals involved. As you have heard, we, along with our law enforcement partners, began an investigation of one possible subject, Christopher Brown of Aquebogue, New York. And then during that investigation, a second individual, Matthew Mahrer of Manhattan was also identified as an associate.

Through close coordination with law enforcement across the region, both Mahrer and Brown were located Friday night and taken into custody. At the current time, we have no information to indicate there is any continued threat to the Jewish community or to any community here in New York associated with this case. Both subjects are both facing state charges. No decision has been made yet regarding possible federal charges. That investigation continues.

I want to thank the many law enforcement partners for their assistance in this matter and for helping to quickly ensure that the safety of our city was preserved. The JTTF and NYPD Intelligence Bureau were in close coordination throughout the investigation, and I'm grateful for NYPD's partnership and collaboration. I also want to highlight the outstanding work by the MTA Police in support of this case. Port Authority Police, likewise, were extremely helpful in the safe resolution of this matter. And most importantly, I want to thank the members of the public for the information already shared in this case. If anyone else has information regarding these individuals or any threat to the Jewish community, I would ask that you reach out to the FBI or NYPD as soon as possible. This is still very much an active investigation. The FBI can be reached at 1-800-CALL-FBI. The support of our community partners and private citizens is crucial to preventing violence in instances like this. The old adage of see something, say something remains very, very true and extremely important. So, again, thank you all for being here today.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Thank you, Assistant Director Driscoll. Next, we're going to hear from the Manhattan District Attorney Al Bragg.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg: Thank you, deputy mayor. Thank you, mayor, commissioner, director, and to all of our law enforcement partners. Local, state, and federal agencies working collaboratively, swiftly stopped a horrible threat. The NYPD, the FBI, the Task Force, the MTA, and members of my office, the Manhattan District Attorney's office, worked together to intervene, execute search warrants, and ultimately have two people arraigned in Manhattan Criminal Court. While we can't get into the specifics of the matter, as it is an ongoing investigation and I can't go beyond the court filings, the allegations in the court filings are stark. Possession of a firearm, a high capacity magazine, an eight inch long military style knife, a swastika arm patch, and a Twitter posting about shooting a synagogue. The Manhattan District Attorney's Office will be using the full resources of our counter-terrorism program and our expanded hate crimes unit for accountability and justice in this matter. We do not tolerate illegal guns in this city, we do not tolerate hate and antisemitism in this city, and we do not tolerate violence in this city.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Thank you, district attorney. Next, we're going to hear from the CEO of the MTA, Janno Lieber.

Janno Lieber, Chair and CEO, Metropolitan Transit Authority: Okay. Thank you, Mayor Adams, thank you, Police Commissioner Sewell for all you do every day, every day to keep New Yorkers safe. And to our MTA men of the hour, MTAPD officers Ryan Fackner and Conor Colasurdo, two dangerous, hateful individuals are now in custody because of you and your quick action on the intel developed by the JTTF and the NYPD. The story could have ended in tragedy, but thankfully did not. Attacks like the one that were planned by these individuals are especially repugnant to New Yorkers who treasure diversity and tolerance as central to our city's history and to our identity right up to today.

And this is a little personal for me. My father came to this country in 1941 as a refugee from Nazis and lost his mother, my grandmother, and other relatives in the Holocaust, so you can imagine my reaction when I heard from City Hall late Friday night that there were people with Nazi swastika arm bands using our MTA transit system — which I'm privileged to oversee — using our transit system en route to planned attacks on synagogues. Imagine.

Thank goodness the law enforcement agencies represented here today are among the very best at intelligence gathering, and thank goodness they've already developed incredibly effective procedures for coordinating action on intelligence. This is how it should be, agencies working together smoothly to keep New Yorkers safe. I speak for Governor Hochul as well when I extend thanks to everybody in the law enforcement community who was involved with this, especially, as I said, the MTAPD officers, Fackner and Colasurdo. The governor would've been here today herself except, as everybody knows, she's grounded in Buffalo due to the epic snowfall. I know that there's nothing more important to Governor Hochul and to all of us here than safety.

In light of this incident and the attack in Colorado Springs on the LGBTQ nightclub, the governor has directed our state police who are represented here today to increase surveillance and protection for communities, like the Jewish community, that are at risk of hate crimes. That's an action that was already be taken. We will continue to work closely with our partners at the NYPD, the state police, and all local and federal law enforcement to keep our people safe. The MTA has never had a better relationship with City Hall and Albany, and that's because of the leadership at the top, Mayor Adams. Thank you for and your Police Department for everything you are doing to keep New Yorkers safe.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Thank you, CEO Lieber. Our final two speakers represent our Jewish community who are very vital in stopping this potential attack. First, we'll hear from Eric Goldstein, the CEO of the United Jewish Association Federation of New York.

Eric Goldstein, CEO, UJA-Federation of New York: Thank you very much, deputy mayor. And let me begin by thanking Mayor Adams. The Jewish community could not have a better friend. I want to also acknowledge the incredible work of NYPD, the FBI, MTA, and our own community security initiative. Thanks to their collective expertise, commitment, and cooperation, what might have been the next Pittsburgh or Poway synagogue massacre was averted. Specifically this past Friday, our community initiative professionals shared a lead with NYPD and FBI New York, and they immediately sprung into action. Within hours, their efforts led to the apprehension of two dangerous, fully armed men preparing for an attack on our Jewish community. New York City is home to 1.6 million Jews, the largest Jewish population of any city in the world.

In 2018, in the aftermath of the heinous 2018 attack on the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, we at UJA-Federation understood the need to invest in increasing security for the more than 2,000 vibrant Jewish communal institutions in New York. We launched the Community Security Initiative with JCRC New York, headed by Mitch Silber, the former head of NYPD Intelligence. Mitch and his now 12 person

team spend every waking moment working across the community to ensure our safety and they work hand-in-hand with the volunteers at CSS and our friends at ADL in this critical work.

Just this past Saturday, the director of the FBI said that the Jewish community is under threat, "From all sides," and that they quote, "Desperately need further support from law enforcement." Declaring that addressing growing antisemitism, is a national priority. Here in New York, we need to ensure that everything possible is being done to address the rising threat. That means every element of city and state government working in coordination, from intelligence and prevention to arrest and prosecution.

But let me be clear, the Jewish community of New York will continue to live proudly Jewish lives. We're immensely proud to live in this great City of New York and will remain vigilant and undaunted as we work together in the weeks and months ahead, to do all we can to ensure that antisemitism and hate have no home in New York and again, thank you Mayor Adams for your incredible work.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Finally, we will hear from Steve Weill from the Flatbush Shomrim Safety Patrol, which was vital in getting the word out during Shabbat about these two suspects.

Steve Weill, Flatbush Shomrim Safety Patrol: Good morning, thank you all for coming. Just two quick points I want to make. The first is that when we talk about teamwork with the community, the teamwork did not start this Saturday night. This teamwork did not start a week ago or two weeks ago. Probably a week after the mayor took office, he came to Brooklyn, he sat down with us, he sat down with Hatzalah, he sat down with Shomrim. And he has a deep understanding of what we do and he definitely reached his hand out and said any help that we will need at all, at any time, he will make every resource available and we've had many, many antisemitic attacks that have happened.

Not everything hits the news, but in each case, somebody from the mayor's office was involved, gave us guidance. The Police Department got involved and this is an unprecedented relationship that we have right now with the mayor's office, the Jewish community and the Police Department. And the information that flows, it's incredible that we can get such sensitive information and that they can have the trust in us, to relay that to the community in a calm manner and a professional manner.

My second point, which is just to talk about the actual incident. On Friday night, I got a call from the Inspector Richie Taylor and he advised me that there was a credible threat to the community. Within minutes, we came up with a plan that we were going to implement at 6 a.m., just in case. We didn't want to alarm the community, but we put a plan in place where hundreds of trained volunteers would reach all the synagogues and all the houses of worship in the areas and warn them. But we waited because we figured the agencies that are standing right here know who these suspects are and hopefully they will apprehend them by then and we would avoid alarming the community. And that's exactly what happened. I just want to say thank you again to the mayor and to the Police Department for all their support and we consider ourselves eyes and ears of the Police Department. We get a lot of sensitive information, which we pass on, and this teamwork is really what makes New York a special place. Thank you.

Deputy Mayor Banks: Thank you Steve. Now we're kicking to Fabien for on-topic Q&A.

Mayor Adams: And we just want to just keep in mind, this is an active investigation and we're not going to go into the details of any investigation. And my staff just updated me, the gun that we had was a serial hidden — serial number, but it wasn't a ghost gun. Let's open for any on-topic. Take a few on-topic.

Question: Governor Kathy Hochul says that she's providing resources to communities to help combat any potential threats, like state police. Are you guys working with her and what does that look like here in New York City?

Mayor Adams: Complete coordination with the governor's office. As we stated throughout the year, she has been an amazing partner, identifying the resources we need to combat all forms of violence. Thus far this year, we've removed over 6,500 guns off the street. This is one of them. This was a fully loaded gun and it's imperative that whatever resources we need, we communicate with the state police and she has been forthright, forthcoming in making sure we receive those resources.

Question: Do you have a specific number though? A specific number of state police who are here in the city to help with that?

Mayor Adams: Any given day, you see them taking the pressure off our New York City police personnel at the highways, dealing with other forms of law enforcement. And so the numbers could vary on who's exactly assigned in the New York City area.

Question: Could you walk us through the timing of when you received the tip, when you were contacted and, when the two men were apprehended and arrested?

Mayor Adams: I was notified immediately by the chief of the department. The FBI immediately when they determined that the threat was credible, it was sensitive information, they immediately notified our agencies and both the police commissioner and I were notified immediately. And the police commissioner directed the deployment of police personnel. Our number one priority was to apprehend the suspects as quick as possible.

Question: What time was that around?

Mayor Adams: It was probably some time... I didn't see my exact watch. It could have been probably 15, 20 minutes after the NYPD was notified. It was immediately after. It was during the evening hours. I know we were out at different events.

Question: Mr. Mayor, can you tell us anything about the location (inaudible)?

Mayor Adams: No, not at this time.

Question: Good morning. I wanted to ask, the two suspects, were they known previously to the FBI and NYPD and the second part is that they said that they were using Twitter to spread these messages (inaudible) white supremacist network on Twitter. Can someone speak about the role of Twitter and other social media sites spreading... This has gotten worse over the years or months, in terms of spreading this information, recruiting people, it seems and that sort of stuff.

Mayor Adams: Well, we're not going to go into if the individuals were known or not known. As the FBI and the DA office stated, it's still an active investigation and we don't do anything that's going to jeopardize that. But we will respond to the role of social media. We've talked about this often. The social media must become more responsible in the spreading of hate and organizing and allowing their platforms to be used as an organizing tool. We saw what happened in Buffalo. The individual involved was radicalized not by his parents, not by his family. They were radicalized by this new community that is really given life through social media. And it is time for social media to come to the table and reckon with the role that social media unintentionally is playing in the spreading of hate and people are using their platform to organize these hate campaigns.

Question: Mr. Mayor, over the last couple of years, New York has consistently led the nation in antisemitic attacks. What exactly is the NYPD and City Hall doing to either update the NYPD safety plan or (inaudible) task force? What are you guys doing to update the (inaudible)?

Mayor Adams: Well one, what we're doing is what we did today and that's why we're here, is coordination. And dealing with specifically antisemitism is not just a law enforcement issue. We need to stop the feeders of antisemitism. That is why we've partnered with the ADL and other organizations, the Anti-Defamation League and other organizations to say, "How do we create environments where hate cannot grow in our cities?" We're doing it in the Department of Education, we're doing it in collaborations with some of the organizations that are mentioned here with partnership — Rabbi, the Board of Rabbis, Rabbis Potasnik and others. We know we have to stop the feeder of hate in our cities, in all the different groups in this city. And then we must have a real law enforcement response. The commissioner immediately put new leadership over at the Hate Crime Unit because we wanted to be clear that if there are those who are using hate to target people in the city, we want those cases investigated, we want the people apprehended, and we want to make sure that they're prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Question: It would appear, mayor, that this was a very close call, the Jewish community here in New York. Can you characterize that for us?

Mayor Adams: We cannot take these cases lightly. Who would've thought what happened in Buffalo, an individual will take a weapon and walk into a supermarket. These are real threats, and we did not... I want to really take my hat off to the FBI, they did not take any chances here. They immediately notified the agencies in the city and allowed us to kick in gear the communication network that we've already had in place. That included some of the local security patrol, because we know during of Jewish religious observance, it is difficult to get communications out, and so to have the local security patrols able to put a plan in place to immediately notify before synagogues opened, that was a huge undertaking and something we can't miss. But to have a person armed, with have the means, the hate, and the desire to carry out a crime of this magnitude is serious. We averted that step.

Question: And if I could follow up also (inaudible) here, can you just give us a little more detail about the arrest and Penn Station, how that went down?

Lieber: The bottom line is that we were notified by the Police Department and by City Hall that this was underway, that this intelligence had been identified. And we put out through what they call a BOLO, Be On The Lookout, with a specific description of the suspects, notified based on the intel from the JTTF and the NYPD, notified our staff in Penn Station that they might be using the MTA transit system, especially the Long Island Railroad. And officers were deployed and ultimately acted on the description that had been provided through that BOLO, the Be On The Lookout information that came from NYPD and the JTTF.

Question: They had photos of the suspect?

Lieber: Yeah, they had full descriptions, and they were able to identify them from what they'd received from the other law enforcement.

Question: Mr. Mayor, you mentioned negative rhetoric by celebrities. In the past two days we've seen...

Mayor Adams: Hold on, hold on, hold on. Did you call in? Okay.

Question: You mentioned negative rhetoric by celebrities. In the past few days we've seen Kyrie return to the Nets, we've heard about Kanye being allowed to return to Twitter. Do you think either of these

celebrities should have been allowed to return to the respective platforms?

Mayor Adams: I don't own these platforms, and I don't want to specify particular cases because it's broader than the specific case. Social media, intentionally or unintentionally, social media has become a platform that is assisted with the organizing and the growth of hate in our country and on the globe, and they need to become more responsible.

Question: Do you think it's dangerous for either of them to have returned to Twitter?

Mayor Adams: No, I didn't say that either, I said I was not going to do a specific case. I'm talking about social media. Because social media is being used as a tool to spread hate. The young man in Buffalo, he was not an athlete, he was not an entertainer. He had access to a gun, and he took the lives of innocent people in the supermarket. And so I think we need to focus on the larger issue, and that's social media.

Question: On social media, given what you just said, do you think it was a good decision that Twitter made to reinstate Trump?

Mayor Adams: I don't know. Mike, are you at the same press conference? That was the question he asked. I think I don't control neither of those platforms. They must reckon with the fact that their platforms are being used to spread hate and violence. It has left a point of just spreading hate, it is now being used as a tool to spread violence, and they need to reckon with that.

Question: You mentioned that leading up to Hanukkah, more will be done to secure Jewish places of religion and worship. What specifically will we see, increased presence, or what else is going to happen to protect these institutions?

Mayor Adams: Well, there's a combination of things we do around the Hanukkah season normally and around the holiday season. From securing safety of our parades, to securing our houses of worship. But when you have an increase in attacks, what we saw in Colorado with the LGBTQ community and what you're seeing with threats like this, we're always concerned about copycats. And so there will be an increased presence. And the police commissioner would put out some clear directives through the chief of department on how we're going to secure our synagogues and other houses of worship.

Question: Hi Mr. Mayor. I'm wondering if you may confirm a report that Matthew Mahrer is Jewish and the grandson of a Holocaust survivor?

Mayor Adams: No. That's part of the investigation and I'm sure the DA's office and others will determine how that plays into this whole encounter. Okay?

Question: Can we hear from the officers who were there, who made the arrest?

Mayor Adams: Come on, where's the officers? Come on down. Thank you officers. I hear you, I got you.

(Applause.)

Question: Can you tell us what happened?

Ryan Fackner, Officer, MTAPD: We were just on patrol at Penn Station, like everybody was just repeating up here. It was a Joint Task Force. They put out the BOLO for the individual, Chris Brown, and they said he might have been traveling to the subway to Penn Station to take the Long Island Railroad.

We were up at 34th and Seventh, 34th Street and Seventh Avenue when we saw him actually walk in with his friend. They both walked in through the entrance, we followed him down the escalator, stopped him and made the arrest.

Question: Did they fight back at all?

Fackner: No, they were completely compliant... (Inaudible.) Mine? Ryan Fackner. Ryan Fackner.

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Exhibit BBB

Ye (Kanye West): What You Need to Know



Ye (formerly named Kanye West) Source: Michael Loccisano/Getty Images

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Since early October 2022, Ye – the highly influential artist, record producer, and fashion designer formerly known as Kanye West – has drawn media attention for inflammatory antisemitic and conspiratorial remarks. Ye made offensive claims about Jewish people and Jewish identity during an October 6 [interview](#) with Fox News’ Tucker Carlson. Over the next two days, Ye [shared](#) social media posts which insinuated that Jews are using their purported control to intimidate him and threatened to go “death con [sic] 3 On JEWISH PEOPLE.” Ye repeatedly doubled down on his antisemitic beliefs during subsequent interviews, including on Revolt TV’s “Drink Champs” on October 16, NewsNation’s “Cuomo” on October 17, TalkTV’s “Piers Morgan Uncensored” on October 19, and the “Lex Fridman Podcast” on October 24.

Ye has continued to express extensive antisemitism – including praising Adolf Hitler and promoting Holocaust denial. He has also engaged directly with prominent extremists, antisemites and conspiracy theorists. In November, Ye tapped white supremacist [Nick Fuentes](#) and bigoted right-wing provocateur [Milo Yiannopoulos](#) to work on his 2024 presidential campaign. Ye, Fuentes, and Yiannopoulos then drew widespread attention when they [dined with former President Trump](#) at his Mar-a-Lago residence. In December, Ye appeared on conspiracy theorist [Alex Jones](#)' InfoWars show, praising and citing extremists and bigots including anti-Muslim activist Laura Loomer, antisemitic conspiracy theorist [Owen Benjamin](#) and Nation of Islam leader [Louis Farrakhan](#). Later that month, Ye spoke with a prominent member of the [Israelite School of Universal Practical Knowledge \(ISUPK\)](#), an extremist sect of the [Black Hebrew Israelite movement](#), on Clubhouse.

Here's what you need to know about Ye's statements, his history of espousing controversial views and why they are concerning:

- **Ye's recent statements draw on longstanding antisemitic tropes and conspiracy theories about Jewish people.** For example, he promoted tropes about Jewish [power and control](#) – including in the entertainment industry, media, politics and business – as well as tropes about Jewish [greed](#) and the notion that Jewish people exploit and intimidate others for financial gain. Ye's generalizations about Jews is deeply offensive and perpetuates these harmful stereotypes.
- **Ye's comments also reflect beliefs espoused by fringe antisemitic religious groups, including extremist sects of the [Black Hebrew Israelite](#) movement and the [Nation of Islam](#).** Ye has claimed that Black people are “Jews” and “Semites” and therefore cannot be antisemitic. This is not a reference to the religion of Judaism or traditional understandings of Jewish ethnicity, but rather a belief found in [Black Hebrew Israelite ideology](#) which asserts that certain people of color are the true descendants of the biblical Israelites. Extremists use this

concept to promote antisemitism, claiming that Jewish people today are **imposters** who stole the religious heritage of Black people and are engaged in a global conspiracy to oppress non-Jewish people.

- **While there is no evidence that Ye views himself as a member of any organized extremist group, he has a longstanding and ongoing relationship with the Nation of Islam and its leader, Louis Farrakhan.** Ye visited the group's headquarters in Chicago to publicly express his support for their Millions More Movement in 2005 and **attended an event** that Farrakhan held in Los Angeles in 2015. Ye's 2015 song "All Day" includes a lyric which describes Farrakhan as "sensei." Ye has turned to Farrakhan when embroiled in antisemitism controversies on multiple occasions, including taking **Farrakhan's advice** not to apologize in 2013 when Ye was criticized for alleging that Jewish people are more well-connected than Black people. Ye cited Farrakhan on "Drink Champs" in 2022 and played a voicemail that Farrakhan reportedly recently sent him.
- **Beyond antisemitism, Ye is no stranger to controversy and has a history of making anti-Black, false, conspiratorial statements.** Ye's interview with Tucker Carlson on October 6 was itself a response to widespread criticism that Ye received following his **decision** to wear a shirt with the white supremacist slogan "White Lives Matter" at Paris Fashion Week. During his recent "Drink Champs" appearance, Ye **repeated the debunked claim** that George Floyd, who was murdered by police officer Derek Chauvin in 2020, died of fentanyl. In recent and past interviews, Ye frequently cited the **misleading claim** that abortion is the leading cause of death for Black Americans. **In 2018**, Ye stated that 400 years of slavery "sounds like a choice." He **drew criticism** again in 2018 when he called for the 13th Amendment to be abolished.
- **Known extremists and antisemites have embraced Ye's recent statements, leveraging his comments to further their own agendas.** For example, the Nation of Islam and extremist Black Hebrew Israelite sects have defended Ye's

statements about Black people and Jewish identity and used the opportunity to promote antisemitic claims and conspiracy theories. White supremacists have celebrated Ye for using his influential platform to “expose” Jews. Members of the extremist [Goyim Defense League](#) held a [demonstration](#) in Los Angeles on October 22, displaying a banner over Interstate 405 that read “KANYE IS RIGHT ABOUT THE JEWS” while giving Nazi salutes. [Proud Boys](#) members, [QAnon](#) adherents and other conspiracy theorists have also seized on [reports](#) that Ye may purchase the right-wing social media platform [Parler](#).

- **As an internationally recognizable celebrity whose work spans multiple industries, Ye’s comments are concerning not just because of their antisemitic content, but because of his immense influence.** Ye has nearly 50 million combined followers on Twitter and Instagram (for comparison, the global Jewish [population](#) is approximately 15 million). Ye is one of the [top-selling musical artists](#) of all time and, prior to Adidas [ending their partnership](#) with Ye on October 25, Ye’s [Yeezy line](#) accounted for between one and two billion dollars in annual sales for the company. In addition to being embraced by extremists, Ye’s comments advance the spread of antisemitic ideas in the mainstream.

Below are some of Ye’s recent statements about Jewish people and Jewish identity which play into antisemitic tropes or echo claims made by known antisemites and extremists:

Claims about Jewish Control of Media and Government

In many of his recent interviews, Ye repeatedly referenced purported Jewish control over various industries – he used the phrase “Jewish media” over twenty times on “Drink Champs” alone. Ye, seemingly using “Jews” and “Zionists” interchangeably in many instances, has also spoken about “Jewish Zionists,” “Zionist media handlers” and “Zionist control.” He made multiple references to prominent Jewish individuals,

including [George Soros](#) – the Hungarian Jewish billionaire, philanthropist and Holocaust survivor who is a frequent bogeyman for both avowed antisemites and the political right – and Jared Kushner, as supposed examples of Jewish power.

Ye's insinuations about Jewish control perpetuate the [longstanding antisemitic trope](#) that Jews wield an inordinate amount of power and exert control over global systems as part of a quest for world domination. These views are regularly promoted by extremists and antisemites of a wide variety of ideologies, from white supremacists and extremist Black nationalist groups to conspiracy theorists and Holocaust deniers.

- “Jared Kushner is an example of how the Jewish people have their hand on every single business that controls the world.” (Ye on “Drink Champs,” 10/16/22)
- “We’re not going to be owned by the Jewish media anymore...Every celebrity has Jewish people in their contract...And these people, if you say anything out of the line with the agenda, then your career can be over.” (Ye on “Cuomo,” 10/17/22)
- “Kim [Kardashian, Ye’s ex-wife] has Zionist media handlers surrounding her.” (Ye on “Piers Morgan Uncensored,” 10/19/22)
- “I said the Jewish people because, by the way, it’s a barrage...George Soros knows, like, ‘wow, this guy is like a younger guy that’s looking at what I did and looking at how I control the world silently and he’s calling it out’...That’s what George Soros sees, right, when he’s dealing with me.” (Ye on the “Lex Fridman Podcast,” 10/24/22)
- “The Zionist control – the 300 in control of the media and in control of the governments – they don’t want us to connect to each other...They want to separate and confuse the Christians and make us afraid to stand next to each other...The Zionists can get us so afraid that they’re gonna do what they’ve been

doing to me: attempting to put me in jail, freeze my accounts, smearing me on the media.” (Ye on “The Alex Jones Show” on InfoWars, 12/1/22)

- “Everyone is still controlled by the Jewish media.” (Ye on “The Alex Jones Show” on InfoWars, 12/1/22)
- “[Former President Obama] was actually just another Jewish president...Every president’s been Jewish since 1948.” (Ye on Clubhouse, 12/10/22)

Claims that Jews Exploit Black Artists for Financial Gain

Antisemitic tropes about alleged Jewish [power](#) and [greed](#) intersect in Ye’s comments about purported Jewish control of the music industry and exploitation of Black artists. This trope has been present in the discourse of other Black performers and activists in the past and is a common talking point within more extremist groups. Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, for example, [frequently](#) makes this accusation.

- “Jewish people have owned the Black voice...The Jewish community, especially in the music industry, in the entertainment [industry] period, they’ll take one of us, the brightest of us, right, that can really feed a whole village, and they’ll take us and milk us till we die.” (Ye on “Drink Champs,” 10/16/22)
- “There’s so many Black musicians signed to Jewish record labels and those Jewish records labels take ownership not only of the publishing...but also ownership of the culture itself...It’s like a modern-day slavery.” (Ye on “Cuomo,” 10/17/22)
- “I’ve been wronged so many times by Jewish businessmen...They’re taking money out of my children’s mouths and putting it into their children’s mouths!” (Ye on “Piers Morgan Uncensored,” 10/19/22)
- “90% of Black people in entertainment – from sports, to music, to acting – are in some way tied into Jewish businesspeople...Like if Rahm [Emanuel] is sitting next

to [President] Obama or Jared [Kushner] sitting next to [President] Trump, there's a Jewish person right there controlling the country, the Jewish people controlling who gets the best video or not, controlling what the media says about me." (Ye on the "Lex Fridman Podcast," 10/24/22)

- "The Armenians work in the meatpacking district and the Jews work in the n*****-packing district." (Ye on Clubhouse, 12/10/22)
- "I believe that Michael Jordan's dad was sacrificed. I believe—didn't something happen with Tiger Woods? My mom. These are all Zionist sacrifices that happened." (Ye on "The Alex Jones Show" on InfoWars, 12/1/22)

Claims that Jews Promote Harmful and Immoral Behaviors

Ye's assertions about supposed Jewish control of the entertainment industry and exploitation of Black artists overlap with the conspiratorial claims that known antisemites and extremists promote alleging that Jewish people seek to undermine other peoples and cultures. Abortion is a frequent area of focus for Ye, who has compared abortion to the Holocaust, spread false claims about abortion rates among Black people, and claimed that that Planned Parenthood was created as part of a collaboration between Margaret Sanger and the KKK in order to control the Black population.

These views are reminiscent of claims and [conspiracy theories](#) that have been promoted by antisemites and conspiracy theorists, such as the Nation of Islam and extremist Black Hebrew Israelite sects, who allege that there is a supposed "depopulation agenda" targeting Black people in the United States today. The notion of population control also connects to the broader ideology of these groups. While appearing on "Drink Champs" in 2022, Ye played a message that Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan reportedly sent him in response to recent events; Farrakhan can be heard speaking in the voicemail about [Yakub](#), the evil Black scientist who,

according to the Nation of Islam, allegedly created the white race from the “Original Black Man” thousands of years ago through a process of “grafting” and “birth control.”

- “Even the information put in our music, the toxicity put in our music. There’s nothing promoting the idea of a king taking care of a queen and then taking care of the future kings and the future queens. It’s just us talking about killing each other and Jewish people getting paid off it.” (Ye on “Drink Champs,” 10/16/22)
- “A Jewish friend of mine said, ‘come, go visit the Holocaust Museum.’ And my response was, ‘let’s visit our Holocaust museum: Planned Parenthood...Six million people died in the Holocaust. Over 20 million have died by the hands of abortion. And the media promotes the ‘my body, my choice,’ which is actually still a promotion for Planned Parenthood. 50% of Black deaths a year is actually abortion. It’s not the cop with the knee, it’s not Black on Black violence and gang violence, not heart attacks—it’s actually abortion...That’s what we deal with on our TVs right now with Black people. Soros would use Black trauma economy to win an election.” (Ye on the “Lex Fridman Podcast,” 10/24/22)
- “It’s genocide and population control that Black people are in today in America that is promoted by the music — and the media — that Black people make, that Jewish record labels get paid off of.” (Ye on the “Lex Fridman Podcast,” 10/24/22)
- “[Celebrities are not criticizing fashion company Balenciaga for allegedly exploiting children] because they work for the Jews. They’re celebrities; they’re in Hollywood; we’re in Jew-town. New York and California are both Jew-town...That’s who they work for.” (Ye on Clubhouse, 12/10/22)

Challenging Antisemitism Accusations

When challenged about his recent antisemitic statements, Ye has repeatedly claimed that the label of “antisemite” is used as a smear to silence critics or censor the truth, recalling the excuses that antisemites have made in a variety of historical and contemporary cases. Antisemites often position themselves as truth-tellers, whose mission it is to unmask nefarious Jewish behavior or a supposed insidious Jewish plot to take over the world. Facing accusations of antisemitism in October 2022, Ye repeatedly claimed that he was fulfilling a God-given mission to expose the alleged improper contract practices used in the entertainment industry, which he blames on Jewish people.

- “I crossed the antisemite line. I crossed the gun line. I stood in front of the tank in Tiananmen Square. I’m saying, ‘look, this smokescreen that’s been created to make us so afraid to speak up for ourselves, this is just a smokescreen.’” (Ye on “Drink Champs,” 10/16/22)
- “I don't like the term antisemitic. It's been a term that's allowed people, specifically in my industry, to get away with murder, sometimes literally, you know, and get away with robbing and doing bad.” (Ye on “Cuomo,” 10/17/22)
- “Antisemitism and the closeness of the Holocaust is used by certain individuals in media to not take accountability for the bad things that are happening.” (Ye on the “Lex Fridman Podcast,” 10/24/22)
- “Ultimately, I am fighting a battle in the spiritual form and anyone that believes in God and is looking at this interview would agree with that...These contracts need to be fixed. Everyone could be so mad at the messenger, right? ‘Ye, you said it the wrong way. You’re offensive. You’re like Hitler now because you said it, you said this out loud, you weren't getting enough sleep.’ But all this shit does not negate the fact that we do have – Houston, we have a problem.” (Ye on the “Lex Fridman Podcast,” 10/24/22)

- “We got this word that has now been dispelled called ‘antisemitism.’ Netanyahu: the word doesn’t work anymore. I destroyed the word. It can’t be used.” (Ye on Clubhouse, 12/10/22)

Questioning Jewish Identity

In recent interviews and on social media, Ye has expressed the belief that Black people are Jews. These statements echo [Black Hebrew Israelite](#) ideology, which claims that Black people are the true descendants of the biblical Israelites. BHI adherents reject Judaism and are not the same as Black Jews or Jews of color. This type of rhetoric is also commonly espoused by members of the [Nation of Islam](#).

Some BHI sects are [explicitly antisemitic and extremist](#) and describe members of the mainstream Jewish community as “imposters” who stole the religious heritage of Black people. Extremist BHI and NOI adherents frequently emphasize that the “-ish” suffix of “Jewish,” both verbally and in writing, as an indication that those people who identify as Jewish and practice the religion of Judaism today are usurpers and not “[true Jews](#).” Ye’s defense that he cannot be antisemitic because Black people are Semites or Jews is an argument that BHI and NOI adherents also regularly employ when they are accused of antisemitism.

- “When I say ‘Jew,’ I mean the 12 lost tribes of Judah, the blood of Christ... the people known as the race ‘Black’ [sic], really are.” (Ye on “Tucker Carlson Tonight,” 10/6/22)
- “We are Semite, we Jew [sic], so I can’t be antisemite [sic].” (Ye on “Drink Champs,” 10/16/22)
- “Black people are also Jew [sic], I classify as Jew also, so I actually can’t be an antisemite.” (Ye on “Cuomo,” 10/17/22)

- “I’m Jew, not Jewish. Jew-ish means ‘like that of a Jew.’ I’m saying I’m Jew [sic].” (Ye on the “Lex Fridman Podcast,” 10/24/22)
- “We are ‘the Jew’ and they are ‘Jew-ish’: like that of a Jew.” (Ye on Clubhouse, 12/10/22)

Engaging in Holocaust Denial and Trivialization

During his December 1 appearance on InfoWars, Ye repeatedly professed his admiration for Adolf Hitler and Nazis. He also [disputed the facts of the Holocaust](#) and compared his deplatforming to the experience of Jews in the Holocaust. He has made similar statements about Hitler and the Holocaust in other interviews.

- “[The Nazis] did good things too. We gotta stop dissing Nazis all the time...The Jewish media has made us feel like the Nazis and Hitler have never offered anything of value to the world.” (Ye on “The Alex Jones Show” on InfoWars, 12/1/22)
- “[The Nazis] didn’t kill 6 million Jews; that’s just, like, factually incorrect.” (Ye on “The Alex Jones Show” on InfoWars, 12/1/22)
- “There’s Jewish people that are basically hiding me under their floorboards right now – under the wooden floors. It’s like a reverse version of the Holocaust.” (Ye on “The Alex Jones Show” on InfoWars, 12/1/22)
- “The Holocaust is not what happened. Let’s look at the facts of that. And Hitler has a lot of redeeming qualities.” (Ye on “The Alex Jones Show” on InfoWars, 12/1/22)

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Exhibit CCC

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OPINION | LETTERS [Follow](#)

Kanye and Kyrie Spread Farrakhan's Bigotry

We no longer have the option to ignore it, writes Abe Foxman.

Nov. 10, 2022 12:58 pm ET



Kanye West, the rapper and mogul, at the White House, Oct. 11, 2018. PHOTO: KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

I agree with Abe Greenwald that it is absurd to call the anti-Semitism coming from Louis Farrakhan “white supremacy” (“Kanye West, Louis Farrakhan and the Jews,” Houses of Worship, Nov. 4). During my 50 years at the Anti-Defamation League, we frequently exposed and challenged Mr. Farrakhan’s anti-Semitism, calling him the most prominent black anti-Semite in the modern era.

The ADL described Mr. Farrakhan as one who “frequently denies that Jews have a legitimate claim to their religion and to the land of Israel, claiming that Judaism is nothing more than a ‘deceptive lie’ and a ‘theological error’ promoted by Jews to further their supposed control over America’s government and economy.” He preached black pride and anti-Semitism at rallies, in houses of worship, on radio, on TV and in print. But whenever we condemned it, we were

told by black and white leaders to ignore him, as he was fringe, without influence. They wouldn't condemn him, of course, arguing that his message of black pride was more important.

Today, we are witnessing this policy's poisoned fruit. Kanye West and Kyrie Irving have absorbed this anti-Semitism and now spread it as their own message. While Mr. Farrakhan no longer commands the numbers he once had for his hate, Messrs. West and Irving do it for him, poisoning the minds of some young blacks who see them as role models. The time has come for civil-rights leadership, black and white, to exorcise this anti-Semitism from civil discourse. We no longer have the option to ignore it.

Abraham Foxman

Bergen County, N.J.

Mr. Foxman is national director emeritus of the ADL.

Appeared in the November 11, 2022, print edition as 'Kanye and Kyrie Spread Farrakhan's Bigotry'.

Exhibit CCC-1

Extremists Face Arrests, Uncertain Future Following January 6 Insurrection



Joseph Prezioso via Getty Images

Published: 02.17.2021

February 17, 2021

It's been more than a month since a horde of [extremists forced their way into the U.S. Capitol](#), protesting the outcome of a national election and intent on disrupting a time-honored democratic process. At least five people died during the violent attack, including one Capitol Police officer.

ADL's Center on Extremism (COE) has identified 212 of the roughly 800 individuals who are believed to have breached the building on January 6. The emerging snapshot of the insurrectionists shows a [range of right-wing extremists](#) united by their fury with the perceived large-scale betrayal by "unprincipled" Republican legislators.

Of the 212 individuals identified by COE, 52 (or 25 percent) have ties to known right-wing extremist groups, including [Oath Keepers](#) (six people), [Proud Boys](#) (17), [Groypers](#) and other white supremacists (10) and the [QAnon](#) conspiracy theory (14). A number of Proud Boys members and Oath Keepers have [been charged with conspiracy in connection](#) with the January 6 insurrection. A conspiracy charge means the government believes these individuals agreed to engage in criminal activity that day.

The remaining 75 percent are considered part of the [new pro-Trump extremist movement](#), a decentralized but enthusiastic faction made up of self-described "patriots" who continue to pledge their fidelity to the former President.

According to the current ADL data, at least 38 states and the District of Columbia are represented among the insurrectionists, demonstrating the national reach of disinformation and propaganda that fueled the January 6 attack. The country's five most

populous states (TX, CA, NY, FL and PA) accounted for 41% of the total individuals ADL has identified in the attack, with the most hailing from California and Texas.

President Biden's inauguration gave many of these groups a new focus. Weeks later, how are they responding to the dawning reality and permanence of Donald Trump's loss and departure? What can we expect from them in the coming months?

Proud Boys

[Proud Boys](#) were disproportionately represented in the Capitol siege demographic, and at least three members, Nicholas Ochs, [William Pepe](#) and [Dominic Pezzola](#), have been charged with conspiracy in [connection with the insurrection](#). On February 11th, five additional people associated with the Proud Boys -- [William Chrestman](#), [Louis Enrique Colon](#), [Christopher Kuehne](#), [Felicia Konold](#), [Cory Konold](#) -- were arrested on charges that they conspired with others to obstruct an official proceeding before Congress.

The group has been going through a rough patch in the weeks since January 6th. Members share other right-wing groups' fury with the Republican party; a growing number of members appear to support a "third way" or alternative party.

In late January, Proud Boys leader [Enrique Tarrío was exposed](#) as an informant, news that elicited both stubborn support and furious rejection from fellow Proud Boys. Chapters in Oklahoma, Alabama, Nevada and Indiana have broken from the main group, citing Tarrío's reported betrayal.

Tarrío denies these allegations on his Telegram channel, claiming the reporting is just a media "clickbait" tactic to distract from the "real" issues of fake news, BLM, and antifa.

The anger and confusion around the Tarrío revelations has prompted some to call for change in leadership, and some Proud Boys are now fighting over control of the group's trademarked name.

"Whites MUST have their own declared ethnostates," announced a February 9, 2021, post on the racist, antisemitic "Proud Goys" Telegram channel linked to [Kyle "Based Stickman,"](#) a violent felon who hopes to help move the Proud Boys [towards a more extreme ideology](#).

A January 19 post on the Proud Goys channel reads, "The Biden presidency will usher in a new age of tyranny for White Americans and Whites worldwide. The FBI has become a plaything of the radical left and they're on a maniacal witch hunt for non-conformist right-wing white people. These satanic neo-liberal elites see Trump supporters as the last vestige of White America standing up for its own interests."

Tarrío has pushed back against this narrative several times. In 2019, he wrote on Telegram, "Dontcha get tired of blaming everything on the jews?... It gets old bruh." In August 2020, Tarrío decried the racism on the Proud Goys channel: "Telegram is full of extremist right (racists against blacks, haters of jews and lovers of all thing nazi, [all sic] and homophobic) most of them deserve to be banned from other platforms."

In late January, a user on the ProudBoysUncensored Telegram channel, a popular offshoot channel known for its racist and antisemitic content – which boasts 15,000 subscribers and is often picked up by Proud Boys chapters – posted this argument in favor of embracing the Proud Boys’ most xenophobic and bigoted tendencies: “The traditions of our culture must be preserved. We reject multiculturalism. We are not a ‘melting pot.’ Western nations have been widely recognized as multicultural societies. This is a lie told by those who wish to destroy us. Europeans are the architects of Western culture and we will honor our forefathers by rejecting the degradation of our culture in the name of tolerance.”

QAnon

Followers of [QAnon](#)—the sprawling conspiracy theory that has infected American discourse --are grasping for meaning in a post-Trump world. QAnon was tightly tethered to a Trump presidency, casting the former president as the ultimate hero who would use his executive [powers to unleash a “storm”](#) of justice on a Deep State cabal of pedophiles and child traffickers. On January 20, 2021, former President Trump departed the White House for Florida, leaving the theory in tatters, and a painful online reckoning in his wake.

Today, some followers of QAnon are looking for scapegoats; some are calling it quits. Others remain convinced the “[The Plan](#)” will reveal itself on March 4, 2021, when Trump will be inaugurated once again.

These claims are circulating across platforms, promoted primarily by QAnon and “Patriot” accounts. COE has found content related to March 4 Inauguration conspiracies on Telegram, CloutHub, Rumble, Gab, MeWe, Minds, thedonald.win and Twitter.

The conspiracy is rooted in an element of historical truth: Prior to Franklin Roosevelt’s second term, inaugurations were held on March 4th, which allowed lawmakers more time to count electoral votes and to travel to and from the nation’s capital. The conspiracy also holds that Donald Trump will stay in office until 2028, that this plan was designed by President Trump, Mike Pompeo, General Flynn and John F. Kennedy Jr. (who is apparently alive), and that the military is currently controlling the country because of the Insurrection Act of 1807.

While QAnon supporters have posted scattered calls for national rallies, there is no indication of coordinated mobilization.

Anti-government Extremists (Oath Keepers, Three Percenters)

At least nine people associated with the Oath Keepers have been [charged](#) with conspiracy in connection with the January 6 attack, with prosecutors alleging that the defendants coordinated to travel to Washington, D.C., breach the Capitol and disrupt the certification of the 2020 election. Seven of the defendants were visible wearing combat gear and participating in a tactical “stack” as they moved through the crowd towards the Capitol.

Despite this clear evidence of involvement, the [militia movement](#) has by and large not reckoned with the role their conspiratorial beliefs and violent rhetoric played in the leadup to the insurrection. Instead, many simply dismiss the events of January 6th as the work of antifa or a false flag operation. Meanwhile, they are doubling down on conspiracies that the election was stolen and that the Biden administration is a nefarious entity seeking to destroy the American way of life.

These claims signal the return of the militia movement's traditional animosity towards the federal government – which they largely downplayed during the Trump administration.

In the aftermath of the insurrection, the Three Percenters - Original, one of the largest [Three Percenter](#) organizations, distanced itself from Guy Reffitt, Ian Rogers and Robert Gieswein – participants in the Capitol siege who are linked to the Three Percenter movement – and denounced the storming of the Capitol. Ultimately on February 21, the group announced that it would be dissolving immediately in response to the negative attention that the Three Percenter movement garnered in the wake of the Insurrection. In a statement, the group stated that it no longer shares the same values as other Three Percenter groups and they complained that the media did not differentiate between the various Three Percenter groups, which left “all of the fingers constantly pointing towards us.”

[Oath Keepers](#) founder Stewart Rhodes, meanwhile, has accused President Biden of being a Chinese puppet, drawing parallels between the Biden administration and the British government at the time of the American Revolution, calling it an “occupying enemy force.” Prior to January 6, Rhodes warned that if President Trump did not invoke the Insurrection Act, the Oath Keepers and others would have to fight a “bloody horrible civil war.” Rhodes has persisted with this violent rhetoric, encouraging people to declare the administration illegitimate, unite in mass nullification and noncompliance, and prepare their communities for the moment when “they come for you.”

On February 9, a North Carolina news outlet [reported](#) that the state's Oath Keepers chapter had disbanded its branch, with its leader, Doug Smith, citing the events of January 6 and disagreements regarding the national organization's stances in the wake of the 2020 election. Smith says the group is planning to reorganize and rebrand under a different name.

Groyper/America First

The events of January 6 left leaders of the white supremacist [Groyper](#), or “[America Firsters](#),” furious with the Republican Party and major tech companies. The Groyper, young white men who promote American nationalism alongside racist and antisemitic views, espouse that the Republican party betrayed Trump and his supporters. They have expressed particular anger with former Vice President Mike Pence because he refused to challenge the 2020 election results, and with the GOP more generally for allowing Trump supporters to be arrested and “persecuted.” They are currently channeling their frustrations by pledging to help destroy the Republican party.

While some Groyper-related revenue streams have been cut off, others remain. [Groyper leader Nick Fuentes](#) and the Red Elephants' Vincent James, who is also an America Firster, have both been de-platformed by DLive, a livestreaming site that brought in a sizable amount of money for both. Fuentes, however, is billed as the keynote speaker for the America First Political Action Conference on February 26 in Orlando, Florida.

There now appears to be tension between leaders of the Groyper movement. On a February 11 livestream video, Patrick Casey, another Groyper leader and former head of the now-defunct white supremacist [American Identity Movement](#), criticized Fuentes, saying that the conference in Florida should not be held since Fuentes and other Groyper who attended the January 6 event were under scrutiny and vulnerable to possible informants and FBI surveillance. Before the fallout, Casey had urged patience. He wrote on Telegram on January 23, “I maintain that Trump was the beginning, not the end. What was set into

motion in 2016 will culminate in our eventual victory—we just have to be patient, as we really haven't a clue how things will play out."

Pro-Trump Extremists

As noted above, people with ties to known extremist groups made up 25 percent of the 212 insurrectionists identified by the Center on Extremism.

This means the other 75 percent, or roughly 160 people, were not roused to violent action on January 6 by the leader of any one extremist group. They are the product of weeks and months and years of incitement, lies and repeated (and repeatedly disproved) conspiracy theories. They are a new breed of extremist, one foundationally animated by devotion to President Trump, placing him over party or country. They are living in an entire ecosphere of disinformation, lies and conspiracy theories, fertilized by [Alex Jones](#), the former President and his enablers, and many others.

This extremist ideology continues to thrive online, as adherents build "Patriot" pages where they can broadcast lies about a stolen election and plan for a new "Patriot Party" to counteract the "treachery" of the Republican legislators who refused to bow to a mob.

In recent weeks, many of those same public officials have come under attack; politicians and their families have been targeted with violent death threats. Their offices have been vandalized, and their private residences subjected to harassment online and by phone.

Pro-Trump extremists appear to target members of both parties, but they currently have a special ire for Republicans. Former Vice President Mike Pence has been called a "traitor" and "Judas" online, and on January 6, pro-Trump extremists chanted, "Hang Mike Pence" as they ransacked the U.S. Capitol.

This loose collection of individuals could be a significant factor in the extremism landscape for months – if not years—to come.

This post was updated on February 24, 2021

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Exhibit GGG



ADL Tracker™

This tracker provides latest news, trends and developments in antisemitism and related activity (some articles are not independently verified).

The ADL Tracker informs the public in near real-time of the latest developments in antisemitism and other related activity across the U.S. and abroad. While this feed is not exhaustive, it does intend to capture the volume and diversity of incidents and trends developing. This tracker does not focus on other forms of hate unless the issue at hand also directly intersects with antisemitism.

To view the ADL Tracker, follow us
@ADL_TRACKER

Users can find more comprehensive statistics on antisemitic incidents using **ADL's H.E.A.T. Map**, which is updated monthly with incidents from the Tracker, among other sources. Information about how ADL selects incidents for the H.E.A.T. Map can be found [here](#).

Additional Tools to Track Hate



Navigate the ADL H.E.A.T. Map

Get informed through ADL's breakthrough visualization of incidents of hate, extremism, antisemitism and terrorism by state and nationwide.



Report an Incident

Contact us to report an antisemitic, bias or discriminatory incident you have experienced or witnessed. We need your help as, together, we work toward making our communities and country a safer place for all.



Read our Audit of Antisemi Incidents

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Exhibit HHH

BACKGROUND

About the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism

Published: 02.19.2021

What is the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism?

In 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), which includes the United States, formally adopted the [IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism](#) (“the IHRA Definition”). The IHRA Definition, initially published by a European Union agency in 2005, has been used by the U.S. State Department since 2010 and is sometimes referred to as the State Department’s Working Definition of Antisemitism.

The definition states:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

Accompanying the IHRA Definition are eleven examples that “may serve as illustrations” of how antisemitism manifests contemporaneously, ranging from age-old anti-Jewish tropes, to Holocaust denial, to certain expressions of animus toward the Jewish State of Israel that may at times cross the line into antisemitism. These examples are important, because while certain longstanding myths animating antisemitism have stood the test of millennia, manifestations of antisemitism do change, sometimes significantly, over time and place. It is important to provide guidance built on the knowledge of experts in the field, as well as the lived experience of large segments of the Jewish population.

How Should the IHRA Definition Be Used?

The IHRA Definition is intended to be utilized as non-legally binding guidance and education for a range of stakeholders including law enforcement, campus administrators and other institutions and entities to better enable them to identify antisemitism and gather and analyze relevant data. As explained by Katharina von Schnurbein, European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism: “[N]on-legally binding in its nature, the working definition is helpful in public discourse as well as training for media, educators and public authorities, without impeding the legal right to freedom of speech.”

Today, governments, campus administrators, law enforcement bodies and civil society organizations around the world all use the IHRA Definition as an important tool to help educate on anti-Jewish bias, help assess claims of antisemitism, assist in identifying whether a crime might also be categorized as a hate crime targeting Jews, and aid in determining – again, taking into consideration the relevant facts and circumstances – whether certain conduct adversely affecting an individual or group may constitute antisemitic discrimination under an existing law or code.

Why is the IHRA Definition Important?

The IHRA Definition is an important tool for education and guidance on antisemitism. As antisemitic incidents have increased worldwide, governments and civil society have sought ways to speak out against antisemitism and ensure that there is awareness of its real-life manifestations and impact. The definition should not be viewed as a substitute or replacement for existing laws. It is not a “charging authority.” Nonetheless, it is critical as guidance.

As the world’s leading organization fighting antisemitism and hate in all forms, ADL supports the use of the IHRA Definition by various stakeholders as a non-legally binding reference point, or tool, that can provide guidance for educational and assessment purposes.

Does the IHRA Definition Undermine Free Speech or Prohibit Criticism of Israel?

The IHRA Definition text clearly states: “criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic.” Moreover, it is important to note that some of the examples of antisemitism included in the IHRA Definition, particularly those related to Israel, are protected speech under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. That means that government may not prohibit such speech or abridge it, including by conditioning penalties upon its exercise or benefits upon its suppression.

The value of the IHRA Definition as a resource is to offer a better understanding of why certain speech, while not unlawful, nevertheless may constitute antisemitism that is offensive, intolerant and harmful. As the definition highlights, whether such speech is antisemitic often depends upon specific context and other factors.

ADL does not support the adoption and application of the IHRA Definition in a manner that would create new categories of legally prohibited speech that are subjected to either civil or criminal penalties. ADL believes that aggressive and inappropriate applications of the IHRA Definition in such a manner could have the unintended consequence of undermining efforts to engage and educate on antisemitism and to build alliances to fight antisemitism and all forms of hate.

How Can Using the IHRA Definition be Helpful for American Institutions?

The IHRA Definition is one important tool that government, educational authorities and civil society institutions can use to illustrate, and thus help identify, contemporary examples of antisemitic expressions that not everyone may realize play on longstanding and deeply harmful anti-Jewish tropes or other forms of animus towards the Jewish religion or Jewish people.

Specific examples of how [European governments and civil society](#) constructively have utilized the IHRA working definition can be instructive for American institutions, which also can use them as reference points and guides in educating and assessing antisemitism within their own organizations and beyond.

ADL encourages the use of the IHRA Definition by the U.S. Government to help determine when existing laws may be violated in ways that are antisemitic, such as when a crime may be a hate crime that targets Jews, or when an adverse action may constitute discrimination against Jews. However, applying the IHRA Definition must be done in a careful and appropriate manner in order to ensure that doing so protects civil rights under existing law and does not undermine them.

Is the IHRA Definition Necessary for Combating Antisemitism?

The IHRA Definition is one tool, albeit an important one, to use to identify and combat antisemitism. However, it is not a substitute for more nuanced expertise on antisemitism, nor does its use preclude consulting other definitions. Its use by institutions must not be treated as a replacement for instituting comprehensive education programs, building of good-faith alliances to fight antisemitism and all forms of hate, and other such initiatives.

Exhibit JJJ

About Simon Wiesenthal

About the Simon Wiesenthal Center

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Statement

Simon Wiesenthal Center

Officers

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News

Archives and Reference

Library

Traveling Exhibitions

About the Simon Wiesenthal Center

THE SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER

www.wiesenthal.com

The [Simon Wiesenthal Center](#) is a global Jewish human rights activist organization that confronts anti-Semitism, hate, defends the safety of Israel and Jews worldwide, and teaches the lessons of the Holocaust for future generations through its advocacy and education programs, investigations, research, reporting, media, films, and museums. Headquartered in Los Angeles the SWC has an international footprint with offices in New York, Chicago, Miami, Toronto, Paris, Jerusalem, and Buenos Aires, is an accredited Non-Governmental Organization at the United Nations, UNESCO, the Organization of American States, the Latin American Parliament, and the Council of Europe, and maintains relationships with the highest levels of governments throughout the world.

MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE - LOS ANGELES

www.museumoftolerance.com

The Museum of Tolerance Los Angeles, the educational arm of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, challenges visitors to confront bigotry, anti-Semitism, and hate and to understand the Holocaust in both historic and contemporary contexts. Since opening in 1993, the Museum has hosted over 7.5 million visitors. More than 3.5 million children and youth have participated in the Museum experience and its programs, and almost 200,000 adults have been trained in the Museum's customized professional development programs over the last 20 years.

MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE - JERUSALEM

www.motj.com

The Simon Wiesenthal Center has helped develop and create the Museum of Tolerance Jerusalem, scheduled to open in 2024, a 185,000-square-foot campus that celebrates the vibrancy of Israel's democracy by promoting universal respect and co-existence as well as dealing with the vital issues of our times.

MORIAH FILMS

www.moriahfilms.com

[Moriah Films](#) is the storytelling arm and two-time Academy Award®-winning film division of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. It has produced 17 documentaries that have examined the tragedy of the Holocaust, seminal events in modern Jewish history, the creation of the State of Israel and the lives of epic personalities of the 20th and 21st centuries. Moriah Films' in-house production studio is a state-of-the-art film, video, and sound editing facility using the latest and most cutting-edge technology available in the industry. Over one billion people around the globe have seen Moriah's films, including Oscar® winners Genocide and The Long Way Home, in theaters, on cable, and on every major streaming platform, including Netflix, Amazon Prime and Apple TV.

Moriah's films have been narrated by some of the most talented and distinguished names in the entertainment industry, many of them Academy Award®-winners: Elizabeth Taylor, Orson Welles, George Clooney, Sandra Bullock, Morgan Freeman, Michael Douglas, Nicole Kidman, Dustin Hoffman, Sir Ben Kingsley, Whoopi Goldberg, Anne Bancroft, Michael York, Sir Patrick Stewart, Kevin Costner, Martin Landau, Brooke Shields, Christoph Waltz, and others. The Simon Wiesenthal Center thanks these dedicated actors who have generously donated their talents for four decades.

BIOS

[Jim Berk, Chief Executive Officer](#)

[Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Associate Dean & Director, Global Social Action Agenda](#)

[Rabbi Meyer H. May, Executive Director](#)

[Rabbi Marvin Hier - Founder & Dean Emeritus](#)

[Simon Wiesenthal Center Board of Trustees](#)

Simon Wiesenthal Center Employment Opportunities:

<https://wiesenthal.bamboohr.com/careers>

Simon Wiesenthal Center's Programs and Services:

Over the last year, the programs and services provided by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, including its Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles have impacted greatly on people the world over.

Forging Interfaith Partnerships: The Simon Wiesenthal Center continues its work with its peace partners around the globe, including most recently in the UAE, Bahrain, Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Sudan, and Turkey, as well as in Israel, to develop additional joint programming and projects to deepen and expand on the Abraham Accords. The SWC delegations, led by Rabbi Marvin Hier, have met with Jordan's King Abdullah in Amman, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed in the UAE, global business leader Mohamed Ali Alabbar and Bahrain's King Hamad.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center has been a trailblazer in interfaith and multifaith work for four decades. Its outreach has included six SWC Papal audiences with three Popes in the Vatican; the Dalai Lama's visit to the Museum of Tolerance (MOT); numerous partnerships with Indian spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar; as well as with other religious leaders in Africa, throughout Asia and in the Arab world. Helping pave the way for the historic Abraham Accords in 1995, a visit by Jordan's King Hussein and Queen Noor made history by becoming the first Arab leaders to visit a Jewish American museum – the Museum of Tolerance.

Moriah Films is the two-time Academy Award®-winning film division of the Simon Wiesenthal Center which has produced the most significant collection of documentaries on the epic events that have shaped modern Jewish history. Moriah's latest film *Never Stop Dreaming: The Life and Legacy of Shimon Peres*, narrated by two-time Academy Award®-winner George Clooney, is now streaming on Netflix. Highlighting Israel's ninth President, two-time Prime Minister, and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, the documentary is culled from more than 50 hours of interviews with President Peres conducted by Moriah's Academy Award®-winner Richard Trank. *Never Stop Dreaming* features interviews with Presidents Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Barbra Streisand.

David Ben-Gurion, Israel's founder and its first Prime Minister is the subject of the 17th production from Moriah Films. The latest production features Israel's longest-serving Prime Minister, who devoted his life to the creation of the State of Israel. Richard Trank takes a deep dive into Ben-Gurion's life, work, family, and the passion that drove him to create the Jewish State. Moriah is certain this riveting film will also be acquired by a major streaming service.

A cultural and educational icon in the city of Los Angeles, millions of visitors have experienced the **Museum of Tolerance's** cutting-edge exhibits, landmark professional development programs customized for youths to adults, as well as special events including film screenings, author series, and onstage performances.

The newest addition to the Museum of Tolerance, the Nelson and Claudia Peltz Social Lab, made possible by the State of California, is an innovative 10,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art installation which confronts major domestic and international issues facing society today. Cutting-edge technology and provocative new exhibits examine pressing topics ranging from hate and anti-Semitism, LGBTQ+ issues, racism, climate change, homelessness, immigration, policing, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

A new permanent interactive exhibit reveals the horrors inflicted on the world as a result of the Wannsee Conference that took place on January 20, 1942, where 15 high-ranking Nazis officials, eight of them PhDs, unanimously decided to annihilate Europe's entire Jewish population. The exhibition examines the officials who devised the so-called "Final Solution of the Jewish Question," as well as the heroes of the Holocaust, brave individuals who risked their lives to stand up to Nazi terror.

The **Museum of Tolerance Jerusalem**, currently under construction and scheduled open in 2023 has been praised by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as “very distinctive and elegant – a beautiful fit for the city of Jerusalem,” the Museum will deal with the vital issues of the 21st century and celebrate the vibrancy of Israel’s democracy.

For close to three decades, the Simon Wiesenthal Center’s **Digital Terrorism + Hate project** releases an annual report giving a comprehensive overview of social media and online communication platforms. The 2022 Digital Digital Terrorism + Hate report demonstrates the widespread proliferation of hate messaging and the marketing and distribution of hate, including from Russian disinformation and fake news sites; conspiracy theories; the targeting of LGBTQ+ and minority communities; anti-Semitic, racist, and xenophobic hate messaging; and the infiltration of children’s gaming platforms by neo-Nazis and other extremists

InMotion Magazine, the Simon Wiesenthal Center’s publication which is sent to the Center’s members as well as government officials, and members of the media. *InMotion* details the Center’s vast social action agenda and its programs throughout the world.

SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER, INC. AND AFFILIATE			
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position			
June 30, 2022			
(With comparative totals for year ended June 30, 2021)			
	Assets	2022	2021 (as restated)
	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 16,914,324	15,772,203
	Restricted cash and cash equivalents	74,208	465,035
	Investments	9,735	10,196
	Restricted investments	357,097	—
	Other receivables	2,674,386	1,284,592
	Pledges receivable, net	2,058,154	2,753,772
	Inventory	239,995	296,860
	Related party receivable	31,477,790	30,739,530
	Property and equipment, net	25,805,337	28,404,000
	Other assets	3,150,791	2,761,135
	Total assets	\$ 82,761,817	82,487,323
	Liabilities and Net Assets		
	Liabilities:		
	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,812,944	2,208,514
	Deferred revenue	987,452	522,748
	Note payable	8,340,224	8,647,196
	Paycheck Protection Program Loan	180,104	3,019,695
	Term loan note	25,000,000	25,000,000
	Total liabilities	37,320,724	39,398,153
	Net assets:		
	Without donor restrictions	44,275,937	41,455,495
	With donor restrictions	1,165,156	1,633,675
	Total net assets	45,441,093	43,089,170
	Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 82,761,817	82,487,323
See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.			

Contact Information

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Donor Privacy Policy](#)

[Audited Financial Statement \(PDF\)](#)

Exhibit JJJ-1

Moriah: A Film Company Like No Other



The Simon Wiesenthal Center was a pioneer in creating Moriah Films, whose purpose is to continue to produce quality, award-winning documentaries on the epic events of the 20th and 21st centuries – events that shaped and redefined modern Jewish history.

In 1980, recognizing the impact of films, Rabbi Marvin Hier, the Center's Founder and Dean assembled a team that began working on a documentary on the Holocaust. That film, *Genocide*, narrated by Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Welles, was the first documentary on the Holocaust to win an Academy Award®. Rabbi Hier became the first Rabbi to both win an Oscar® and be invited to be a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. *Genocide* launched what became the Simon Wiesenthal Center's film division, Moriah Films.

In 1997, Rabbi Hier and Richard Trank Writer/Director and Executive Producer of Moriah Films, won the Academy Award® for *The Long Way Home*, making it Rabbi Hier's second Oscar®.

Two Academy Award Wins

Two of Moriah's films have been the recipients of Academy Awards® for Best Documentary Feature.



In 1981, **Genocide**, narrated by Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Welles, was the first documentary on the Holocaust to receive an Academy Award® which *The New York Times* called “chilling and forceful” and *Newsweek* said was “unforgettable”.

Moriah's 1998 Academy Award® winner, **The Long Way Home**, narrated by Morgan Freeman, was called “superb ... masterful ... offers epic dimension”, by *Los Angeles Times* while *The New York Times* wrote it was “staggeringly powerful”.



Distinguished Narrators: A Who's Who of Hollywood Talent

Moriah films have been narrated by some of the most talented and distinguished names in the entertainment industry, many of them Academy Award®- winners: Elizabeth Taylor, Orson Welles, George Clooney, Sandra Bullock, Morgan Freeman, Michael Douglas, Nicole Kidman, Dustin Hoffman, Sir Ben Kingsley, Whoopi Goldberg, Anne Bancroft, Michael York, Sir Patrick Stewart, Kevin Costner, Martin

Landau, Miriam Margolyes, Brooke Shields, Christoph Waltz and others. These actors, have generously donated their talents to Moriah Films.



Involvement from Entertainment Industry Leaders

From its inception, the Simon Wiesenthal Center has had close ties to the entertainment industry starting with Frank Sinatra and Elizabeth Taylor in 1977, both of whom were Simon Wiesenthal Center Board Members.

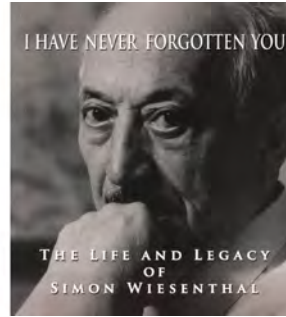
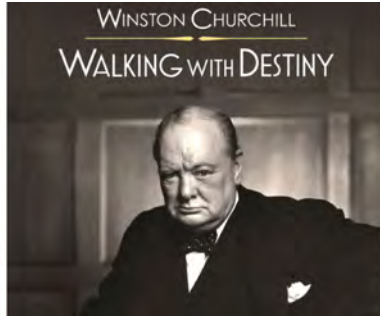
Ongoing creative advice and interest for Moriah Films comes from some of the top leaders of the entertainment community including Jeffrey Katzenberg, Founder of WndrCo; Ron Meyer, Vice-Chairman of NBC Universal; and Jim Gianopulos, Chairman and CEO of Paramount Pictures, all of whom are also members of the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Board of Trustees.

The Wiesenthal Center also consults with some of its past honorees including Ted Sarandos, Chief Content Officer of Netflix, Ron Howard and Brian Grazer, Co-Founders of Imagine Entertainment, Amy Pascal, past Sony Pictures Entertainment Co-Chairman and Chairman of the Motion Pictures Group, Jerry Bruckheimer, film and television producer and Jon Feltheimer, Chief Executive Officer of Lionsgate Entertainment.



State-of-the-Art in House Production Facility

Moriah Films' in-house production facility features the latest and most cutting-edge film, video and sound editing systems currently available. Moriah's state of the art film and video production studio includes three Avid Media Composer systems, a DaVinci Resolve color grading system and Digital Cinema Package (DCP) mastering system. This enables the production team to edit and produce a theatrical documentary entirely in-house, from start to finish, delivering a completed 4K master ready to be screened on the latest digital projection equipment in theaters around the world. Its sound studio has two of the latest ProTools editing systems allowing Moriah's sound designers to not only record narration, but to also edit music, create sound effects and mix feature films and videos.



Partnership with US State Department

In partnership with the United States Department of State, three of Moriah's films, have been subtitled into twelve languages. ***Walking With Destiny***, ***I Have Never Forgotten You*** and ***Against The Tide*** were selected by the State Department's Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs/ Office of Holocaust Issues (EUR/OHI) to be screened throughout Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America to combat anti-Semitism, racism, hate and bigotry.

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Exhibit JJJ-2

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Following Farrakhan's Latest Anti-Semitic Rant, Wiesenthal Center Asks: What Will It Take For Political Leaders And National Media To Call Him Out?

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March 6, 2018

Leaders of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a leading Jewish Human Rights NGO denounced the continuing parade of American politicians and social activists who meet with longtime race baiter and avowed anti-Semite, Rev. Louis Farrakhan.

“Farrakhan has never hidden his hatred for the Jewish people,” charged Rabbis Marvin Hier and Abraham Cooper Dean and Founder and Associate Dean and Director of Social Action for the SWC. **“His infamous bigoted one-liners include Hitler was ‘a very great man’ and Judaism as ‘a dirty (or gutter) religion’, how about his current barnstorming campaign, that’s been ongoing since 2015, during which he’s lambasted ‘wicked ones in the Jewish community that run America, run the government, run the world, own the banks, own the means of communication. They are my enemies!’”**

Rabbi Hier and Cooper continued, **“Every year without fail, he continues to besmirch ‘Zionist Jews’ for being behind the 9/11 attacks. Farrakhan’s rants include ‘The Satanic Jews that control everything and mostly everybody, if they are your enemy, then you must be somebody.’”** Farrakhan insta-messaged “Mr. Trump”: *“You say, ‘America first.’ America is never first. Israel is always first. Ask any Jew, even your son-in-law.”*

Just last month, at his annual Saviours’ Day 2018, Farrakhan declared in his keynote, *“Jews were responsible for all of this filth and degenerate behavior that Hollywood is putting out, turning men into women and women into men...”* adding, *“White folks are going down. And Satan is going down. And Farrakhan, by God’s grace, has pulled a cover off of that Satanic Jew, and I’m here to say your time is up, your world is through,”* he screamed.

“High profile leaders in the Women’s March, Tamika Mallory, Carmen Perez, and Linda Sarsour, refused to condemn Farrakhan’s obsession and Jew-hatred,” the Wiesenthal Center officials said, adding, **“The lack of courageous leadership in standing up to such bigotry is deeply distressing.”**

Hier and Cooper pointed to Ira A. Lipman, a national Civil Rights leader set to receive the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Humanitarian Award on May 30th in New York, who denounced Farrakhan over a quarter of a century ago, when the then-Memphis Mayor, W.W. Herenton, claiming he was unaware of Farrakhan's bigotry made him an honorary citizen of Memphis. Lipman was so outraged that he called the Mayor a "liar" and a "fool" for him to do this to a guy who has a huge hate record, is just unbelievable. **"It's very troublesome that I have to live in a city that has honored Louis Farrakhan,"** Mr. Lipman said.

For more information, please contact the Center's Communications Department, 310-553-9036. Join the Center on Facebook, www.facebook.com/simonwiesenthalcenter, or follow @simonwiesenthal for news updates sent direct to your Twitter feed.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center is one of the largest international Jewish human rights organizations with over 400,000 member families in the United States. It is an NGO at international agencies including the United Nations, UNESCO, the OSCE, the OAS, the Council of Europe and the Latin American Parliament (Parlatino).

###

 *Regional Offices* Los Angeles New York Midwest US Southern US Toronto
Jerusalem Paris Buenos Aires

SIMON
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CENTER

leadership with a global reach



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800 900.9036 (toll-free
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[Privacy Policy](#)

Newsletter Sign- Up

Email Address



Exhibit KKK



September 30, 2022

MR. GRANT F. SMITH
INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH: MIDDLE EASTERN POLICY
CALVERT STATION
POST OFFICE BOX 32041
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

FOIPA Request No.: 1428285-000
Subject: Anti-Defamation League
(Interactions, Correspondence and Referrals –
January 1, 2016 to February 2019)

Dear Mr. Smith:

The FBI has completed its review of records subject to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) that are responsive to your request. The enclosed documents were reviewed under the FOIPA, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

Section 552		Section 552a
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1)
<u>50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1)</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2)
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3)
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(4)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(4)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(5)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(6)		<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7)

185 pages were reviewed and 143 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

- Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agency (ies) [OGA].
- This information has been referred to the OGA(s) for review and direct response to you.
- We are consulting with another agency. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is completed.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. “Part 1” of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. “Part 2” includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. “Part 3” includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under “Contact Us.” The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP’s FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP’s website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI’s FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state “Dispute Resolution Services.” Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosures

Based on the information you provided, we conducted a main and reference entity record search of the Central Records System (CRS) per our standard search policy. For more information about records searches and the standard search policy, see the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum General Information Section.

This is the final release of information responsive to your FOIPA request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

It is unnecessary to adjudicate your request for a fee waiver at this time, as no applicable fees were assessed.

Duplicate copies of the same document were not processed.

FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
 - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
 - b. *Reference Entity Records*- created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**Liaison with an Organization Outside of the FBI**

Title: (U) Attendance at Anti-Defamation League
Southwest Region Board Meeting

Date: 12/19/2016

Approved By: ASAC [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Case ID #: 44A-HO-7364702 (U) HATE CRIMES
HOUSTON DOMAIN TYPE 1 & 11
ASSESSMENTS

Assessment Initiated: 03/29/2016, set to expire 06/27/2016; extension granted 07/07/2016, set to expire 09/27/2016; extension granted 11/28/2016, set to expire 12/26/2016

Responsible Organization: HOUSTON

Liaison Details: (U) On December 12, 2016, SSA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] attended the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Southwest Region Board Meeting at the invitation of [REDACTED], ADL, [REDACTED]. The meeting was hosted by [REDACTED] of Interfaith Ministries, 3303 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77002. The FBI was commended for its partnership with the ADL and commitment to investigating hate crimes. [REDACTED] ADL [REDACTED], 4635 Southwest Freeway, Suite 400, Houston, Texas, [REDACTED] was introduced to SSA and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] ADL, [REDACTED] asked SSA [REDACTED] to provide an overview of the Pigs Head case to ADL [REDACTED]. The two-hour meeting included dinner, commentary on hate speech regarding a visit of noted hate monger, [REDACTED] to Texas A&M University, online anti Semitism, board business, and liaison with ADL and Interfaith Ministries personnel.

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Liaison Event: Meeting

Event Role: Attended

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**Liaison with an Organization Outside of the FBI****Title:** (U) Houses of Worship Training for Synagogue, Church and JCC Leadership**Date:** 12/04/2017**Approved By:** ASAC [REDACTED]**Drafted By:** [REDACTED]**Case ID #:** 44A-HO-7364702 (U) HATE CRIMES
HOUSTON DOMAIN TYPE 1 & 11
ASSESSMENTSb6
b7C
b7E

Assessment Initiated: 03/29/2016, set to expire 06/27/2016; extension granted 07/07/2016, set to expire 09/27/2016; extension granted 11/28/2016, set to expire 12/26/2016; extension granted 03/02/2017, set to expire 03/27/2017; extension granted 08/18/2017, set to expire 11/16/2017; extension granted 08/21/2017, set to expire 09/20/2017

Responsible Organization: HOUSTON

Liaison Details: (U) On November 30, 2017, SSA [REDACTED] provided a 20-minute presentation to about 50 Anti-Defamation League (ADL) members affiliated with area synagogues, Jewish Community Centers and churches. [REDACTED] ADL- [REDACTED] [REDACTED], requested the training. The training was conducted at Faith Lutheran Church, 4600 Bellaire Boulevard, Houston, Texas. SSA [REDACTED] utilized PowerPoint to provide an overview of the four FBI-Civil Rights Sub-Program Priorities, focusing primarily on hate crimes. SSA [REDACTED] defined hate crimes, discussed dynamics of hate crimes, hate crime typologies, hate crime statistics, threats to houses of worship, and related case investigations. SSA [REDACTED] discussed the FBI's partnership with the ADL to combat hate crimes and discussed the Congregation Beth Israel and Congregation Or Ami Hoax Bomb Investigations. SSA [REDACTED] discussed Domestic Terrorism and nexus required to initiate an investigation. SSA [REDACTED] both responded to numerous questions posed by the group.

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b7C**Liaison Event:** Classroom Training

UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

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UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Electronic Communication

Title: (U) Indianapolis Division welcomes ADL representative

Date: 06/20/2017

CC: [Redacted]

From: INDIANAPOLIS
IP-CDC

Contact: [Redacted]

Approved By: CDC [Redacted]

Drafted By: [Redacted]

Case ID #: [Redacted]

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Synopsis: (U) The Indianapolis Division welcomes ADL representative

Details:

On Thursday, April 6, 2017, the Indianapolis Division welcomed [Redacted] of the Chicago Anti-Defamation League (ADL) to the office for a presentation. [Redacted]

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[Redacted] He met with members of the Indianapolis Intelligence staff and Joint Terrorism Task force to discuss how the ADL investigates hatemongers and how the ADL tracks and provides information to their various law enforcement partner agencies.

The meeting was a result of the continued relationship with [Redacted] an Indianapolis representative of the ADL, a strong community leader, and a member of the [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: (U) ADL Hate Crimes and Domestic
Extremism Training

Date: 07/23/2018

CC: [Redacted]

From: ATLANTA

[Redacted]

Contact: [Redacted]

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Approved By: [Redacted]

Drafted By: [Redacted]

Case ID #: [Redacted]

Synopsis: (U) Documenting attendance of the Anti-Defamation League's training on hate crimes and domestic extremism.

Details:

On 20 July 2018, Intelligence Analyst [Redacted] attended the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) Hate Crimes and Domestic Extremism Law Enforcement training held at Georgia State University. The event was coordinated by the ADL, the Matthew Shepard Foundation, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police, Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange, and the United States Attorney's Office. The training's goals were to provide law enforcement with an overview of white supremacy throughout the nation, provide law enforcement with an understanding of white supremacy symbols and identifiers so they are more identifiable while performing their job duties, and to increase knowledge of hate crime laws and how the laws can enhance federal, state and local investigations. Additionally, the training's goals were to bring awareness to

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[Redacted]

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Title: (U) ADL Hate Crimes and Domestic Extremism Training
Re: [Redacted] 07/23/2018

sovereign citizen's tactics when interacting with law enforcement and provide law enforcement with identifiers of sovereign citizens. The training included law enforcement officials from agencies throughout the Southeast (Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and South Carolina).

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Exhibit KKK-1

[Redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Liaison with an Organization Outside of the FBI

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Liaison meeting with Anti
Defamation League (ADL) Center on
Extremism in New York City.

Date: 11/16/2017

Approved By: SSA [Redacted]

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Drafted By: [Redacted]

Case ID #:

[Large Redacted Area]

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b7E

[Redacted]

Responsible Organization: NEW YORK

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Liaison Details: (U//~~FOUO~~) On 07/12/2017 SSA [Redacted] (FBI
NYO JTTF Squad [Redacted], accompanied by SSA [Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

[Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Liaison meeting with Anti Defamation League (ADL) Center on Extremism in New York City.

Re: [Redacted] 11/16/2017

and SIA [Redacted], conducted a liaison [Redacted] meeting and information sharing session with officers from the Anti Defamation League (ADL) Center on Extremism at ADL New York regional office located at 605 Third Avenue (10th floor), New York, New York 10158-3560, telephone 212-885-7757, URL www.adl.org. Representing ADL was [Redacted] for the Center on Extremism, and two ADL research staff members. The purpose of the liaison meeting was to conduct a meet and greet with ADL and FBI personnel from NYO and FBIHQ, and to have executive level discussion on general Domestic Terrorism (DT) matters including trends and current events encompassing the following DT areas:

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- Anarchist Extremism
- Black Identity Extremism
- White Supremacy Extremism
- Militia Extremism
- Sovereign Citizen Extremism
- Animal Rights/Environmental Extremism
- Abortion Extremism
- Unaffiliated DT actors and bombing matters

The discussion lasted approximately one hour during which time ADL agreed to contact FBI with any information of possible investigative interest. The meeting ended with an agreement to conduct a similar liaison/tripwire meeting in the future.

Liaison Event: [Redacted]
Meeting

b7E

Event Role: Attended

Audience Type: Executives
Research Group

Initiative Type: Academic Alliance
Strategic Partnership Coordination
Violent Crime/Gang Alliance
Other

Total Attendees: 6

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Exhibit LLL

MAY 02, 2023

Remarks by Homeland Security Advisor Dr. Liz Sherwood-Randall to the Anti- Defamation League

As Prepared For Delivery:

Good morning. It's my honor to be here with each of you today. When Jonathan asked if I would give keynote remarks at this gathering, I eagerly agreed – because of the vital mission of this organization, the partnership that we have built in the Biden Administration, and the urgent issues facing our community.

Jonathan's vision and innovation are defining what it means to lead an international civil rights organization in these very challenging times.

As President Biden's Homeland Security Advisor – a West Wing role created just after 9/11 – it's my job to deal with the threat to our homeland that antisemitism represents. But for me, it's also personal.

My great-grandparents fled oppression in Eastern Europe to build a new life in America where they could practice their faith without fear and seek opportunities denied to them in their homelands because they were Jewish.

Still, my mother was chased home from elementary school in Omaha as a little Jewish girl. Her family moved West to seek a more open-minded and tolerant place. She met my

father in high school in Los Angeles, where they subsequently married at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

At that time, my father was considering entry level job offers from several law firms after finishing Harvard Law School and a Supreme Court clerkship. One offer was from the most esteemed, blue-chip firm in the community, which had no track record of making Jews partners.

Another was from a firm established by Jewish leaders that welcomed young lawyers of Jewish faith into very successful practices. When my father was trying to choose between the two, his peers at the Jewish firm reached out and implored him not to accept their offer and instead go to the place where he would blaze a new trail for others to follow.

That story was told to me to emphasize the need to build bridges rather than walls to the greatest degree possible – to be integrated rather than segregated, to know the other and to have the other know us – across faiths and races.

My father experienced anti-Semitic discrimination long into adulthood. But he chose repeatedly, just like with his choice of a law firm, to build bridges from the Jewish community to other groups confronting discrimination and hate, including the Black and Asian communities in Southern California and beyond.

As Martin Luther King said, “The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people – but the silence over that by the good people.”

Or, as we say in our faith, it is our obligation to do “tikkun olam”. We must use our lives to heal a broken world.

I take that imperative seriously. I know you do, too. And every day, I see how what is broken seems even more jagged

than it used to be.

Ethnic and religious hatred is being normalized in our melting pot. Antisemitism is being normalized – its more mainstream, it's out in the open. And, most disturbingly, violence against Jews is being normalized.

Jews are being targeted in their neighborhoods, synagogues, schools, homes, and online. By whatever measure you choose to employ, we have not seen this level of hatred towards Jews since Europe before the second world war.

For example, last month the ADL's annual audit reported that 2022 represented a **34% increase in antisemitic** incidents in the U.S. over the previous year—the highest number recorded since ADL began tracking these incidents in 1979.

To say this is concerning is a profound understatement.

So it was with urgency that President Biden charged us with crafting this country's **first-ever National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism.** We started this work on literally the first day of the Administration. Then, as part of that larger effort, we embarked on the first National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism specifically.

We expect to complete this work by the end of May. The White House Domestic Policy Council Director Susan Rice, my co-chair in in this vital work, will speak more about the strategy later today.

Among its many initiatives is the one that to me is most urgently needed—the restoration of safety for Jews in our country.

And that goal means working in partnership with you, to address three pressing issues simultaneously.

First, we will continue to improve the security of synagogues and Jewish institutions.

The Biden Administration has expanded security assistance for houses of worship and religious institutions – for example, increasing the funds to improve physical security of buildings from 180 million dollars two years ago to 305 million dollars today. And we have asked Congress to continue to increase these funds.

We're also sharing more information with law enforcement and community allies, creating partnerships between them, and training congregations to confront threats.

We saw how this work can make a difference in January of 2022 in Colleyville, Texas, when a rabbi and four members of his congregation were taken hostage. Ahead of time, the synagogue had already mapped out its floor plan and submitted it to local officials and the FBI. They had installed security cameras so law enforcement could see what was happening in real-time. As a result, they could move quickly to mount a rescue operation. And when there was an opportunity to escape, the hostages relied on their active shooter training to take decisive action and flee safely.

Colleyville's then-Rabbi, Charlie Cytron-Walker, said after the hostage crisis that – quote – “over the years, my congregation and I have participated in multiple security courses from the Colleyville Police Department, the FBI, the Anti-Defamation League, and Secure Community Network. We are alive today because of that education.”

Second, we need to reduce the threat itself and decrease hate-driven violence and harassment.

This brings me back to my father's lesson – to build the bridges within our communities that make it hard for hate to flourish. That was the Administration's aim last year when the President convened the United We Stand summit.

The summit mobilized Federal agencies in new and renewed ways. For example, the Justice Department has improved the reporting of hate crime incidents, to address the problem of underreporting by victims, witnesses, and law enforcement agencies.

Another takeaway from the summit was the benefit of community-based prevention efforts that see teachers, coaches, pastors and many others working together to steer individuals away from hate and violence – works that takes time and trust and seeing each other as human beings living in the same community – wherever possible.

And when these efforts are insufficient, we will rely on our law enforcement partners to prioritize the investigation and prosecution of those who harass, abuse, and harm Jews and Jewish communities.

On this point, strong partnerships between the government and diverse community groups can have a real impact. Let me give you an example.

Last November, the Community Security Initiative, a community-based security organization, detected a social media threat to – quote – “shoot up a synagogue” in New York City. They relied on their strong ties to law enforcement and reported the threat to the FBI and NYPD, who quickly determined the threat was credible and identified two men as suspects. That information was shared widely with local authorities and houses of worship, which resulted in the swift apprehension of the men – after a local transit worker recognized them in Penn Station and alerted the police.

The police arrested the suspects and found a handgun and a large capacity magazine in their possession. All this was possible because a community group had strong relationships in place with law enforcement.

So – whether you are working to strengthen ties within your community, or helping us address harassment, abuse, and threats, it matters. You are making a difference in the fight to end antisemitism.

Third, while we enhance protections in the short term... and expand prevention efforts to reduce the threat over time... we also need to address the creeping normalization of antisemitism in our everyday lives, especially through online media.

That includes tackling the ways in which antisemitic and other hateful views circulate online and mix with conspiracy theories and disinformation that can lead some people to undertake violence.

We need to ensure that those who spread lies and conspiracy theories remain outside the mainstream. And we have to do this in a way that protects not just members of the Jewish faith but members of all religious denominations. That is how we will build common cause against those who seek to divide us.

That means speaking out forcefully and clearly when we encounter expressions of hatred for Jews and other community groups, which is something President Biden has done throughout his presidency and his career in public service. Hate speech should never go unchallenged.

We as a Federal government are taking actions to address this. For example, the Departments of Commerce and Education are using model curricula and grant programs to

help Americans recognize online hate speech and reduce its spread.

Through entities like the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism, we are sharing information with technology companies, to ensure they understand the threat of antisemitism and more effectively enforce their terms of service. This is critical given the algorithms that suck people into more sinister conversations that we know may lead to incitement of violence.

And two years ago, after the prior Administration refused to join, we announced our decision to join the Christchurch Call, an international partnership among 56 governments and 10 technology companies, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, to develop new solutions to eliminating terrorist content online while safeguarding free expression.

For example, when the perpetrator of the Buffalo supermarket murders last May tried to livestream his attack, the Christchurch Call and GIFCT worked swiftly to terminate the livestream. Then, they ensured it was neither posted online nor shared widely, which meant the content was far less widely circulated than we have seen in prior attacks, diminishing the prospects of incitement, motivation by example, or copy-cattling.

We know we need to go much further than this, and we are working with Congress to do that. As the President called for earlier this year, we are looking to Congress to reform the laws to ensure technology companies are responsible for the malign content they spread and the algorithms they use.

As I hope all these examples illustrate – we cannot do this alone. We in government will do everything we can to improve the safety of Jews and other religions, races, and

ethnic groups who face threats and discrimination. But we need to do this work with you all.

We need the public to understand antisemitism and rally against it in all its forms, while standing shoulder to shoulder with other communities targeted by hate.

We need community groups, law enforcement, schools, houses of worship, businesses and others to work together – both to rally against hate and to use all of their tools to prevent hate-driven violence.

We need leaders at the local and state levels to join us in speaking out and condemning antisemitism and hate whenever it arises.

And we need the Anti-Defamation League. And we will continue to work alongside you. Because whether it's the ADL's COMBAT plan to fight antisemitism in our communities... your REPAIR plan to address online hate... or many of the other remarkable initiatives you have underway... we share the ADL's comprehensive approach to end the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.

Coming back to the lessons I learned from my family's experience – fleeing hate and violence, starting new lives in a new land, making their way despite skepticism and sometimes outright hostility, and always looking for ways to lift up others and heal the world – I would leave you with this final thought: Turn understandable fear into empowering action.

Rabbi Marc Katz of Temple Ner Tamid in Bloomfield, New Jersey recently put this best when he wrote that – quote – *“There will always be bad actors, hateful people, bad agents. But they need not derail our lives. Every triumph, no matter how small, takes up the room in our psyche that was once full*

of our anxieties. We need to ask not what will happen tomorrow but what we can do today. Then, when tomorrow comes, we arrive, realizing we have been so busy fixing our broken world that we had no time to be afraid.”

Thank you for allowing me to join you this morning, and I look forward to doing *tikkun olam* together with you in the days, months and years ahead.

Exhibit MMM

ADL Welcomes Key Federal Investments to Fight Antisemitism and Other Forms of Hate in Fiscal Year 2023 Omnibus

Published: 12.23.2022

New York, NY, December 23, 2022 ... ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) today welcomed the passage of the Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations bill in the U.S. House and Senate, which included funding for several crucial programs to combat antisemitism, protect against extremism, and fight hate in all forms at unprecedented levels.

“We thank Congress for taking key steps to fund the fight against antisemitism, extremism and all forms of hate,” said Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL CEO. “At a time when antisemitism and extremism continue to threaten the safety of our communities and undermine our democratic values, funding for these programs can provide critical security and strengthen civil rights. We will continue to work with the Administration and Congress to ensure that full funding for crucial programs to fight hate continues to be appropriately funded in the coming fiscal years.”

Over the past year, ADL called on the Administration and Congress to provide resources to mitigate the threat of hate and extremism in line with ADL’s [COMBAT](#), [PROTECT](#), and [REPAIR](#) plans. [ADL sent a letter urging Congress](#) to appropriate sufficient funds to combat antisemitism at home and abroad, protect against domestic extremism, , repair the internet and address hate online and off, and build a more just and inclusive society.

ADL led efforts on the following provisions included in the final bill:

- \$305 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program – a 22% increase from the previous year’s funding. This program will provide critical grants to nonprofits and faith communities to protect against continued threats of hate-driven violence, including protecting synagogues and other Jewish communal institutions from [antisemitic threats](#).
- Unprecedented levels of funding to improve hate crimes reporting, investigation, prosecution, and overall prevention with \$10 million for programs authorized under the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act (doubled from the previous year), \$25 million in grants under the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (a 92% increase from Fiscal Year 2022), \$10 million to support community-based efforts to prevent and respond to hate crimes (also doubling the previous year’s funding), and over \$25 million for the Community Relations Service.
- \$1.5 million each to fund the office of the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism (20% increase from the previous year’s funding) and the U.S. Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues (50% increase from Fiscal Year 2022), as well as \$1 million to counter global white supremacist extremism.
- \$2 million to fund the Never Again Education Act to support Holocaust education across the U.S.
- Funding of several programs to study and combat extremism and hate on and offline: \$7.5 million for domestic violent extremism research; \$20 million for the Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention grant program; increased funding to investigate extremist violence and domestic terrorism; and increased funding to further support prosecutions related to the January 6 attack on the Capitol and domestic terrorism cases.
- Congress expressed urgency that the Administration should report on efforts to counter extremism on and offline, to secure communities from hate, and to address extremism in law enforcement and in the military.
- Authorization of the “Benjamin Berell Ferencz Congressional Gold Medal Act,” in recognition of the last living Nuremberg prosecutor.
- Authorization of the Electoral Count Reform Act, to secure our democracy by modernizing the process for certifying and counting electoral votes in presidential elections. Common-sense reforms like these can mitigate conspiracies and other efforts to undermine our democracy and help address the nexus of democratic backsliding and political violence.

ADL is the leading anti-hate organization in the world. Founded in 1913, its timeless mission is “to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.” Today, ADL continues to fight all forms of antisemitism and bias, using innovation and partnerships to drive impact. A global leader in combating antisemitism, countering extremism and battling bigotry wherever and whenever it happens, ADL works to protect democracy and ensure a just and inclusive society for all. More at www.adl.org.