

January 26, 2023

Hon. Kathleen C. Hochul NYS State Capital Bldg. Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

We call on you to exercise your authority under New York's Public Officers Law to investigate Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg for his failure to safeguard the civil rights of New York City's Jewish community, and to remove him from office.

Hate crimes targeting Jews have skyrocketed in New York City, and antisemitism has risen to levels never seen before. Jews are chased down and attacked on city streets, for no other reason than being Jewish, but the attackers don't face justice. They get plea deals from DA Bragg, who has shown himself unequal to the task of upholding the civil rights of New Yorkers.

In May 2021, Joey Borgen was brutally attacked in a gang assault by Jew-haters. He was violently beaten for no other reason than for being Jewish.

On January 26, his attackers will be in court for a hearing. One of them, Waseem Awawdeh, will be offered a sweetheart deal by DA Bragg, and would serve at most 6 months in jail. For violently beating a Jew. In fact, after Awawdeh was arrested, he allegedly said, "If I could do it again, I would do it again."

The #EndJewHatred movement is gathering to protest against this unacceptable deal. Leniency towards Jew-haters only encourages more violence against Jews. The law calls for punishment, and the law must be enforced.

We must not be silent about this outrage. We must stand together, in solidarity, and demand justice for Joey Borgen, and justice for the Jewish people.

When prosecutors like Alvin Bragg fail to uphold our rights, justice is denied. Our society is less safe, and our minority communities are made more vulnerable. Therefore, we call on you to investigate DA Bragg and remove him from office.

Respectfully yours,