



The *Wall Street Synagogue*

As the Synagogue situated just a few blocks away from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, we identify, sympathize, and express solidarity and heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims of the rising tide of anti-Jewish hate crimes in America and around the world.

Since the Hamas massacre of the Israeli civilians on October 7th 2023, the Anti-Defamation League has recorded a significant spike in Anti-Semitic incidents across the United States. Preliminary data from ADL center on extremism indicates that reported incidents of harassment, vandalism, and assault increased by 388% over the same period last year. This is the highest since the Anti-Defamation League began keeping records in 1979.

In this report, the A.D.L. has counted 3,697 incidents throughout the United States in 2022, a 36% rise from the year before. A majority was characterized as harassment, including online, but the tally also included 111 assaults and more than 1,200 cases of vandalism.

We are horrified of the upsurge of assaults and vandalism in Brooklyn and the murders at a Jewish grocery store in Jersey City and the stabbings in Monsey. The 2018 tragedy at The Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA and the shooting in Poway, California were attacks on Jewish worship on holy days of our calendar. They are aiming at the heart of Judaism - the houses of worship. We believe that action is called for and that the evil of anti-Semitism and hate must be defeated.

We also express our gratitude to the police enforcement for their concern for our security, safety and well-being. The NYPD members of the first police precinct in our community have regularly patrolled outside the doors of our Synagogue in their police cars during our services. And when the intelligence warrants, they stand patrol also on our holidays so our community members may pray with peace of mind.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Moe Hager