

Mark (Moishe) Bane
President

October 27, 2021

Rabbi Moshe Hauer
Executive Vice President

Senator Chris Murphy
Chairman

Senator Shelley Moore Capito

Ranking Member

Rabbi Josh Joseph, Ed.D.
Executive Vice President &
Chief Operating Officer

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

Jerry Wolasky
Chairman, Advocacy

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
Chairwoman

Rep. Chuck Fleischmann

Ranking Member

Nathan J. Diament
Executive Director

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

Mitch Aeder
Chairman, Board of Directors

Via Electronic Mail

Dear Chairman Murphy, Chairwoman Roybal-Allard and Ranking Members Capito and Fleischmann:

We write to you with heavy hearts. Today is the third anniversary of the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh. On October 27, 2018, a domestic terrorist murdered 11 Jews during Sabbath services.

Antisemitism is at an all-time high in the United States and around the world. That is why funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is more critical, now than ever. NSGP grants are vital to the security of vulnerable non-profit facilities like the Tree of Life Synagogue. Today, we urge you to fund the NSGP at \$360 million in FY 2022 appropriations.

This tragedy highlights the ongoing need for the NSGP, which was designed so that at-risk nonprofit organizations that serve as community centers can acquire and install equipment to protect themselves against a potential terrorist attack.

Earlier this week, the American Jewish Committee reported that 1 in 4 Americans say they experienced antisemitism in the last year, and that nearly nine in ten American Jews (88%) believe antisemitism in the U.S. today is very serious. These numbers are staggering, combined with the shocking statistics from the 2019 FBI Hate Crimes Statistics report, that over 60% of religious-based hate crimes in 2019 targeted Jews, an increase of 14% from the previous year. NSGP funds are one important response to these threats.

We respectfully urge you to increase funding for the NSGP to \$360 million so our nation can do all it can to prevent another Tree of Life massacre and protect at-risk nonprofits. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

Nathan Diament

Rabbi Moshe Hauer