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Dear community leaders and colleagues,

Here is the latest update from our friends at our neighboring Jewish Federation of Northern NJ, on the Jersey City shooting. We stand with our friends and colleagues, families and neighbors, and will continue to give them support as needed.

Jewish Federation continues to work closely with all of our law enforcement partners, elected officials, and community-based organizations in what is now officially being classified as a domestic terrorist incident with anti-Semitic hate crime intentions. The classification of this crime as an official domestic terrorist incident brings the JTTF (Joint Terrorism Task Force, FBI, and DHS) into the investigation. The investigation has now entered the forensic stage (review of electronic, digital, and ballistic evidence) in hopes of determining the motive and narrowing down the exact timeline.

Federation was invited to attend the NJ Attorney General's press conference this afternoon in Hudson County announcing the latest developments in the investigation. The Attorney General reiterated his commitment to "ensure the safety of all religious faith. As a community, we are all grieving, but not as much as the families of the victims, and the state will provide whatever support is needed".

After the press briefing, Federation's CEO, Jason Shames and Federation's Director of Jewish Community Security, Jerry Dargan, met privately with Esther Suarez, Hudson County Prosecutor to discuss Federation's role in supporting their efforts. We shared with the Prosecutor that Hudson County Synagogues received nearly \$200,000 in Homeland Security Grants with Federation's assistance.

The state medical autopsies were performed in coordination with local Rabbis to ensure respect of Jewish law. This allowed the bodies of the two Jewish victims to be released for funerals last evening. Jason Shames and President Roberta Abrams both attended the funeral to represent the community. Last night there was a well-attended community vigil held at Temple Beth-El with remarks and prayers from leaders in law enforcement and faith-based organizations, including the State Attorney General, the Mayor of Jersey City,

Israeli Counsel General Dani Dayan, and Jason Shames.

Federation has established a dedicated donation webpage where all collections will go to an established 501c3 that will provide services and support to the victims' families. When you donate to this cause, please make sure you are donating through a trusted organization, such as Federation, because there are numerous reports of fraudulent fundraising efforts. If you would like to make a donation, please go to www.jfnj.org/supportjerseycity.

Lastly, we were assured again today that there is no imminent danger in our community. Jerry Dargan has ensured that rapid deployment teams are increasing their presence at all Jewish institutions. Additionally, as we approach Shabbat, all local police departments are on high alert and there will be an increased presence around all houses of worship.

Federation continues to be grateful to members of law enforcement who have demonstrated incredible bravery in the face of danger and a commitment to bringing this crime of domestic terror to justice.

We will continue to keep you updated as new information is released.

Dov

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From the Federation Exec - Jersey City Shooting

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