

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 1, 2017

The Honorable Jefferson Sessions  
United States Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington D.C. 20530

The Honorable James Comey  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington D.C. 20535

Dear Attorney General Sessions and Director Comey,

We write to you regarding the increasing number of alarming bomb threats targeting Jewish Community Centers in over 30 states, sowing fear and anxiety in our communities. These malicious, deliberate, and clearly coordinated attacks have singled out Jewish schools and gathering places, endangering the lives of children, and we seek to partner with you in helping to combat this rash of hateful, criminal acts. While we understand that your investigation is ongoing, we are formally requesting to be briefed on the efforts of the Department of Justice (DOJ), as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), to resolve and address this crisis. We encourage both agencies to employ all legal avenues and resources at your disposal to stop these crimes.

The safety and well-being of Americans is of the utmost importance, and with more than 100 threats having been received by the writing of this letter, we are extremely concerned that this represents an increase in anti-Semitic activity across the country. Anti-Semitic attacks occupy the largest percentage of religiously rooted hate crime, and they have been increasing in number over the last several years. The Pacific Northwest in particular has been witness to horrific attacks against the Jewish Community, including the July 2006 shooting at the Seattle Jewish Federation, resulting in the tragic death of one individual.

In the wake of these threats, as well as the desecration of Jewish cemeteries, we ask that the DOJ and FBI tirelessly investigate these matters, and prosecute all offenders to the fullest extent possible. A clear message must be sent that hatred and bigotry have no place in America, and they will not be tolerated. We greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication put forward by the agents, investigators, and prosecutors in your organizations. We look forward to continued, regular dialogue with you to ensure that we can continue to keep our constituents informed.

Sincerely,



ADAM SMITH  
Member of Congress



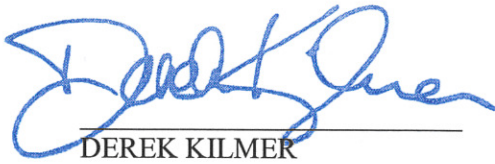
RICK LARSEN  
Member of Congress



CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS  
Member of Congress



DENNY HECK  
Member of Congress



DEREK KILMER  
Member of Congress



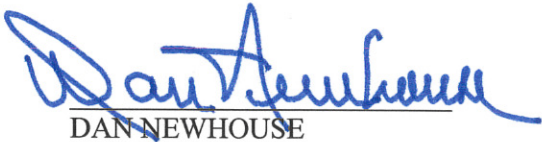
DAVE REICHERT  
Member of Congress



SUZAN DELBENE  
Member of Congress



JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER  
Member of Congress



DAN NEWHOUSE  
Member of Congress



PRAMILA JAYAPAL  
Member of Congress