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Re: Intolerable Acts of Violence

To the John Jay College Community:

Returning from spring break is a time when we should be preparing for the final days of classes and exams, and for Commencement on May 29. It should be a time when everyone in our community—faculty, students, and staff—is preparing to celebrate completing one more academic year. Instead, today we are faced with another horrific incident of anti-Semitism, and another moment where people are not safe in their house of worship. We have had to face too many such incidents over the last few months where people of different faiths—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—were harmed or killed in the holy spaces where they should have found peace and safety.

We are all impacted by these acts of violence and terrorism across our country and across the world. The [Wellness Center](#) is available for students, and [Human Resources](#) can help faculty and staff connect with the [Employee Assistance Program](#) for counseling support.

As Rabbi Goldstein said after the tragedy this weekend at his Synagogue in San Diego, these incidents of terror challenge each of us to bring light to combat the darkness. The evils of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism and all forms of hatred and intolerance can be defeated with compassion, education, and solidarity. Our challenge is to focus on creating a world where hatred is not tolerated, a world where we all strive for justice, fairness, and peace.

Thank you,

Karol V. Mason  
President

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