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April 20, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairperson
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairperson
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairperson
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairperson Leahy, Chairperson DeLauro, Vice Chairperson Shelby, Ranking Member Granger:

Since 1913, the mission of ADL has been to “stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.” Today, ADL is a global leader in exposing extremism, delivering anti-bias education, and monitoring and fighting the spread of hate in our communities and online. For decades, one of the most important ways in which ADL has fought against bigotry and antisemitism has been by investigating extremist threats across the ideological spectrum, including white supremacists and other far-right violent extremists, producing research to inform the public of the scope of the threat, and working with law enforcement, educators, the tech industry, and elected leaders to promote best practices that can effectively address and counter these threats.

On January 6, 2021, we watched as an insurrection fueled by violent conspiracy theories and white supremacy gripped the nation and attacked our democracy. In its aftermath, ADL created the [PROTECT Plan](#) – a comprehensive, bipartisan approach to mitigate the threat of domestic terrorism while protecting civil rights and liberties. Parts of this strategy can be pursued via appropriations: to prioritize the domestic terrorism threat, resource according to the threat, provide law enforcement and the military with the tools needed to address extremist movements, ensure that social media companies are more accountable for dangerous content, and tackle the transnational dimensions of this threat head on. Together, these steps would have a significant impact on preventing and countering domestic terrorism – more so than any one law – and can do so while protecting vulnerable communities against the risk of government overreach.

We write to request your support in appropriating sufficient funds to help combat domestic extremism, fight antisemitism at home and abroad, prevent and address hate online and off, ensure the right to vote, and build a more just and inclusive society. Below, please find ADL's appropriations request to prioritize the following FY 2023 programs:

HOMELAND SECURITY

1. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
2. CENTER FOR PREVENTION PROGRAMMING AND PARTNERSHIPS
3. NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
4. INTELLIGENCE AND CYBERSECURITY DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND SCIENCE

1. COUNTERING DOMESTIC TERRORISM
2. EXTREMISM IN LAW ENFORCEMENT
3. DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM RESEARCH
4. IMPROVING HATE CRIMES REPORTING
5. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FUNDING TO EFFECTIVELY PREVENT AND RESPOND TO HATE CRIMES
6. ADDRESSING HATE ONLINE
7. ONLINE HATE, HARASSMENT, AND EXTREMISM RESEARCH
8. COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE
9. VOTING SECTION'S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION WORK

DEFENSE

1. EXTREMISTS IN THE MILITARY

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS

1. COUNTERING GLOBAL WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM
2. OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES
3. BUREAU OF CYBERSPACE AND DIGITAL POLICY

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT

HOMELAND SECURITY

1. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends measures to ensure Congress resources to the threats. Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas made fighting domestic violent extremism a “National Priority Area.” In FY 2021, for the first time, DHS declared Domestic Violent Extremism a National Priority Area, allowing states and local governments applying for the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant programs to avail themselves of a \$77 million grant funding set aside to address related threats, 7.5 percent of the total awards. These resources are critical for states to create efforts to address the domestic violent extremist threat, a threat that is not a one-year threat, but an ongoing threat that will require several years of ongoing funds.

ADL asks that the Homeland Security Grant program be sufficiently funded in FY 2023, and that report language reflects the expectation that no less than \$77 million be set aside for combating domestic violent extremism. ADL requests report language requesting a public report from DHS on how the FY 2021 and FY 2022 Domestic Violent Extremism grants through SHSP and UASI were used, as well as any results that can be shared.

2. CENTER FOR PREVENTION PROGRAMMING AND PARTNERSHIPS

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends that Congress increase prevention measures to address violent extremist radicalization and recruitment. The Center for Prevention Programming and Partnerships (CP3) funds grants for community initiatives oriented around resilience that can prevent extremist conspiracies from taking hold in our communities and off-ramp individuals before they choose violence. It is the only federal grant program dedicated to enhancing prevention capabilities in local communities. But this community resilience approach to preventing terrorism has been chronically under-funded. The FY 2022 enacted budget included only \$20 million for these prevention grants and the President’s FY 2023 budget request leaves funding at this level. In 2016, the [Homeland Security Advisory Council](#) recommended funding the predecessor of CP3 at \$100 million per year, prior to the current spike in domestic terrorism that led the intelligence and law enforcement community to refer to domestic terrorism as the most significant terrorist threat in our homeland. And [peacebuilding experts](#) studying violence trends in the United States have suggested that CP3 be funded at \$200 million.

ADL requests that \$150 million be appropriated for the Center for Prevention Programming and Partnerships grant program in FY 2023, including robust program evaluation funds to ensure funded programs are adequately evaluated.

At the same time, CP3 requires reform. Funding should be allocated toward increasing transparency, improving program evaluation, and developing an approach that focuses on increasing funding to civil society and other nongovernmental organizations. A law enforcement-only approach centered on investigations and prosecutions is insufficient to address the challenge of radicalization leading to violence; therefore, buttressing funding to nongovernmental partners would promote the more effective multidisciplinary approach that the Center for Prevention Programming and Partnerships has adopted. Enhanced transparency promoting evidence-based solutions learned from the current grant program will further lower the barriers to entry for civil and non-governmental groups in conjunction with steering them to promising practices ready for replication.

ADL requests report language to reflect the need for transparency, oversight, community engagement, and measures of effectiveness for the Center for Prevention Programming and Partnerships. In accomplishing this and scaling the program, ADL recommends Congress and the Department of Homeland Security study whether some grants should be administered by other departments, such as the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Education, and potentially whether grants should be consolidated into a small number of larger grantees to provide sub-grants to local projects while distancing the program from security officials. ADL requests that report language reflect the need for further transparency, more robust program evaluation, and the need to engage up-front with communities.

3. NON-PROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

For the past decade, funding assistance from federal, state, and local governments has provided crucial support for security hardening and enhancements for our nation's non-profit institutions, including religious institutions. This responds to the continuing targeting by violent extremists of synagogues, mosques, churches, temples and other houses of worship and religious gathering places – a threat that was once again brought into stark relief by the horrific hostage-taking at Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Colleyville, Texas on January 15, 2022.

The Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) provides non-profits with the capacity to increase their defense against these threats, including physical security and cybersecurity capacity and coordination. In FY 2022, Congress appropriated \$250 million for the Non-Profit Security Grant Program – a notable increase from the FY 2021 level. The President's FY 2023 budget request includes \$360 million for this program. Unfortunately, despite these generous increases in the NSGP program, as extremism threats continue to rise, the need continues to be greater than the resources provided, as outlined in the President's budget request. In FY 2021, nearly \$400 million in grant applications were received for this program. At a time of increased vulnerability to threats of hate-motivated violence by domestic extremists, Congress should significantly increase funding for non-profit religious institutions and other non-profit organizations that government and law enforcement authorities objectively determine are

at high risk of attack. In assessing the risk, officials should consider objective factors such as prior attacks against similarly situated institutions or organizations, and the vulnerability and financial needs of the specific institution.

ADL requests increased funding of the Non-Profit Security Grant Program at \$500 million.

4. INTELLIGENCE AND CYBERSECURITY DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

As part of ADL’s ongoing work to counter hate and extremism, ADL recommends that Congress fund the Department of Homeland Security Intelligence and Cybersecurity Diversity Fellowship Program. This program would provide eligible college students, especially those from minority-serving institutions, with the opportunity to intern for the Department in an intelligence or cyber-related internship. Upon successful completion of the program, participants would then be offered full-time employment. Funding this program is integral to ensuring that the next generation of intelligence and cyber professionals tasked with securing the Homeland represent the entirety of America and that the Department has a dedicated talent pipeline. ADL understands that the threats to the Homeland will continue to become more complex and diffuse and that our Nation’s best and brightest must be at the frontline of this fight.

ADL requests that Congress appropriate \$3 million to fund the Department of Homeland Security Intelligence and Cybersecurity Diversity Fellowship Program.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND SCIENCE

1. COUNTERING DOMESTIC TERRORISM

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends that Congress make resource investments that adapt to the threat from domestic extremists, which is severe – and growing. The majority of violence committed against Americans by extremists is now homegrown, and we must reorient our counterterrorism capabilities.

The Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act (DTPA) would in part ensure resources are used based on the threat of a terrorist movement. While we work to support the passage of this crucial legislation, personnel for the offices and training opportunities for state and local partners can and should be funded separate and apart from the bill.

In a promising development, on January 11, 2022, the Department of Justice announced the creation of a new Domestic Terrorism Unit within the National Security Division to “focus on the domestic terrorism threat, helping to ensure that these cases are properly handled and effectively coordinated across DOJ and around the country.” ADL applauds this new initiative and encourages the Department to ensure that it has appropriate budget and staffing to be successful, while ensuring robust protections for civil liberties.

ADL supports the President’s budget request of an additional \$33 million for the FBI to increase capacity to conduct domestic terrorism investigations. In addition, ADL supports an estimated \$196 million throughout the interagency over five years to increase resources and staffing to help counter domestic terrorism, as outlined in the CBO score for the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act, and including \$183 million for DOJ and FBI. ADL also requests that report language reflect the need for transparency and threat-proportionate appropriations.

2. EXTREMISM IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL urges Congress and the Administration to recognize and address the fact that some public safety officers are extremists, as evidenced by the participation of active law enforcement personnel in the insurrection of January 6, 2021. Additionally, FBI assessments dating back more than 15 years, among other sources, have noted that such extremists seek out positions in law enforcement and work to recruit law enforcement personnel into their ranks in order to gain access to sensitive security-related information as well as tactical knowledge and training. The consequences of this infiltration are potentially severe, ranging from deterioration of police-community relations to destruction, conflict, and death resulting from extremist officers’ activities.

ADL requests that the Justice Department provide the highest priority to Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program applicants and law enforcement agencies that request support for screening applicants and personnel for persistent racism and/or violent extremist ideologies or affiliations, and further to prioritize COPS grants to program applicants and law enforcement agencies that require their employees to complete training on extremism.

ADL also asks that the Administration support improved security clearance policies, procedures, and trainings to ensure that individuals whose possible adherence to violent extremist ideologies raise questions about their judgment or trustworthiness do not have security clearances, including directing the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress in developing these improved policies, procedures, and trainings.

3. DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM RESEARCH

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends increased investment in federal research to study ways to close the gap in our ability to prevent domestic extremism that will otherwise endure as an increasingly dangerous and destabilizing force in American communities. As domestic violent extremism is on the rise – and already at an impactful level – we must expand the government’s knowledge, and that of the general public, on the threat and best practices to counter it. Data should drive policy. The National Institute of Justice performs essential research on violent extremist radicalization and best practices and methods to counter it, the Bureau of Justice Statistics is in a position to

collect and analyze data to better understand the context around the issues, and the Office of Justice Programs is well-suited to coordinate various complementary efforts throughout the offices it oversees. In FY 2022, Congress included no less than \$6 million to be directed to NIJ for domestic radicalization research. While this is a good step, this funding still falls far short of what is needed for comprehensive research into this threat.

ADL requests \$20 million above current levels to the Office of Justice Programs, dedicated specifically to research and data related to domestic violent extremism issues.

4. IMPROVING HATE CRIMES REPORTING

Fighting hate crime is a critical task, especially now that antisemitism, anti-Asian American violence, and other forms of racism and bigotry are at all-time high levels. We know from the available data that hate crimes overall were at historic highs in 2020 as the pandemic raged. The FBI's annual hate crimes report revealed that 2020 saw a 13 percent increase in reported hate crimes from the previous year and represented the highest total in almost two decades. Reported hate crimes targeting Black people rose by at least 49 percent, and the number of anti-Asian hate crimes also increased significantly. Hate crimes targeting the Jewish community made up nearly 55 percent of all religion-based hate crimes. The increase in reported hate crimes came even though, for the third straight year, the number of law enforcement agencies providing data to the FBI declined.

However, one of the biggest impediments to developing a complete picture of the scope and nature of hate crimes in this country – and therefore having the ability to design and implement a fulsome response – is the lack of comprehensive and reliable data. This is not a new problem – the FBI has struggled to collect and compile accurate data on hate crimes since the enactment of the Hate Crime Statistics Act in 1990. There are concerning signs that the problem may be getting worse. According to data from the FBI, there has been a consistent decline in the number of law enforcement agencies participating in the federal hate crime reporting program since 2018. Furthermore, even among agencies that are in theory participating in the program, far too many report zero hate crimes, raising concerns about the accuracy of the numbers. In 2020, 10 cities with a population over 100,000 did not report any data and 59 cities with a population over 100,000 reported zero hate crimes.

The Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act, enacted in 2021 as part of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act, contains key provisions to help improve hate crime data collection and reporting, including authorizing grants to promote hate crime training, prevention, best practices, and data collection initiatives; assistance to law enforcement agencies in implementing the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) crime data reporting system; and grants to develop state hate crime reporting hotlines to refer individuals to local law enforcement and support services. Congress appropriated \$5 million in FY 2022 to implement the grants created by this legislation.

ADL requests that the Administration fully fund the grant programs authorized by the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act at a minimum level of \$15 million to support state and local efforts to implement the National Incident-Based Reporting System, create hate crime reporting hotlines, and train officers and develop protocols for identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes.

ADL also supports report language that states the concern that incomplete reporting of hate crime data to the FBI hinders critically needed efforts to understand, prevent, and mitigate the harms of hate crimes. We urge the FBI to conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to law enforcement agencies that have not consistently reported hate crimes data, with particular attention to small agencies with the fewest resources for administrative management and data analysis. In addition, the Department should continue to ask State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to include the cost of participation in the FBI's HCSA program for the purposes of calculating extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes under Public Law 111–84, section 4704(b)(3).

5. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FUNDING TO EFFECTIVELY PREVENT AND RESPOND TO HATE CRIMES

Since the enactment of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act in 2009, the federal government has provided crucial support to state and local efforts to raise community awareness about hate crimes, provide robust and culturally-appropriate training for law enforcement, and ensure appropriate investigations and prosecutions of hate crimes. During this time of historically high rates of hate crimes – particularly those targeting the AAPI community – this support remains vital to local efforts to effectively prevent and respond to bias and hate motivated attacks. This program was funded at \$13 million in FY 2022.

ADL requests \$100 million for grants to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to conduct educational outreach and training on hate crimes and to investigate and prosecute hate crimes, as authorized by section 4704 of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (Public Law 111–84).

ADL also requests \$30 million for grants to support community-based approaches to preventing hate crimes through conflict resolution and community empowerment and education, which was included in the FY 2022 House appropriations bill. While Congress ultimately appropriated \$5 million of this funding in FY 2022, that amount falls far short of the need.

ADL supports the President's FY 2023 budget request for an additional \$5.8 million for the Civil Rights Division to increase capacity to enforce civil rights statutes and address hate and bias in in the areas of education, employment,

housing, policing, public accommodations, and access to federally funded programs.

6. ADDRESSING HATE ONLINE

One urgent aspect of hate crimes is the proliferation of hate and harassment online. The ADL Center for Technology and Society conducts an annual survey to assess bias-motivated online harassment and, in 2021, found disturbing results. Overall, 41 percent of Americans reported having experienced some form of online hate and harassment, with 33 percent of respondents attributing their harassment to an identity characteristic, defined as their sexual orientation, religion, race or ethnicity, gender identity, or disability. Twenty-eight percent of respondents who were harassed reported being targeted because of their race or ethnicity. Asian-Americans experienced the largest single rise in severe online hate and harassment year-over-year in comparison to other groups, with 17 percent having experienced sexual harassment, stalking, physical threats, swatting, doxing or sustained harassment compared to 11 percent in the previous year's survey. Fully half of Asian-American respondents who were harassed reported that the harassment was because of their race or ethnicity. The nationally representative survey also found a sharp and deeply concerning rise in online harassment of African Americans based on their race, from 42 percent attributing their harassment to their race last year to 59 percent in the most recent survey.

Despite evidence from civil society about the increasing problem of hate online, the FBI's efforts to collect data on these crimes has fallen short. There is very little data available through the data collected pursuant to the Hate Crime Statistics Act about hate crimes facilitated by the internet to allow policymakers, technology companies, and impacted communities to develop effective policy solutions to address them.

The Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022, enacted as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022, authorized two new federal grant programs to improve the response to cybercrimes against individuals, including hate and bias-motivated offenses. The first authorizes a grant program to provide funding to states, Indian Tribes, and units of local government for the prevention, enforcement, and prosecution of cybercrimes against individuals. The second authorizes a grant program to establish and maintain a National Resource Center on Cybercrimes Against Individuals, which would "provide resource information, training, and technical assistance to improve the capacity of individuals, organizations, governmental entities, and communities to prevent, enforce, and prosecute cybercrimes against individuals."

ADL requests that the grant program to provide funding for the prevention, enforcement, and prosecution of cybercrimes against individuals be fully funded at the authorized level of \$10 million.

ADL further requests that \$4 million be provided to establish the National Resource Center on Cybercrimes Against Individuals.

7. ONLINE HATE, HARASSMENT, AND EXTREMISM RESEARCH

Last year ADL released its REPAIR plan to decrease hate, harassment, and extremism online and push it back to the fringes of the digital world. Like ADL's PROTECT plan parts of the REPAIR strategy can be pursued via appropriations, including funding to support much-needed research to better understand and responsibly mitigate online hate and extremism.

For example, users, especially those who have been or are likely to be targeted by online hate, harassment, or extremism, rely on private technology companies to provide them with tools and services to defend themselves from online hate and harassment. However, there is insufficient data to understand whether such services are effective. Research is needed that evaluates platforms' available tools and assesses users' needs, including a gap analysis of available tools and services.

Additionally, much of the emphasis has been on the role of platform policy in addressing hate, harassment, and extremism on digital social platforms, but government actors do not have a solid understanding of the role of product design. Government agencies should support research into how product design and implementation play a role in amplifying and encouraging the spread of hate, harassment, and extremism and making the content and behavior involved in these activities accessible to the public. The federal government should also commission a third-party audit of product systems related to product design as a means to hold technology companies accountable in terms of whether they are implementing anti-hate by design to address online abuse.

ADL supports designating \$10 million to commission research on tools and services as well as research into the impact of product designs and implementations in efforts to mitigate online hate, harassment, and extremism.

8. COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

The Department of Justice's Community Relations Service (CRS) saves lives and preserves community cohesion and must be taken to scale to meet increased demand resulting from COVID-19-related hate crimes targeting the Asian-American Pacific Islander community, and other increases in discrimination and hate. CRS's efforts are both symbolically important and practically effective. For example, after a gunman killed a worshipper and wounded three others at the Chabad of Poway, CA, on April 27, 2019 – exactly six months after the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh – members of the surrounding community asked CRS to help reestablish community safety and rebuild residents' confidence that they could safely attend religious services. Within days of the shooting, CRS brought the local U.S. Attorney's Office together with leaders of local faith communities to assess tensions, identify concerns, and share best practices for addressing hate crimes and protecting religious institutions. CRS served as a liaison between community stakeholders and the state and federal agencies involved in investigating the shooting and also worked with stakeholders to convene continuing

conversations, including a Bias Incidents and Hate Crimes forum held by an interfaith coalition of San Diego-area religious communities and an August 2019 training that brought the U.S. Attorney's Office back together with faith community leaders to build capacity to prevent and respond to hate crimes. In FY 2022, Congress appropriated \$21 million and the President's FY 2023 budget request includes \$25 million for CRS.

ADL supports increased funding for the Community Relations Service at \$40 million to ensure availability of crucial services to more communities in need.

9. CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION'S VOTING SECTION

Before, during, and after the 2020 Presidential Election, disinformation about threats to election security and integrity spread widely, and in significant part due to some political figures' repeated public critiques of normal procedures such as mail voting and of extraordinary measures undertaken to avoid COVID-19-related perils, including proactive mailing of mail ballot applications and expansion of early voting hours and periods. Election administrators, federal and international experts at agencies like the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and independent audits of paper records of votes cast have all affirmed that election results were valid, and no significant or widespread fraud or irregularities occurred. Nonetheless, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, in 2021 at least 19 states passed 34 laws restricting access to voting. These measures take direct aim at aspects of the voting process that disproportionately affect voters of color. Preserving equal access to elections in 2022 and beyond will depend upon the strength and readiness of the most capable and expert voting rights prosecutor in the nation, the Civil Rights Division's Voting Section.

The Voting Section requires expanded capacity to respond to the many states and localities that already have adopted discriminatory voting restrictions or are poised to do so. For example, Georgia enacted a law expanding voter identification requirements, which BIPOC voters are disproportionately likely to be unable to meet and to perceive as a barrier to voting; the bill also makes it a crime to approach voters waiting in line to give them food or water and restricts the use of ballot drop boxes for mail voters. Another example is Iowa, which enacted a bill that shortens the state's early voting period and polling place hours and restricts the use of satellite voting sites, all flexibilities that have proven particularly important to the state's growing population of young Latino voters, according to LULAC Iowa Political Director Joe Henry. In FY 2022, Congress directed the Department to "prioritize resources to enforce the civil provisions of Federal laws that protect the right to vote."

ADL requests an additional \$5 million for the Civil Rights Division for additional attorney positions in the Voting Section to conduct Voting Rights Act enforcement activities.

ADL also supports the President’s FY 2023 budget request for an additional \$6 million for the Civil Rights Division to increase capacity for activities focused on reinforcing democratic institutions to bolster voting rights, educational opportunities, and ensure constitutional policing.

DEFENSE

1. EXTREMISTS IN THE MILITARY

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL is concerned about domestic extremists occupying positions in public service and the severe danger they pose to those around them and to the entire nation. The U.S. military is the largest such institution, with more than two million active duty and reserve personnel currently serving in the various branches. Once enlisted, extremists in military service detract from order, discipline and morale within the ranks by fostering environments in which BIPOC personnel and members of other minority groups do not feel valued or safe. They may become insider threats who use their authorized access to Department facilities to harm the Services or nation. Active duty and retired Service members were among those who entered the Capitol on January 6, and their involvement was one of the reasons that the Secretary called for a stand-down in February 2021 to address extremism in the Services.

Based on our longstanding work in this area, ADL estimates that while the number of extremists in the military is small compared to the total number of men and women serving, even small numbers of unchecked extremists in the ranks can cause harm and problems far disproportionate to their number, including physical injury to service members and/or civilians; theft of military equipment; security breaches; harm to morale, unit cohesion, and personnel retention; and loss of reputation that detracts from mission success.

There is significant evidence that servicemembers today are encountering extremist personnel and that serious negative consequences will continue to result. Thankfully, Secretary Austin has ordered a review to explore options for discovering and mitigating the threat of extremists in the ranks. And in FY 2022, Congress directed the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on military personnel and extremist or criminal groups, and actions taken.

ADL asks that Congress support improved screening for domestic extremists at recruitment and enlistment.

ADL also asks that Congress support improved security clearance policies, procedures, and trainings to ensure that individuals who adhere to extremist ideologies do not have security clearances, including directing the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress in developing these improved policies, procedures, and trainings.

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS

1. COUNTERING GLOBAL WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL supports the Department of State's nascent efforts to counter "Racially and Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremism (REMVE)" and supports further efforts to shepherd in a new era of capabilities to counter white supremacy globally. White supremacy and other forms of domestic terrorism are clear threats domestically, but many of those threats have overseas counterparts with whom they coordinate or inspire. The Department's Multilateral coordination and best practices can serve as a cost-effective way to catalyze global efforts to mitigate the threat; by providing startup-funding for community resilience non-profits, facilitating best practices for policymakers, and creating best practices and training for prosecutors and terrorism prevention practitioners, a new era of capabilities can be launched.

ADL requests that the State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism receive additional funding specific to REMVE-related efforts, including dedicated funding for donations to the Global Counterterrorism Forum (\$2 million), Hedayah (\$800,000), the International Institute for Justice and Rule of Law (\$800,000), and the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (\$12 million) to build counter-REMVE capacity.

Additionally, the Department of State's Global Engagement Center (GEC) creates and supports critical efforts to counter malign propaganda, such as that of ISIS, Al Qaeda, Iran, and Russia. In light of the threat of the rise of global white supremacy, particularly given the movement's reliance on global communications, ADL believes the GEC should also create new efforts to address REMVE and adapt to the malign influence from global white supremacist extremists.

ADL requests that the State Department's Bureau of Public Affairs receive an additional \$10 million for the GEC to launch REMVE efforts.

ADL also asks that the Department be required to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress on implementation of the requirement in the FY 2021 NDAA that the Department create a comprehensive strategy on countering white identity terrorism and how the strategy will be implemented.

2. OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES

We are facing a global crisis of rising antisemitism today, which has been exacerbated in the last few years due to several factors, including the pandemic, proliferating cyberhate, rising far-right populism in certain countries, and anti-Zionist vitriol from far-left extremists in others. The horrific 2018 attack in Pittsburgh was the most deadly incident specifically targeting the Jewish community in our country's history, and we've seen

attacks by similar far-right extremists in America and around the world, such as in Poway and Halle, as well as other plots that were disrupted before they were carried out. And yet last May the huge spike in antisemitic violence around the world was an undeniable reminder that antisemitic assaults by other forces pose a persistent concern as well. Additionally, the largest Jewish community in the world is in Israel, which is subject to antisemitic incitement every day. For example, this includes the incitement of hatred and the plotting of deadly attacks by Hamas, Iran, Hezbollah, and Al Qaeda.

However, as alarming as the rise in incidents has been in America, circumstances have actually been far worse over the last decade in Europe, which is home to the four countries with the largest Jewish communities outside of Israel and North America. A major European Union survey of European Jewish respondents found that roughly 40 percent worried about being the target of an antisemitic physical attack, and over a third of respondents avoided visiting Jewish sites because of safety fears. And roughly 70 percent of respondents said their governments were not doing enough to address the societal antisemitism that leads to attacks. The next three largest Jewish communities in the world are in South America: Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, all of which also have serious concerns. For example, in Argentina, 85 people were murdered in a terrorist attack on a Jewish community center in 1994, and in 2021 vandals spray painted a Jewish community building with the words “we are going to kill you, Jewish rats” and “be a patriot, kill a Jew.”

Combating antisemitism around the world is an American interest, and there is no way that we can win this fight unless America plays a leading role by pressing other countries to do more. There are two crucial offices in the State Department working to fight antisemitism globally: the Office of the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism and the Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues. Each of these offices was funded in FY 2022 at a level of \$1 million, which falls short of the urgent role each plays in countering antisemitism around the world.

ADL requests an increase to \$2 million for the U.S. State Department’s Office of the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism.

ADL requests \$1.5 million for the U.S. State Department’s Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, for staffing and additional programs or exchanges to combat Holocaust distortion and to promote Holocaust education abroad in partnership with civil society.

3. BUREAU OF CYBERSPACE AND DIGITAL POLICY

As part of ADL’s REPAIR plan, ADL is encouraged by the establishment of the Department of State’s new Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy. However, for such a Bureau to succeed, it must be adequately resourced. For the federal government to meaningfully lead in the global cyber and digital policymaking world—of which the

United States is lagging behind—it is vital that this Bureau has the resources it needs to execute its mission.

ADL requests that Congress fully fund the Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT

According to a 2018 national survey, almost half of millennials believe that fewer than 2 million Jewish people were killed in the Holocaust. Teaching about the Holocaust goes beyond understanding the historical fact that six million Jews were murdered along with millions of other innocent victims of the Nazi regime during World War II. Holocaust education can teach universal lessons, including world history, fascism, extremism, the fragility of democracy, the human capacity for immorality, scapegoating and stereotyping, the role of perpetrators and bystanders, the importance of empathy and diversity and efforts toward justice.

ADL requests \$2 million to support the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's education programming in accordance with Public Law 116-141, the Never Again Education Act, that was passed overwhelmingly by Congress in May 2020.

These funding requests are essential to dealing with the grave situations our nation faces, including domestic extremism, increased antisemitism and hate crimes, and other critical issues.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at msevillia@adl.org or 202-374-1272 with any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration of ADL's requests.

Sincerely,



Max Sevillia
Vice President for Government Relations,
Advocacy and Community Engagement