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Michael Sheetz, President

January 9, 2024

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Director
Office of Management of Budget
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Director Young:

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 fighting antisemitism, 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, 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.

Jewish communities across the U.S. are experiencing antisemitism at levels not seen in generations. ADL has been tracking antisemitic incidents – including incidents of vandalism, harassment and assault – since 1979. According to our data, antisemitic incidents have been on the rise for years, reaching what were then record highs in 2022.

Antisemitism dramatically skyrocketed in the U.S. since the Hamas massacre in Israel. Between October 7 and December 7 of 2023, ADL recorded the highest number of antisemitic incidents ever recorded during any two-month period since we began tracking these incidents. In the wake of the war, between October 7 and January 7, we tallied a total of 3,099 incidents across the country – a 356% increase year-over-year.

As you prepare the Administration’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Budget Request, we urge you to use this budget to fight antisemitism at home and abroad, combat domestic extremism, prevent and address hate online and off, and build a more just and inclusive society. We also urge the Budget Request to lead the way in executing the Administration’s historic National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism.

Below, please find ADL’s appropriations requests which prioritize the following programs:

HOMELAND SECURITY

1. NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
2. CENTER FOR PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS
3. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
4. ONLINE RESOURCE TO PREVENT TARGETED VIOLENCE

LABOR, HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. COMBAT ANTISEMITISM ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES
2. SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN RESPONDING TO AND RECOVERING FROM HATE
3. RESILIENCE AGAINST ATTEMPTS TO FOMENT HATE ONLINE

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. COUNTER DOMESTIC TERRORISM
2. SECURE LAW ENFORCEMENT FROM ANTISEMITISM AND EXTREMISM
3. DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM RESEARCH
4. IMPROVE HATE CRIMES REPORTING
5. PREVENT AND RESPOND TO HATE CRIMES
6. ADDRESS HATE ONLINE
7. INVESTIGATE AND TRACK SWATTING INCIDENTS
8. COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

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1. OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTISEMITISM AND SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES
2. COUNTER GLOBAL WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM
3. SUPPORT ISRAEL'S NORMALIZATION EFFORTS
4. NITA M. LOWEY MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE ACT
5. THE U.S.-MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. DOMESTIC COORDINATOR TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM
2. INCREASE TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SOCIAL MEDIA
3. INVESTIGATE THE FINANCING OF DOMESTIC EXTREMISM
4. ANTISEMITISM EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT
2. STUDY CURRENT HOLOCAUST EDUCATION EFFORTS

DEFENSE

1. ADDRESS ANTISEMITISM AND EXTREMISM IN THE MILITARY

HOMELAND SECURITY

1. NONPROFIT 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.

The Nonprofit 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 2023, Congress appropriated \$305 million for the NSGP – a notable increase from the FY 2022 level. We appreciate that the President's FY 2024 budget request and the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism includes \$360 million for the NSGP. The FY 2024 House Homeland Security Appropriations bill passed with \$325 million while the Senate Homeland Security Appropriations bill included a recommendation of \$286.7 million for NSGP.

As extremist threats continue to rise, the need continues to be greater than the resources provided. For the 2023 funding cycle, there were \$679 million in grant applications requested, despite \$305 million in available funds. As the threats to our communities increase—and the demand for government resources outpaces supply—it is critical that additional resources be allocated to this program. At a time of increased vulnerability to threats of hate-motivated violence by domestic extremists, there must be increased 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.

ADL recommends the President's Budget include increased funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program at \$500 million. ADL recommends \$20 million for FEMA operations to support the administrative needs of the expanded Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

ADL further supports the President and Leader Schumer's supplemental request for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program as part of the emergency supplemental package.

2. CENTER FOR PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

ADL recommends increasing 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. CP3 plays a key role in keeping antisemitism from becoming antisemitic violence.

This community resilience approach to preventing terrorism has been chronically under-funded. These grants are integral for better understanding the extremist landscape and developing responsible, innovative prevention efforts to combat emerging and complex threats from extremists offline and online—social media platforms and online multiplayer games alike—including from white supremacists, antisemites, and misogynists. The FY 2023 enacted budget included \$20 million for these prevention grants. The FY 2024 House Homeland Security Appropriations bill passed without funding

this critical prevention program, while the Senate Homeland Security Appropriations bill included \$18 million in funding.

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 recommends the President’s Budget include \$50 million for the Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships grant program in FY 2025 to develop programs that would help mitigate against the complicated and evolving threat environment, in addition to robust administrative and program evaluation funds to ensure funded programs are adequately implemented and evaluated. Target program areas should include domestic violent extremism and explicitly include antisemitic violence and programs that leverage Holocaust education. Helping raise awareness of the horrors of the Holocaust and its history can serve as an important preventive measure in reducing radicalization.

At the same time, CP3 requires reform. Further 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; buttressing funding to nongovernmental partners would promote the more effective multidisciplinary approach that the CP3 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.

3. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

ADL recommends measures to ensure Congress resources to the threats. In 2021, Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas made fighting domestic violent extremism (DVE) a “National Priority Area.”

As part of the funding notice for the fiscal years 2021 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant programs, the Secretary designated combating DVE as a National Priority Area (NPA) on which state and urban area grant recipients would be required to set aside \$77 million in grant funding or 7.5 percent of their total awards. In 2022, DHS dropped the required percentage by approximately half, though all requirements were reduced, freeing up additional discretionary spending. These resources are critical for states to create efforts to address the domestic violent extremist threat, a threat that is ongoing and constantly evolving, and will require continuous funding.

Unfortunately, neither the President’s Budget nor Congress recommended set aside funding for DVE within the grant program in FY 2024.

ADL recommends that the Homeland Security Grant Program be sufficiently funded in the President’s Budget, with 7.5% of awards set aside for combating domestic violent extremism (DVE).

4. ONLINE RESOURCE TO PREVENT TARGETED VIOLENCE

ADL also recommends 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.

ADL requests sufficient resources in the President’s Budget to support the requests outlined in the United We Stand Summit, including Prevention Resource Finder, the online resource for federal content to prevent targeted violence in support of the [2021 National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism](#).

The website serves as a resource center for diverse institutional, governmental, and organizational users who require access to federal grants, program guidance, information sharing platforms, research, training, and community support efforts related to preventing targeted violence, including hate-based targeted violence.

LABOR, HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. COMBAT ANTISEMITISM ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

Rising antisemitism is directly impacting Jewish students on college and university campuses across the country. For decades, a small but vocal segment of U.S. student groups and faculty on college campuses has espoused virulently anti-Israel and anti-Zionist views effectively singling out Jews as a people undeserving of a right of self-determination. Over the past several years, the prominence of anti-Israel and anti-Zionist activities on campus has continued to grow.

Between October 7 and December 18, ADL has tallied a total of 470 antisemitic incidents on college and university campuses. By way of comparison, during the same period last year, ADL recorded only 40 such incidents on campus.

According to a [new ADL and Hillel International](#) study, 73 percent of Jewish college students and 44 percent of non-Jewish students have experienced or witnessed antisemitism this school year. This worsened after October 7th, where more students reported feeling physically unsafe on campus. Several high-profile incidents highlight the danger to Jewish students and faculty, including Cornell University, Cooper Union, Tulane University, George Washington University.

On November 6, Hillel International, ADL, the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, and Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP launched the Campus Antisemitism Legal Line (CALL), a free legal protection helpline for students who have experienced antisemitism. CALL was developed to allow any student, family, faculty, or staff member to report incidents of antisemitic discrimination, intimidation, harassment, vandalism, or violence on campus that might require legal action. Lawyers assess reports of antisemitic discrimination and hate, conduct in-depth information-gathering interviews, and provide pro bono representation for victims who choose to move forward with specific cases. In the weeks following, CALL has received more than 400 unique requests for assistance.

In 2019, the former Administration issued Executive Order 13899—Combating Anti-Semitism which reaffirms the long-standing principle that antisemitism and discrimination against Jews based on an individual’s race, color, or national origin may violate Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq. The Order directs the federal government to enforce Title VI against prohibited forms of discrimination rooted in antisemitism as vigorously as against all other forms of discrimination prohibited by Title VI and requires federal agencies to consider the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance’s (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism along with the eleven contemporary examples in enforcing Title VI. This EO underscored the policy that several administrations, both Democratic and Republican, had adopted.

As part of its commitments under the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism, Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) reminded schools of their legal obligations under Title VI to protect students who are or are perceived to be Jewish or Israeli. Additionally, the Department of Education clarified — for the first time in writing — that Title VI prohibits antisemitic discrimination in federally funded programs and activities.

OCR is on the front lines of the fight against antisemitism and plays a central role in enforcing Title VI protections for students and faculty. OCR is facing a surge in cases – particularly regarding the targeting of Jewish students. If OCR cannot appropriately investigate these cases, it cannot protect the rights,

safety, and wellbeing of students. We must ensure OCR has the resources it needs to be effective, fast, and robust in their investigations and response.

In FY2024, the President's Budget recommended \$177.6 million for OCR. The FY 2024 House Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee bill recommended \$105 million in funding, while the FY 2024 Senate Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee bill recommended \$140 million. We must adequately fund the OCR to give our government the best tools to investigate the unprecedented volume of complaints.

ADL recommends the President's Budget increase funding for the Office for Civil Rights by no less than \$10 million over the FY 2024 Budget Request to support the completion of pending investigations of Title VI complaints relating to antisemitic harassment and discrimination, and to prioritize the rulemaking process for Title VI to ensure it remains a priority.

2. SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN RESPONDING TO AND RECOVERING FROM HATE

From K-12 schools to university campuses, educational environments and educators are on the frontlines of the fight against hate. Students face threats of bullying, hate, harassment, and extremism. Educators and educational institutions at all levels need better resources not only to educate against hate and provide better anti-bias curriculum, but also to improve their ability to prevent hate-based threats and bullying and recover from hate-based violence.

ADL requests the President's Budget include funding for the Department of Education to support safer learning environments and student wellbeing and resilience in the face of hate and trauma as part of the implementation of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

ADL also requests the President's Budget include funding for the Department of Education's efforts to provide grants for institutions of higher education to effectively prevent and respond to hate-fueled violence, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) subjected to recent threats.

3. RESILIENCE AGAINST ATTEMPTS TO FOMENT HATE ONLINE

Online hate and extremism have increased dramatically in recent years, and the consequences have included violent attacks and serious harm. Online platforms often lack adequate policies to mitigate these challenges or fail to enforce their policies effectively, and users require skills to navigate around and remain safe from these threats.

As part of the President's United We Stand initiative, the Institute of Museum and Library Services will convene an interagency taskforce to facilitate the development of a portal of resources bridging information literacy research and practice to advance information literacy within communities. This Information Literacy Taskforce is charged with helping organizations confront the challenges, faced by people of all ages, of a lack of information literacy in many areas, from health, climate, and finance to civic engagement and public safety.

The FY2024 Senate Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee recommended \$3 million to continue work on information literacy,

including the continuation and expansion of the Information Literacy Taskforce. The FY2024 House Labor Health, Human Services, Education bill did not include similar funding.

ADL requests the President's Budget include an additional \$5 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to advance information literacy. This funding should specifically support the efforts of IMLS's Information Literacy Taskforce to facilitate the development of the portal of resources bridging information literacy research and best practices for advancing information literacy within communities.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. COUNTER DOMESTIC TERRORISM

Since 2019, DHS and FBI have repeatedly identified domestic terrorism as the most persistent and lethal terrorist threat to the homeland, yet the federal government continues to allocate resources and attention disproportionately to international terrorist threats.

ADL recommends investments to 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.

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 initiative, though we note that DOJ did not request funding specifically for the offices. Therefore, ADL encourages the Department to ensure that it has the appropriate budget and staffing to be successful, while ensuring robust protections for civil liberties.

We need to see continued dedicated resources to address the challenges at hand and on the scale that they continue to present themselves, including coordination and implementation of the National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget include increased funding for the FBI to increase its capacity to conduct domestic terrorism investigations. ADL also recommends that DOJ increase resources devoted to countering domestic terrorism.

2. SECURE LAW ENFORCEMENT FROM ANTISEMITISM AND EXTREMISM

Extremist movements seek to corrupt our law enforcement agencies by recruiting members to their violent causes. We must protect law enforcement’s ability to preserve unit cohesion and focus on fighting crime - not fending off extremist advances. ADL’s Center on Extremism (COE) has identified 373 individuals in the [Oath Keepers database](#) who we believe are currently serving in law enforcement agencies across the country. Among these 373 law enforcement employees, COE identified individuals holding a variety of positions, including officers, detectives, sergeants, lieutenants and captains. COE also identified individuals who we believe are currently holding senior leadership positions within their respective agencies, including at least ten chiefs of police and eleven sheriffs. 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 recommends that within the President’s Budget, Department of Justice clarify that they will provide the highest priority to Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program applicants and law enforcement agencies that screen applicants and personnel for violent extremist ideologies or affiliations, and prioritize COPS grants to program applicants and law enforcement agencies that require their employees to complete training on extremism.

3. DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM RESEARCH

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.

Assessments from the Director of National Intelligence, the FBI, and DHS have all concluded that the two most lethal elements of today’s domestic terrorism threat are (1) racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists who advocate for the superiority of the white race and (2) anti-government or anti-authority violent extremists, such as militia violent extremists. The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) 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; the Office of Justice Programs is well-suited to coordinate various complementary efforts throughout the offices it oversees.

In FY 2023, Congress provided \$3.06 billion for the Office of Justice Programs. Within that amount, \$7.5 million was allocated for the NIJ to research domestic radicalization. While these are good steps, this funding still falls far short of what is needed for comprehensive research into these complex threats from extremists offline and online—social media platforms and online multiplayer games alike—including from white supremacists, antisemites, and misogynists.

ADL has engaged with numerous families around the country that have expressed concerns about their loved one’s descent into extremism but have few options to help them off-ramp from a violent path toward a peaceful one. NIJ should create new research to map opportunities to refer youth to public health-style off-ramping programming, as well as into the latest trends in the radicalization of young people, including the feasibility of additional referral mechanisms for off-ramping programming.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget include \$20 million for the Office of Justice Programs dedicated specifically to research and data related to domestic violent extremism issues.

4. IMPROVE HATE CRIMES REPORTING

Fighting hate crimes is a critical task, especially now when manifestations of antisemitism and other forms of hate, racism, and bigotry are growing at a very disturbing rate. We are alarmed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) hate crime statistics for 2022 continue to convey low – and steadily declining – participation from law enforcement agencies. At a time when many communities across the country feel increasingly vulnerable to bias-motivated crimes and extremist-fueled attacks, funding is required to improve data collection and reporting as a necessary step in the fight to address hate-motivated violence. There must also be a greater emphasis on addressing biased-based crimes and resolving gaps in data collection and reporting. According to the FBI’s annual hate crime statistics report, there were 11,634 documented hate crime incidents across the country in 2022 – the highest number of reported hate crimes the FBI has ever recorded.

One of the biggest impediments to developing a complete picture of the scope and nature of hate crimes in this country – and therefore being able to design and implement a fulsome response – is the lack of comprehensive and reliable data. 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. In 2022, FBI data reflects that only 77.5% of the agencies enrolled in the hate crime data collection program participated in reporting hate crimes. Furthermore, even among agencies that do participate in the program, far too many – including those for cities with large populations – affirmatively report zero hate crimes, raising concerns about credibility and the accuracy of these numbers.

To address this issue, critical attention and funding is required. 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 NIBRS; and grants to develop state hate crime reporting hotlines to refer individuals to local law enforcement and support services.

Congress appropriated \$10 million in FY 2023 to implement the grants created by this legislation. The House Fiscal Year 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill did not fund this critical program, while the Senate Fiscal Year 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill funded the program at \$10 million. We appreciate the President's FY 2024 budget request of \$15 million and believe funding for the grant programs should be further increased.

ADL recommends that the President's Budget fully fund the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act grant programs at no less than \$20 million to support state and local efforts to continue implementation of NIBRS, establish and run hate crime reporting hotlines, train officers and develop protocols for identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes.

ADL recommends the President's Budget clarify that the FBI will continue to conduct outreach and provides 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. PREVENT AND RESPOND TO HATE CRIMES

The Administration must fully fund Department of Justice grants dedicated to monitoring, preventing, and prosecuting 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 training for law enforcement, and ensure thorough and appropriate investigations as well as prosecutions of hate crimes. During this time of historically high rates of hate crimes – particularly those targeting the Jewish community, and other minority and marginalized communities, this support remains vital to local efforts to effectively prevent and respond to bias and hate motivated attacks.

The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act was funded at \$25 million in FY 2023. While there is no funding for this program in the House Fiscal Year 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, the Senate Fiscal Year 2024 Commerce, Justice,

Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill recommended \$20 million for this critical outreach and training. The FY2024 President’s Budget Request of \$10 million should be increased in FY2025.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget include \$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) in FY 2025.

Community-based initiatives which was funded at \$10 million in FY2023, can prevent and respond to hate violence, build local community resilience against hate and extremism, and spark improvements in FBI hate crime data collection. The Senate FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill recommended \$10 million for community-based approaches to preventing hate crimes. The House FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill did not provide any funding for this hate crime prevention program.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget include \$30 million for grants to support community-based approaches to preventing hate crimes through conflict resolution and community empowerment and education.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget include additional funding for the Civil Rights Division to increase capacity to enforce civil rights statutes and address hate and bias in the areas of education, employment, housing, policing, public accommodations, and access to federally funded programs. The increased funding, which the Budget Request included in FY 2024, enables the Civil Rights Division to provide outreach to impacted communities and technical assistance to Federal, state, and local law enforcement entities.

6. ADDRESS HATE ONLINE

One urgent aspect of hate crimes is the proliferation of hate and harassment online. The ADL [Center for Technology and Society](#) (CTS) conducts an annual survey to assess bias-motivated online harassment and, in 2023, found disturbing results. Overall, the survey revealed among adults, more than half (52 percent) reported being harassed online in their lifetime, the highest number we have seen in four years, up from 40 percent in 2022. 18 percent of respondents recorded experiencing severe types of harassment—defined as including physical threats, sustained harassment, stalking, sexual harassment, doxing, and/or swatting—in the past 12 months alone, up from 12 percent in 2022. Data from the same survey also shows that marginalized or minority groups—including Jews, women, people of color, and LGBTQ+ people—experience hate-based online harassment (i.e., targeted attacks or abuse of marginalized people because of their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexuality, physical appearance, identity, or disability) at disproportionately high levels.

ADL also surveyed youth aged 13-17 in the same study about their experiences of hate and harassment online and found that over half (51 percent) reported experiencing harassment and over a quarter (32 percent) experienced severe harassment including physical threats, sustained harassment, stalking, sexual harassment, doxing, and swatting. Additionally, almost half (47 percent) of youth surveyed who were harassed in the past 12 months said online harassment led to offline/in-person harassment. Over half of respondents (58 percent) ages 13-17 experienced online harassment at some point in their lives, with almost 40 percent experiencing severe harassment.

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."

The House FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill does not fund either priority, while the Senate FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill recommends \$6 million for Cybercrime Enforcement as part of VAWA.

ADL recommends the President's Budget continue to request \$10 million for Local Law Enforcement Grants for enforcement of cybercrimes against individuals and \$4 million for the National Resource Center on Cybercrimes Against Individuals to address the serious issue of online hate, stalking, and abuse.

7. INVESTIGATE AND TRACK SWATTING INCIDENTS

ADL is deeply concerned with the rising trend of bomb threats being made to religious institutions across the country. According to ADL's 2022 annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, bomb threats towards Jewish institutions increased from eight to 91 incidents from the previous year. 2023 data indicates a dramatic annual increase – with nearly 200 incidents in December alone.

We have seen similar increases in the phenomenon of "swatting," the deliberate and malicious act of reporting a false crime or emergency to evoke an aggressive response (often a SWAT team) from a law enforcement agency to a target's residence or place of work to harass and intimidate them.

These threats are increasingly targeting marginalized groups, deeply traumatize our communities, and create dangerous situations for the police and public. Too often, religious communities around the country are prevented from practicing their faith without fear.

We appreciate the recent efforts by law enforcement to arrest the perpetrators of these crimes. In September 2023, the Justice Department charged a man with sending more than 150 bomb threats to synagogues and other buildings across five states that month. In December, a California juvenile responsible for executing a nationwide swatting campaign targeting synagogues across the county was arrested. However, these are but two examples of a dangerous trend that continues to instill fear in Jewish communities across the U.S.

Often times, local law enforcement agencies may not be aware that their specific swatting incident is potentially connected to ones in other states or jurisdictions. We welcome the creation of a national law

enforcement database on swatting earlier this year, which will help agencies share more information about these incidents to better understand how to identify potential targets or alleged perpetrators.

We recognize the complexity of identifying, tracing and investigating swatting calls and believe the FBI needs more resources to track, monitor, and investigate this growing problem, which will in turn help DOJ prosecute these crimes. By providing these additional resources, the FBI can also assist local and state law enforcement in their efforts to protect communities from this ongoing threat.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget provide sufficient resources to the FBI to support their tracking and investigations of swatting incidents.

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 increases in discrimination and hate.

CRS provides facilitation, mediation, training, and consultation services that improve communities’ abilities to problem solve and build capacity to prevent and respond to conflict, tension, and hate crimes based on race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability.

CRS’s efforts are both symbolically important and practically effective. Just one example is their role in helping to design and implement the “United Against Hate” program, which establishes alliances to identify, prevent, and report patterns of hate crimes and encourages trust building between law enforcement and communities. They also host workshops on protecting places of worship that provide interfaith communities with resources and information on securing their places of worship, help faith leaders build relationships with law enforcement, and answer questions.

In FY 2023, Congress appropriated over \$25 million for CRS. We appreciate that the FY 2024 President’s Budget recommended \$28.1 million, but see room for growth. The House FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill recommended funding the Community Relations Service at \$10 million, 60% below the FY 2023 enacted level. The Senate FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill recommended \$25.5 million.

ADL recommends the President’s Budget include increased funding for the Community Relations Service at \$40 million to ensure availability of community-based peacebuilding and violence prevention efforts.

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS

1. OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTISEMITISM AND SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES

We are facing a global crisis of rising antisemitism, which has been exacerbated in the last few years due to several factors, including the pandemic, proliferating cyberhate, rising populism in certain countries, and anti-Zionist vitriol from the far left and far right. 78 years after the end of the Holocaust, antisemitism remains a serious and growing danger for Jews in Europe, the Middle East, and elsewhere in the world.

The events of October 7 changed the global landscape of an already alarming problem. Following Hamas' assault on southern Israel, antisemitism around the world has skyrocketed dramatically. In the United States, between Oct. 7 and Dec. 7, ADL recorded a total of 2,031 antisemitic incidents, up from 465 incidents during the same period in 2022, representing a 337-percent increase year-over-year.

The rate of incidents around the world is just as frightening. In Europe, in the United Kingdom there have been 2,093 antisemitic incidents since Oct. 7, the highest ever figure ever reported to the Jewish community's security organization (CST) across a 68-day period. In France, according to the Minister of Interior, since October 7 there have been over 1,800 antisemitic incidents. In Germany, according to RIAS, the NGO which records antisemitic incidents in Germany, from October 7 to November 9, there were 994 incidents – an average of 29 per day – a 320% increase, compared to the rate of incidents in 2022. In Austria, according to the Jewish Community of Vienna, from October 7 to October 19, there were 76 antisemitic incidents since Oct. 7, a 300% increase. In the Netherlands, according to the Dutch NGO antisemitism monitor, CIDI, from October 7-November 6 there has been an increase of 818% compared to the average 1 month period of the prior 3 years.

In Argentina since Oct. 7, there have been around 231 reported antisemitic incidents. In Brazil according to the CONIB, which tracks antisemitism in Brazil, there have been 467 antisemitic incidents since Oct. 7, a 961% increase in comparison to the previous year. In Australia, according to the Executive Council of Australian Jewry there has been a 591% increase in antisemitic incidents since Oct. 7. Finally, according to the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, there were 41 antisemitic incidents in the month of October, a significant increase compared to prior years.

ADL Tracking Reveals Harmful Antisemitic Stereotypes Remain Deeply Entrenched Across Europe. ADL's Global 100 which measured antisemitic attitudes across Europe found that some of the most stubborn anti-Jewish tropes remain deeply entrenched in 10 European countries, with roughly one in four people harboring extensive classic antisemitic beliefs.

Combating antisemitism around the world is an American interest, and there is no way that we can win this fight unless the United States 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 2023 at a level of \$1.5 million, which falls short of the urgent role each plays in countering antisemitism around the world.

The FY 2024 House State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee recommended bill \$2.5 million for the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, for staffing and program costs. The FY 2024 Senate State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee Committee bill recommended \$2 million for the aforementioned office. The FY 2024 House and Senate State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee and the Senate Appropriations Committee bills both recommend \$1.5 million for the U.S. Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues.

ADL recommends the President's Budget include \$3 million for the U.S. State Department's Office of the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, for staffing, additional programs, as well as continuity of staff between administrations.

ADL also recommends the President's Budget include \$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.

2. COUNTER GLOBAL WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM

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 responsible for these 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 recommends that the President's Budget for the State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism include 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.

The Department of State's Global Engagement Center (GEC) creates and supports critical efforts to counter malign propaganda, such as that of ISIS, Hamas, 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 create new efforts to address REMVE and adapt to the malign influence from global white supremacist extremists.

ADL recommends that the President's Budget specify that the State Department's Bureau of Public Affairs receive an additional \$10 million for the GEC to launch REMVE-specific efforts.

3. SUPPORT ISRAEL'S NORMALIZATION EFFORTS

Over the past three years, the historic Abraham Accords have transformed the Middle East and created the opportunity for systemic change in the fight against antisemitism and Holocaust denial in the region. The normalized relations between Israel, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco are

ushering in a new era of bridge-building between Israel and her neighbors. At the same time, these accords provide unprecedented opportunities to promote tolerance and fight antisemitism in the region.

As we have done so globally, the United States must leverage these accords to fight antisemitism globally and advance global efforts to support Holocaust education and curriculum that fights violence, bigotry and hate.

Congress passed the Special Envoy for the Abraham Accords Act as a part of the FY 2024 NDAA. This legislation mandates the appointment of a special envoy who will be responsible for coordinating on behalf of the U.S. government with regional ambassadors, nongovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders to strengthen and expand the Abraham Accords. At a time when tensions in the region are higher than we have seen in decades, and these new bilateral relationships are on tenuous ground, it is crucial this role receive as much support as possible. This will ensure the long-term success of the accords, Negev Forum and other regional normalization efforts, which will ultimately contribute to greater economic prosperity and lasting peace in the region.

ADL requests the President's Budget include \$1.5 million for the expedited establishment of the Office of Abraham Accords Special Envoy by the U.S. State Department, as well as any additional funds deemed necessary by the Secretary for staffing and operational needs.

4. NITA M. LOWEY MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE ACT

The Nita M. Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act (MEPPA) was enacted into law in 2020 with bipartisan support, and directs \$50 million for people-to-people exchanges and economic partnerships between Israelis and Palestinians. The legislation, named after former Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee provides for grants to support Palestinian and Israeli private sector initiatives to build partnerships, increase economic growth, and lay the foundation for peace through people-to-people programs. These crucial programs – the People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund and the Joint Investment for Peace Initiative, implemented by the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).

MEPPA programs are a critical tool of U.S. foreign policy aiming to build greater trust among Israelis and Palestinians and enhance economic cooperation in the hopes of delivering greater prosperity to the region. This effort continues to play an important role in Israeli-Palestinian civil society and peacebuilding.

In FY2024, the President's Budget recommended \$50 million for the Nita M. Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act. The FY 2024 Senate and House State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee bills recommended \$50 million for this critical program.

ADL recommends that the President's Budget maintain funding at \$50 million under the Economic Support Fund to support MEPPA in FY 2025.

5. THE U.S.-MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

The U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Program under the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs' Office of Assistance Coordination (NEA/AC) offers assistance, training, and support to groups and individuals striving to create positive change in the society. MEPI works across the Middle East and North Africa region partnering with civil society organizations, community leaders, youth and women activists, and private sector groups to advance their efforts to improve their communities. MEPI's approach is bottom-up and grassroots, responding directly to local interests and needs.

The MEPI Program responds to needs and emerging opportunities for citizens and organizations that target one or more three core objectives – Participatory Governance, Economic Reform, or Educational Advancement. MEPI remains an important program for promoting economic and political reforms.

In FY2024, the President's Budget recommended \$27.2 million for the MEPI Program. Both the House State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee and the Senate Appropriations Committee recommend \$27.2 million for the MEPI program.

ADL recommends that the President's Budget Request maintain funding at \$27.2 million for the MEPI program to support its important goals.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. DOMESTIC COORDINATOR TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM

Antisemitism has dramatically skyrocketed within the United States, especially after October 7.

In light of this growth, and in-line with the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism, the White House should create a domestic coordinator to combat antisemitism. As White House staff and resources are pulled into other crises, a domestic coordinator to lead the implementation of the National Strategy and lead actions beyond will help to keep a central focus on this issue.

The National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism contains the blueprint for the comprehensive whole-of-society and whole-of-government change needed to tackle antisemitism. Even before the current spike, ADL data revealed that this hate was persistently on the upswing. In 2022, ADL recorded 3,697 antisemitic incidents throughout the United States, marking a 36% increase from 2021 and the highest number on record since we began tracking such incidents in 1979.

At present, the senior position in the Administration dedicated to antisemitism – the Department of State’s Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism – is limited to combating hate internationally. There is no senior level position within the U.S. government uniquely dedicated to combating domestic antisemitism.

ADL requests the President’s Budget include \$400,000 for the creation of a U.S. Domestic Coordinator to Combat Antisemitism and additional funds to support interagency implementation and coordination efforts for the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism.

2. INCREASE TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

In an effort to stop the spread of hateful, racist, and extremist online activity and content, as well as stymie the flow of disinformation, it is vital that the public and policymakers alike have a better understanding of how social media platforms are protecting their users. Current transparency reports on how social media companies are policing their platforms are selective and inadequate in terms of the information provided, and are often inconsistent and confusing. This misleads consumers and investors alike. That is why the federal government must champion policies that promote transparency and accountability for any digital platforms that can host online hate, harassment and extremism.

ADL surveys have found that reports of hate and harassment over the last 12 months increased by nearly every measure and within almost every demographic group. Hate across the internet can too often turn into real violence and danger in our communities. Additional ADL research found that some of the biggest social media platforms and search engines’ algorithms at times directly contribute to the proliferation of online antisemitism, hate and extremism. In one survey some platforms recommended extreme, contemptuously antisemitic and hateful content to users, and in a second survey testing search functions, all platforms made finding hateful content and groups a frictionless experience by autocompleting terms. In some cases, the platforms even automatically generated content to provide hateful content to users.

The federal government should invest resources in and build off of current initiatives to enhance transparency and accountability of social media platforms for the harms that they facilitate. For instance, studies, commissions, or other measures can be funded in order to develop a comprehensive

transparency framework for platforms on content moderation, recommender systems, digital ads, high-reach content, and internal research.

ADL requests the President's Budget include \$10 million for the Federal Trade Commission's Office of Technology and Bureau of Consumer Protection to enhance current initiatives to promote transparency and accountability of social media platforms. The objective of such investment should include the development of a comprehensive transparency framework for platforms.

3. INVESTIGATE THE FINANCING OF DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

Domestic violent extremist organizations support their movement through a variety of financing mechanisms, including utilizing online crowdfunding platforms. The funds that flow to these organizations are used to target communities at risk of hate, and to promote violence. Whereas the U.S. government has considerable resources to track the financing of foreign terrorists, it must further invest in its capacity to investigate the financing of domestic terrorists.

ADL requests the President's Budget include funding for the Department of Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence specifically to investigate domestic terrorism and to continue funding its website of key reports and resources on financing domestic violent extremism that helps inform the public and private sector.

4. ANTISEMITISM EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

With antisemitism rising precipitously around the United States, it is critical for the federal government to incorporate antisemitism education and training as part of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) efforts and other anti-bias initiatives. Building on commitments in the National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism, OMB and other parts of the federal government should include addressing antisemitism, cultural competency on Jews and Jewish issues, and workplace religious accommodations in any Government-Wide Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Initiative and Strategic Plan.

DEIA efforts should take into account the experiences of all government employees and do so in an intersectional manner. Otherwise, any gaps or inequities that prevent the creation of a truly inclusive workplace will not be addressed. One of the areas to build upon current efforts is by incorporating antisemitism and other issues impacting Jewish employees into DEIA strategies.

ADL requests that the Government-wide DEIA Plan and other anti-bias initiatives include antisemitism as part of their efforts to build a more inclusive government.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

1. NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT

According to a [survey done in 2020 by the Claims Conference](#), 63 percent of U.S. Millennials and Gen Z do not know that six million Jews were killed during the Holocaust. Additionally, 12 percent of U.S. Millennials and Gen Z have never heard or don't think they've heard the word "Holocaust" before.

78 years after the conclusion of World War II, with the decreasing number of eyewitnesses and growing distance of students and their families from this history, it is important to institutionalize education about the events of the Holocaust such as the German Nazis' racist ideology, propaganda, and plan to lead a state to war and, with their collaborators, kill millions--including the systematic murder of six million Jewish people; as well as the persecution and murder of millions of others in the name of racial purity, political, ideological, and behavioral grounds, among them Sinti-Roma, Poles, people with physical and mental disabilities, LGBTQ+ people, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents.

According to a [study from Echoes and Reflections](#), an ADL educational program, Holocaust education encourages empathy and tolerance. 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. If we do not make sure our children are learning about the Holocaust and antisemitism, history will repeat itself.

Holocaust denial and distortion is proliferating more broadly. Today, those who deny that the Holocaust occurred or distort its true nature continue to find forums, especially online. This denial and distortion dishonors those who were persecuted, and murdered, making it even more of an imperative to educate students in the United States so that they may explore the lessons that the Holocaust provides for all people, sensitize communities to the circumstances that gave rise to the Holocaust, and help youth be less susceptible to the falsehood of Holocaust denial and distortion and to the destructive messages of hate that arise from Holocaust denial and distortion.

As antisemitism, bigotry, and Holocaust denialism and distortion are on the rise and continuously promoted by hate groups, Holocaust education provides a context in which to learn about the danger of what can happen when hate goes unchallenged and there is indifference in the face of the oppression of others. Learning how and why the Holocaust happened is an important component of the education of members of our society.

We must properly resource Holocaust education through the Never Again Education Act. With the study of the Holocaust, students can grow as responsible citizens, have the tools to speak out against hate, and develop critical thinking, empathy, and social justice skills for the future.

The FY 2024 House Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee passed bill and FY 2024 Senate Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee included \$2 million as authorized under the Never Again Education Act in order to support and strengthen Holocaust education programs.

ADL requests the President's Budget include a minimum of \$10 million for the Never Again Education Act to significantly scale up the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's education programming.

2. STUDY CURRENT HOLOCAUST EDUCATION EFFORTS

Holocaust education is a critical tool to teach students the dangers of bias and hate and fight back against the rising tide of antisemitism. Unfortunately, there are currently significant variations in if and how the Holocaust is taught across different states and localities, what types of lessons and curricula are taught, and what resources and training are available to support educators. The best available data is needed to drive policy, and to understand the underlying gaps in education efforts. In order to improve and support Holocaust and antisemitism education, there must be an understanding of what programs, curriculum, and resources exist in order to promote a more uniform and accurate understanding of Holocaust education.

A compilation of efforts nationwide will help states and nongovernmental organizations improve and increase teaching about the Holocaust and antisemitism as well as other forms of hate, bigotry, and genocide.

ADL recommends that the President's Budget include \$2 million for a study by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum on the state of Holocaust Education across the country. This research should examine efforts in states, local educational agencies, and public elementary schools and secondary schools, including identifying each state's standards and the requirements, teaching methods and instructional material, and the overall comprehensiveness of the Holocaust education.

DEFENSE

1. ADDRESS ANTISEMITISM AND EXTREMISM IN THE MILITARY

ADL research has shown a continuous rise in antisemitism and extremism – threatening not only individual Americans and communities but our national security as a whole. ADL's [2022 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents in the United States](#) found that antisemitic incidents reached an all-time high in the United States since the Audit was launched in 1979, with a total of 3,697 incidents of assault, harassment and vandalism. At the same time, domestic violent extremism has been on the rise in recent years, including in the military. As the Department of Defense Inspector General recently reported, extremism in the military is a persistent threat, with dozens of troops suspected of advocating to overthrow the U.S. Government.

The Jewish community continues to be a primary target of extremists, regardless of ideology, alongside other targeted communities. Unchecked extremism damages our social fabric and undermines our democratic norms and institutions.

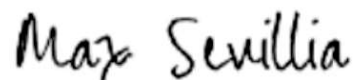
In light of this threat, ADL remains deeply concerned by violent extremists' attempted recruitment from and targeting of government institutions, and the danger posed to our service members. Even a small number of members harboring unchecked antisemitism and extremism in the ranks undermines America's armed forces and can cause harm far disproportionate to their number. According to [ADL research](#), there is significant evidence that service members today are encountering antisemitic and extremist personnel, and that this extremist threat to the ranks has been harmful to the effectiveness and security of the force in multiple ways. It has led to physical harm to servicemembers, theft of military equipment, security breaches, harm to morale, mental health, unit cohesion and personnel retention, harm to recruiting efforts, and harm to mission success.

In order to protect our armed forces and uniformed services from the national security threat posed by antisemitism and extremism, ADL recommends an additional \$2 million per year in the President's Budget in dedicated funding specific to domestic violent extremist threats be provided to the Insider Threat Management and Analysis Center to research and address antisemitism and extremist threats within the military.

ADL also urges the Administration to improve security clearance policies, procedures, and training to ensure that individuals who adhere to extremist ideologies, including dangerous antisemitic or conspiracy-riddled views, do not have security clearances. Appropriate civil liberties safeguards should be put in place as part of this process, including ensuring that Americans, including Jewish Americans, are not unduly targeted with accusations of dual loyalty towards Israel.

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. Thank you for your consideration of ADL's requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Max Sevilla". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Max Sevilla
Senior Vice President for National Affairs
ADL (Anti-Defamation League)