



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

February 28, 2017

The Honorable John F. Kelly  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

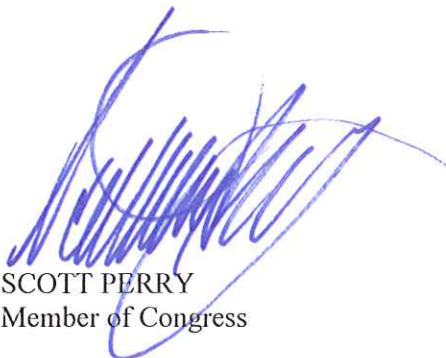
Dear Secretary Kelly,

As the members of the House Committee on Homeland Security (CHS), we're alarmed at the high number of bomb threats made against Jewish Community Centers (JCC's) in recent months. We request the Department investigate these threats as domestic terrorism and that the Office for Community Partnerships (OCP) work with JCC's to identify targets and provide best practices for deterrence.

JCC's have been the target of threats for the past several months, and this past Monday, another wave of cowardly acts was perpetrated. With 69 total threats this year alone, we have to assume these threats are organized and driven by an anti-Semitic ideology. While no bombs have been found, the perpetrators have successfully instilled fear through terrorist acts and must be brought to justice.

Last Congress, the Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittee held a hearing on The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS's) Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) program and we discussed how the Department worked with religious communities to combat terrorism through the OCP. All religions have the right to practice in America without threat of persecution.

We'd appreciate to learn your findings on this matter and welcome any suggestions as to how we as a Committee can assist you. Thank you for your service to our great Nation and look forward to working with you in strengthening our nation's security.



SCOTT PERRY  
Member of Congress

Very Respectfully,



LOU BARLETTA  
Member of Congress