



Approved by Board of Trustees, October 30, 2023

Judea Reform Board of Trustees Statement Following the October 7, 2023 Attack on Israel by Hamas

We, the Board of Trustees of Judea Reform Congregation, are outraged over Hamas's murderous October 7 assault on innocent people in Israel. We are haunted that over 200 Israeli citizens and foreign nationals are being held against their will in Gaza by Hamas terrorists. We echo the demand of President Biden for their immediate and safe return.

We are heartbroken over the unfolding humanitarian crisis in Gaza and support the just cause of Palestinian rights and sovereignty. But, we are alarmed that these terrorist acts have, in the eyes of some, enhanced rather than undermined the legitimacy of Hamas and have fueled the rise of anti-semitism. We must call out anti-semitic violence for what it is, and, at the same time, support all efforts for peace. We unequivocally condemn Hamas and the terrorist attacks of October 7.

We know that many of our community are struggling and wondering how to respond, but we are strong as a congregation and community. We are proud to be Jewish and proud to be part of Judea Reform Congregation. Judea Reform Congregation will continue to provide spaces for sharing and dialogue. We will also identify opportunities to support those in Israel who are suffering because of these attacks.