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Co-Chair Emeritus Congressional Native American Caucus

October 10, 2023

Community Gathering in Solidarity with Israel Beth El Synagogue 5225 Barry Street W. Saint Louis Park, Minnesota

Dear Friends:

I stand in solidarity with the people of Israel in the face of the surprise murderous attacks by Hamas terrorists against innocent Israelis last Saturday. I also stand with J Street who have called this 'one of the most shocking massacres in the history of Israel, and indeed in the entire history of this century. The horror and pain is difficult to process and comprehend.'

These attacks by Hamas – a terrorist group focused on the elimination of Israel – are a devastating escalation of violence.

There is no justification for terrorism.

These attacks are a crime against humanity and a brazen violation of international law. Among the victims are babies, children and their families -- including American citizens. These heartbreaking losses are felt personally by many in Minnesota who share deep ties to Israel, and I stand with them in their grief and pain.

The path to peace and security in the Middle East will now be even more difficult, but we must remain committed to our values. I stand in solidarity with you and will continue to lead with our U.S. values of democracy and equal justice for all.

Sincerely,

Betty McCollum Member of Congress