

Statement of NJSBA President Timothy F. McGoughran

The New Jersey State Bar Association condemns the terrorist attacks by Hamas on Israel that the world community witnessed in recent days. These attacks have explicitly targeted innocent Israeli civilians, with hundreds of people murdered in their homes and communities, while still others have been kidnapped and are being held hostage.

We are also deeply concerned about the well-being of innocent Palestinians– a great many of whom are children. They, too, deserve to live in safety and peace.

The NJSBA mourns the thousands of lives that have been lost, remains hopeful that this unacceptable and inhumane violence will end and supports all efforts for a just resolution and adherence to the rule of law.

This week has not been an easy one and there seems to be no immediate end to this crisis. We are cognizant of the deep connections many in our community have to what is happening in Israel and Gaza. The NJSBA provides free, immediate access 24/7 to counselors through its Member Assistance Program at 800-531-0200.

In addition, here are some organizations that offer support and assistance: <u>American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee</u> <u>Anera</u> The <u>Carter Center</u> <u>Doctors Without Borders</u> The <u>International Red Cross</u> <u>Muslim Aid USA</u> The United Nations