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Bay Area Jewish Agencies Jointly Condemn Criminal Acts Against Rabbi Lerner's Home

San Francisco, CA, May 4, 2010... The Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Northern California Board of Rabbis, and the Jewish Federation of the East Bay join together to condemn the vandalism of Rabbi Michael Lerner's home in Berkeley, California, this week.

The four agencies issued the following joint statement:

"We unequivocally condemn criminal acts perpetrated against Rabbi Lerner's home. Political disagreements must be resolved in a civil manner, and not by resorting to violence. Our communities are especially disturbed that this crime targeted Rabbi Lerner at his home, thereby conveying to him the message that he may not be safe there. We are encouraged by the responsiveness of the Berkeley Police Department to this incident, and we urge its officers to investigate this crime as thoroughly as possible. The entire community must send a message to the perpetrators that we reject violence and criminality as a means to express our political opinions."

The Anti-Defamation League, founded in 1913, is the world's leading organization fighting anti-Semitism through programs and services that counteract hatred, prejudice and bigotry.

The Jewish Community Relations Council is a consensus-based organization representing dozens of synagogues and Jewish institutions in pursuit of a just society and a secure Jewish future.

The Northern California Board of Rabbis serves the needs of colleagues, acts as a religious resource in communal and individual affairs, and builds connections and commitment to the Jewish community.

The Jewish Federation of the East Bay is dedicated to building a vibrant and inclusive local Jewish community, and to enhancing the well being of Jews in the East Bay, Israel and throughout the world.