

Dear UNIVERSITY,

I write to you today as a [STUDENT/ALUMNI/PARENT] watching in horror as my homeland is massacred. Early on the morning of October 7th in Israel, Hamas began its assault on Israel via land, sea, and air, including over 6,000 rockets fired at civilian targets. At this moment we know of over 1,300 Israelis that have been killed by Hamas, and more than 200 hostages throughout the Gaza strip including women, children, and the elderly. As we watch horrific scenes play out on the news, we are heartbroken and terrified.

UNIVERSITY has a significant Israeli American and Jewish population among the student body. They do not feel safe. We do not feel they are safe. Given the protests and rallies against Israel that have been held around the country and particularly on college campuses, safety is a top priority.

The narrative being spread at these rallies is not only morally and factually wrong but also dangerous and provocative. We are seeing swastikas held up next to the Palestinian flag in our major cities. This is antisemitism plain and simple. Members of the student body are posting anti-Jewish comments and misinformation on social media. Jewish students have received personal threats of violence. No university student deserves to fear for their personal safety on their own campus. It is your responsibility to protect students, provide trauma-informed care, and emotional support.

We are asking, as members of the UNIVERSITY community, for increased security measures to be undertaken. We urgently ask you to bring a police presence or to hire private security, for the Jewish buildings and institutions on campus. We have every reason to believe that Jewish spaces will be targeted for antisemitic violence and our hope is to stop those events before they happen. Jewish and Israeli students and their families will feel safer with heightened security on campus.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with additional questions regarding this assault on Israel, or about additional ways you can provide emotional support for students during this difficult time.

Sincerely,