

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## STATEMENT FROM RABBINICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREATER KANSAS CITY REGARDING SITUATION IN ISRAEL

The Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City expresses its deep concern for the safety and security of the citizens of the State of Israel. We are saddened by the report of loss of lives on both sides of the conflict and by the escalation towards civil conflict within Israel.

We understand that the situation is complex and that there is no easy solution to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. As spiritual leaders, we are committed to the teachings of our tradition to "Be of the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace, loving the creatures and bringing them closer to Torah." We deplore all acts of violence and distance ourselves from extremist religious views that foster a climate of discord and enmity among our people.

This Shabbat, we invite the Jewish community of our area to come together in our sanctuaries, both in-person and virtually and join in prayers remembering the lives lost, asking for healing of the wounded, and for peace between Jews and Arabs in the land of Israel.

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