

December 31, 2019

Dear Neighbor,

It is with deep sadness and grave concern we hear about the rise of anti-Semitic acts throughout the country. The recent anti-Semitic attacks in Jersey City and Monsey, New York, as well as other incidents in New York City have many of the Jewish faith rightfully on edge. Let it be clear, as Mayor, together with our Town Council, we strongly denounce these domestic acts of terror and reaffirm our unity as a community.

We want to assure each and every one of you we continue to do everything in our power to keep all of our residents safe.

As with School Security, Marlboro Police Department has been proactive in providing safety and security for our religious institutions. In addition to regular meetings with Clergy, we provide training and protection for all religious institutions within our border. Prior to the High Holidays, we offered BOLO, a highly trained explosive detection dog and his law enforcement handler, Patrolman Abrahamson, to conduct searches for a variety of explosive materials in and around buildings and public areas.

This morning Chief Pezzullo participated in a state-wide call hosted by the Interfaith Advisory Council. The conference call gave an overview of the threat landscape, available resources for the Interfaith Community, and a review of the ongoing collaborative outreach efforts between law enforcement and community leaders. It is important to note that there is NO Known Credible Threat to New Jersey or our Jewish communities. Director Maples noted that it is imperative that our citizens remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities to their local police department. To that end, we again ask for your help.

In February of 2018, the Police Department and the Mayor's office announced the Citizen Reporting Initiative 'See Something. Say Something® We will Do Something'. If you observe graffiti or witness an incident, whether verbal or physical, see anti-Semitic or racist posts online, we ask you to be proactive. If you see someone or something out of place or if something just doesn't seem right, DO NOT HESITATE. Immediately, call the Marlboro Police at 732-536-0100. Should you wish to report an incident anonymously, call the Marlboro Tip Line at 888-536-1010. If you feel that your own safety, or the public's safety, is at risk, get to a safe place and dial 911. Important numbers and information are linked below. We ask that you save it to your phone for easy access.

In the many communications, presentations and speeches from Town Hall, there has been a common thread – that we come together in times of adversity and value and honor the diversity of our community. Marlboro Township is home to many places of worship that represent a myriad of faiths and beliefs. We have residents of diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds in our schools, youth programs, and on local committees – these individuals come together to make up the rich fabric of our town.

It is with determination and without equivocation that we declare that expressions of bias or intolerance or violence are not welcome in this community. Furthermore, let it be clear that any

crimes committed in this regard will be prosecuted under the fullest extent of the law. During these challenging times we, as a community, stand together.

Yours in Community,
Mayor Jon Hornik
Chief Peter J. Pezzullo

Citizen Reporting Initiative