



## **Jewish Community Relations Council**

of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties  
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### **Media Announcement**

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### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

## **A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE ON: The Israeli incursion into the Gaza Strip**

### **Spokespersons available for on-the-record commentary and analysis**

**What lies behind Israel's incursion into the Gaza Strip?** Israel's armed forces launched a ground operation in the Gaza Strip two days ago in the wake of months of cross-border violence by Palestinian terror organizations. Since Israel's withdrawal from Gaza 8 months ago, a day hasn't gone by without Qassam rockets being fired into Israeli sovereign territory. Since June 1st alone, Palestinian terrorists have fired over 130 "Qassam" rockets from the Gaza Strip into Israeli towns and villages near Gaza. Most of these rockets landed on the Israeli town of Sderot, killing two Israeli civilians there, wounding dozens of others and causing many thousands of dollars in property damage.

Recent months also saw Israel's response to these attacks, targeting the terrorists. Tragically, a number of Palestinian civilians were also killed. We express sorrow over the loss of civilian life on both sides of the conflict.

This violence came to a head this past Sunday with the cross-border attack on an Israeli army outpost, killing two soldiers, wounding seven, and kidnapping one. Meanwhile, an 18 year old Israeli civilian was kidnapped in the West Bank by terrorists, who are threatening his life.

- What should the international community do to stop the cross-border violence?
- What is the role of the Hamas-led PA in this escalation of violence?
- What are the implications of agreement between Hamas and Fatah factions?

JCRC supports a two-state solution to end the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis. Final borders and other issues must be left to the parties themselves to negotiate in a peace process free from violence and the threat of violence.

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The Jewish Community Relations Council is the central public affairs arm of the organized Jewish community, representing more than 80 synagogues and Jewish organizations in the Bay Area on public affairs issues.