



Karol V. Mason
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October 10, 2023

To: The John Jay College Community
Re: Terrorist Attacks in Israel

This past Saturday, the world woke up to the horrifying news that Hamas launched a terrorist attack on Israel. John Jay College strongly condemns these acts of aggression by militants targeting Jewish families and communities.

As an institution committed to justice, we stand united in rejecting violence, hatred, and bigotry—including antisemitism. At John Jay, we foster an inclusive and diverse community drawn from our city, our country, and around the world. The breadth of our community motivates us to question our assumptions, consider multiple perspectives, think critically, and develop the humility that comes with global understanding.

As a society, we must put a premium on the sanctity of human life. Our hearts break for the families of the dead, kidnapped, and injured—with numbers steadily climbing—and we're deeply concerned for the Israeli and Palestinian families caught in the crossfire. Our hope is that this conflict ends swiftly to prevent further suffering.

It's understandable that these devastating events could directly impact members of our Bloodhound family. I urge students shaken by this tragedy to set up a confidential meeting with a trained mental health professional, free of charge, through our Wellness Center. Faculty and staff can access free, confidential, wellness services through the CUNY Work/Life Program.

During these painful times, I ask that everyone act with compassion—especially for our Jewish and Palestinian community members. If you feel comfortable, reach out to your friends, students, and colleagues and offer your support. The simplest acts of kindness are powerful tools toward peace.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karol V. Mason". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karol V. Mason
President
John Jay College

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