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DA, US Attorney and FBI United in Condemning Jewish Terror Attack in Sydney, Australia

San Diego Law Enforcement Asking Public to Remain Vigilant

In response to mass shooting and terror attack during a Hannukah menorah lighting ceremony at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, San Diego County District Attorney [Summer Stephan](#) together with U.S. Attorney Adam Gordon and FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Mark Dargis expressed their condolences to the victims and their families and reassured the San Diego County public that there are no known active threats locally at this time, and that they are asking the public to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious.

San Diego law enforcement agencies are closely monitoring developments related to the incident and remain in constant communication.

“Acts of violence like the one we witnessed in Sydney are horrifying and understandably cause concern as fear ripples across the Jewish community worldwide, and here in San Diego, especially during the observance of Hanukkah,” said San Diego County District Attorney Summer Stephan. “We feel a deep connection to the victims, including a survivor of the Poway Synagogue shooting who has now lost a nephew in the antisemitic murders in Australia. I want the public to know that our law-enforcement partners are vigilant, coordinated, and prepared, and that public safety remains our highest priority. We will prosecute hate crimes to the fullest extent of the law, as we have clearly demonstrated by tripling our hate-crime prosecutions. This sends a clear message: we will not tolerate hate or violence. We urge the public to report anything suspicious to law enforcement.”

U.S. Attorney Adam Gordon echoed that message, emphasizing coordination at the federal level.

“Antisemitism is not acceptable. We will speak out today and every day that follows that those who perpetrate violence targeted at our Jewish community will face federal hate crime charges,” said U.S. Attorney Adam Gordon. “We mourn for those murdered at Bondi Beach as they gathered to celebrate Hanukkah. While we have no information at this time suggesting any threat to San Diego, our law enforcement partners are fully engaged to protect our Jewish community.”

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The FBI Special Agent in Charge for San Diego said that monitoring and prevention efforts are ongoing around the clock.

“The FBI remains vigilant in our efforts to detect and assess possible threats within the San Diego region, and we maintain that readiness not just after a major incident elsewhere, but always,” said Mark Dargis, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI San Diego Field Office. “The FBI takes all potential threats seriously. To stay ahead of any emerging threats, we work closely with our law enforcement partners to share information year-round, increasing our collective abilities to address any potential threats our communities face and keep them safe.”

In many cases of targeted violence attacks, bad actors leak their plans either intentionally or unintentionally to a third party. These third parties can play a critical role in the detection and prevention of violent attacks.

In San Diego County, the prevention of mass violence is a top public safety priority, achieved through close coordination and collaboration among law-enforcement agencies throughout the region. A key component of this effort is the San Diego County Threat Assessment and Threat Management Team, which brings together multidisciplinary partners to identify, assess, and mitigate potential threats before they escalate.

Threat assessment is a process of identifying, assessing and managing the threat that certain people may pose with the goal being to intervene before an attack can occur.

When necessary, law enforcement agencies act quickly to protect individuals and the public, using tools such as Gun Violence Restraining Orders, firearm safety checks, PERT involvement, and mental health referrals when appropriate.

Although there are no active threats, public awareness remains an important part of community safety. Anyone who observes suspicious behavior is encouraged to immediately report it to local law enforcement.

For updates or public safety information, residents are encouraged to rely on official law-enforcement channels. Members of the public can report a suspicious activity to local law enforcement at (858) 320-1800 or tips.fbi.gov or the [Law Enforcement Coordination Center](#). In addition, the DA’s website has a [hate crime reporting tool](#).

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About the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office

The San Diego County DA’s Office prosecutes all felony crimes in the county and misdemeanor crimes committed outside the City of San Diego. The office files about 40,000 criminal cases a year and balances prosecution with numerous crime prevention programs. District Attorney Summer Stephan leads the office of more than 1,000 dedicated employees who pursue fair and equal justice, and support victims daily across San Diego County.

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