



# GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 29, 2018

Mr. Robert Singer  
Chief Executive Officer  
World Jewish Congress  
501 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Singer,

It is with profound sadness that I express to you my wholehearted condolences for the horrific attack against innocent worshippers in the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh this past Saturday. Such an act of hatred toward a particular religious group is a threat to the very fabric of our society.

On behalf of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, I assure you that our Greek Orthodox Christian community in the United States stands with you in solidarity and embraces the families of the victims and the people of the Tree of Life Synagogue. We pray that love for one another overcomes hatred and transforms the hearts and minds of humanity.

Prayerfully and with heartfelt sympathy and high esteem

*Archbishop Demetrios of America*

† DEMETRIOS  
Archbishop of America



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## ***PRESS RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 29, 2018

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### **ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS' STATEMENT ON THE PITTSBURGH MASSACRE**

**NEW YORK** – His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America, on behalf of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, expresses the disbelief, outrage, pain and sorrow of all Greek Orthodox people in America at the horrendous terrorist and racist attack against innocent people attending their religious services at the “Tree of Life” Synagogue in Pittsburgh, on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018.

Archbishop Demetrios stated:

“Eleven innocent people lost their lives and six others were injured, just because of their faith and as they were praying during their Sabbath services in Pittsburgh. We’re in shock, and we mourn the senseless loss of life of our fellow human beings in this anti-Semitic horrendous manifestation of hate, evil and violence. We unequivocally condemn this and all acts of violence and terrorism against society, and especially against people for their religious beliefs, and express our justified indignation as citizens who value human life, freedom and justice.

We stand in unity and solidarity with the families of the victims and the survivors, including the four officers wounded as they were responding to the attack. We embrace the Jewish community of Pittsburgh, as they grieve for their loved ones. We, as a nation and we the Orthodox Christians in the United States, are in a constant state of fervent prayer, asking the Almighty God for healing, solace and guidance during these challenging times.”