

ELLEN NASH
CHAIR



August 29, 2023

The Leon Williams San Diego County Human Relations Commission condemns the assault of Rabbi Aharon Shapiro on July 24. According to the police report, the suspect screamed antisemitic and anti-Israel comments at Rabbi Shapiro and ripped off part of the Rabbi's religious garb.

This attack is another example of the alarming rise of antisemitism and hate in our region. Our community should be no place for hate, and no members of the Jewish community should feel unsafe or threatened.

We thank the San Diego police for investigating this as a hate crime and are calling for members of the public to step forward if they have any information. A reward of \$3,500 is being offered for information identifying the suspect and leading to an arrest.

Here at the Human Relations Commission, we are working to address the Commission's recent incidents of divisive, anti-trans, anti-Jewish rhetoric, which led to the resignation of one HRC member and the withdrawal of Sheriff Kelly A. Martinez and District Attorney Summer Stephan. In a time when the ugliness of hate is being displayed more and more in our community, we need to redouble our efforts to fulfill our mission to promote positive human relations, respect, and the integrity of every individual in San Diego County regardless of their identity.

Respectfully,

Ellen Nash, Chair
Human Relations Commission

Fabienne Perlov, Commissioner
Regional Director, Anti-Defamation League San Diego