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Statement Against Hate Crimes

On Wednesday, October 24th, a white man shot and killed two African-American people, **Maurice Stallard (69)** and **Vickie Lee Jones (67)**, at a supermarket in Jefferson, Kentucky. He had first tried to enter a predominantly African-American church the week before.

On Friday, October 26th, a man was arrested and charged with a string of crimes in connection with homemade pipe bombs which he sent to former president Barack Obama, former secretary of state Hillary Clinton, and others who had been criticized by the Trump administration.

On Saturday, October 27th, a man shouting anti-Semitic slurs opened fire at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, killing 11 people who were attending a baby naming ceremony and injuring 2 others. By stating their names, we remember and honor their lives.

Joyce Fienberg, 75
Richard Gottfried, 65
Rose Mallinger, 97
Jerry Rabinowitz, 66
Cecil Rosenthal, 59
David Rosenthal, 54

Bernice Simon, 84
Sylvan Simon, 86
Daniel Stein, 71
Melvin Wax, 88
Irving Younger, 69

Today, we at the Minnesota Alliance on Crime wish first to offer our condolences to the victims of these hate crimes, including the families, friends, and communities mourning the passing of their loved ones and experiencing fear, anger, and sorrow.

MAC opposes the use of all forms of violence, and affirms the basic human right of every person to live without fear or the threat of violence. We are grateful for and support our member organizations and allies who are dedicated to ensuring safety and accountability within the communities they serve, and we will continue to work every day toward the goal of eradicating the existing conditions that promote violence and exploitation in all its forms.

Now more than ever, it is essential that MAC staff, the Board of Directors, and our members stay grounded in our core values, a few of which we'll highlight below:

- The Minnesota Alliance on Crime opposes the use of all forms of violence and affirms the basic human right of every person to live without fear or the threat of violence throughout the course of one's life.
- We stand in solidarity with efforts around the world to end all forms of discrimination, exploitation and violence.

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime connects systems, service providers, and victims to advance the response of victims of all crime.

- We recognize that forms of oppression based on race, gender, class, ethnicity, nationality, disability, age, religion, and sexual orientation create a climate of supremacy and ownership that facilitates the use of ongoing violence.
- We believe in the strength of diversity, embrace the differences among ourselves and within our communities, and promote the development of leadership in all communities.
- We undertake prevention efforts to confront and change cultural norms and practices that facilitate violence.
- We promote and encourage the leadership of victim/survivors in guiding our advocacy, policy, and training efforts.
- We affirm the power of collective and collaborative efforts to advocate with social systems and institutions in order to end violence.

In the wake of these tragedies, we will continue to advocate on behalf of victims of all crime, and we invite you to join us.

About the Minnesota Alliance on Crime

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime connects systems, service providers, and victims to advance the response for victims of all crime. MAC is a membership coalition of more than 90 crime victim service providers in Minnesota, including prosecution-based victim/witness programs, community programs, law enforcement agencies, and individuals committed to supporting crime victims. We support our membership through training, technical assistance, resources, public policy and legislative initiatives, and networking opportunities.

For more information about MAC, go to www.mnallianceoncrime.org.