

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Amodei
Chair
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
104 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lauren Underwood
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
1410 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Cole, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Amodei, and Ranking Member Underwood:

Thank you for your strong support for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP). As the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY2026) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) appropriations bill is drafted, we respectfully ask that \$500 million in funding be allocated to NSGP. The program provides critical security resources to at-risk faith-based and nonprofit institutions located in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

The NSGP is used by at-risk faith-based and nonprofit institutions to provide funding for physical security enhancements as well as emergency preparedness training. The NSGP also works to enhance the engagement and cooperation between community groups, state and local homeland security organizations, and emergency management agencies to be better prepared for, prevent, and respond to acts of terrorism or other extremist attacks. This preparation and investment is critical to our national security and part of DHS' comprehensive measures to strengthen the safety of our communities. DHS recognizes the risk of extremist-motivated violence as a danger to national security and has warned that violence against nonprofits and faith-based institutions is likely to continue.

The threat of violence is unfortunately increasing at places of worship across our country at alarming rates. There has been an increase in hoax bomb and active shooter threats against houses of worship to interrupt services and intimidate the worshipers. There has also been an increase in antisemitic incidents across the country following the October 7th attack in Israel. In the year since October 7th, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) recorded over 10,000 antisemitic incidents in the United States, an over 200 percent increase over the year before and the highest number recorded in a single year since ADL started tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979.¹

¹ <https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/over-10000-antisemitic-incidents-recorded-us-oct-7-2023-according-adl>

Nationwide, there have been countless acts of violence against religious communities, including these specific incidents that underscore the importance and complexity of protecting our religious communities from violence and extremism:

- On January 3, 2024, a Newark, New Jersey, Imam was shot and killed outside of his mosque.²
- On January 30, 2024, a man opened fire at a San Francisco Catholic Church.³
- On February 11, 2024, a man set fire to Shiloh Gospel Temple, a predominantly Black church in North Providence, Rhode Island.⁴
- On February 11, 2024, a woman forced her way inside a Texas Christian megachurch and opened fire.⁵
- On February 17, 2024, police in Broward County, Florida, arrested a man for beating a 69-year-old Rabbi who was walking home from synagogue on Shabbat.⁶
- On April 9, 2024, an Idaho teenager was arrested the day before his planned violent attack on local churches.⁷
- On May 25, 2024, a man was struck in a hit and run in front of a mosque in Minnesota.⁸
- On July 22, 2024, St. Leo's Church in Hartford, Arkansas was vandalized, and racial slurs were graffitied on the building.⁹
- On August 12, 2024, a young man was stabbed near a synagogue in New York City.¹⁰
- On December 17 and 18, over 400 Jewish Institutions across the country were targeted with false bomb threats and swatting calls.¹¹

These events highlight the ever-increasing need for the NSGP. Unfortunately, it is easy to see that the need for the NSGP is quickly outpacing the funding. In Fiscal Year 2024 (FY2024), FEMA received 7,584 grant applications for the NSGP, over 2,300 more than the previous year. These applicants requested \$978 million in federal funding, while NSGP received \$274.5 million in annual FY24 appropriations. Even with the additional NSGP funding provided by the National Security Supplemental Act for FY2024, FEMA could only fund 43 percent of all grant applicants. This left most of the applicants without the funding they needed to provide security to their at-risk institution.¹²

Today's threat environment provides a compelling public interest in preventing attacks that would disrupt the vital health, human, social, cultural, religious, and other humanitarian services provided by at-risk faith-based and nonprofit institutions. Such threats terrorize the lives and

² <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/crime-courts/son-slain-new-jersey-imam-arrested-gun-charge-rcna136233>

³ <https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/peninsula/south-san-francisco-church-shooting/3438520/>

⁴ <https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/northwest/man-charged-with-setting-fire-to-north-providence-church/>

⁵ <https://edition.cnn.com/2024/02/14/us/lakewood-church-shooting-joel-osteen-texas/index.html>

⁶ <https://www.thejc.com/news/usa/suspect-arrested-for-attack-on-man-leaving-chabad-synagogue-in-florida-rmyf3xoh>

⁷ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2024/04/09/mercurio-idaho-church-isis-islamic-state/>

⁸ <https://www.newarab.com/news/minnesota-muslims-edge-after-hit-and-run-outside-mosque>

⁹ <https://www.5newsonline.com/article/news/local/sebastian-county-catholic-church-ongoing-vandalism/527-7b7f9807-5d01-4174-bfe3-db3cf2beba5c>

¹⁰ <https://apnews.com/article/new-york-brooklyn-hate-crime-stabbing-jewish-ae7de843b70ed54a650cc64681cd3c2e>

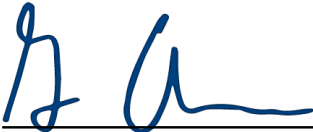
¹¹ <https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/18/us/jewish-facilities-bomb-threats/index.html>

¹² <https://jewishinsider.com/2024/08/under-half-of-nonprofit-security-grant-applications-funded-in-2024-despite-additional-funding/>

well-being of millions of Americans who operate, utilize, live, and work in their communities. Accordingly, we respectfully urge you to strengthen the NSGP by properly funding the program at \$500 million in FY2026, and we remain sincerely grateful for your past support of this critical program.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



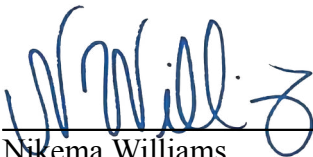
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



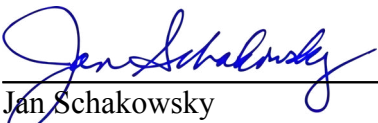
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



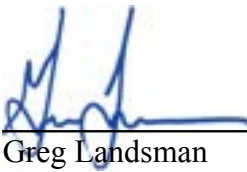
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



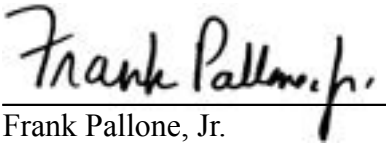
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



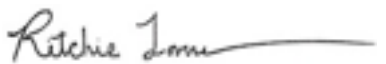
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Mike Bost
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



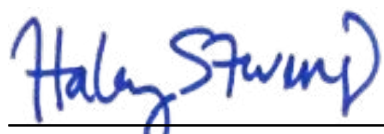
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



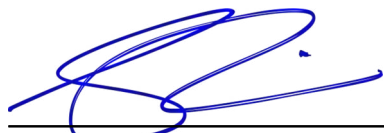
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



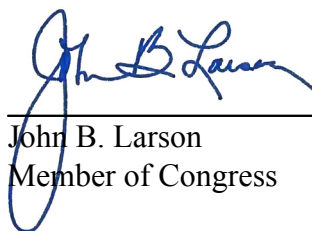
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



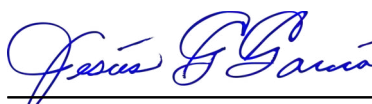
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



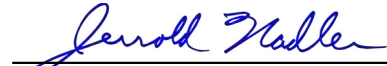
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



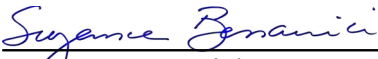
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



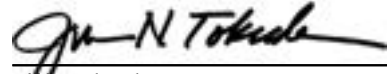
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Terrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



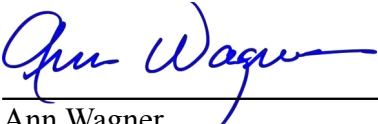
Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



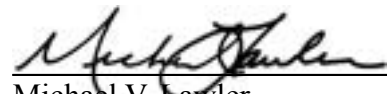
Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



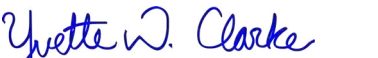
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



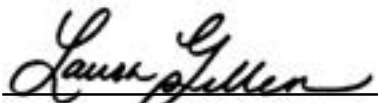
Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



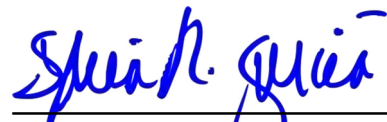
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



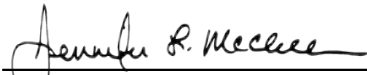
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Laura A. Gillen
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



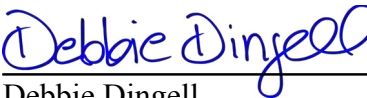
Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



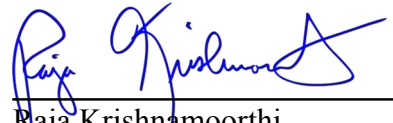
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



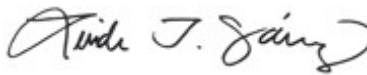
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



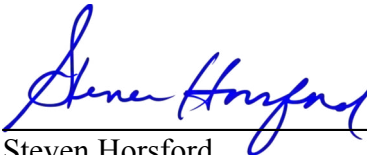
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



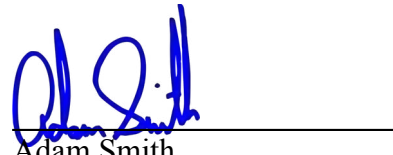
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



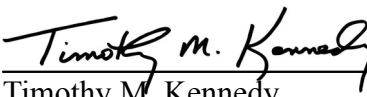
Max L. Miller
Member of Congress



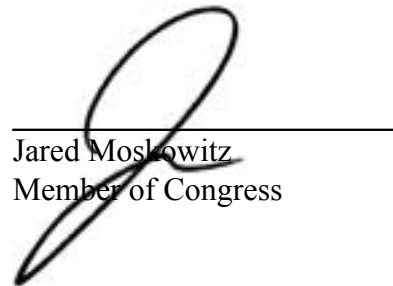
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress
Nevada's Fourth
Congressional District



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



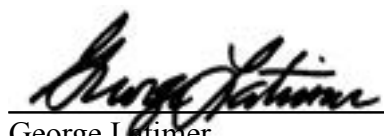
Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



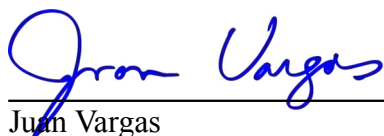
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Darin LaHood
Member of Congress



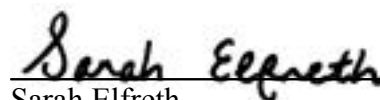
Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



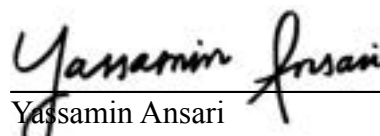
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



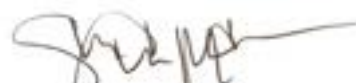
Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



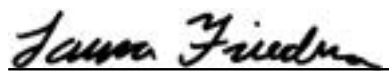
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



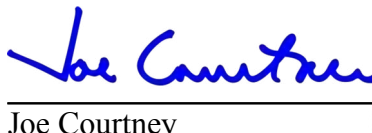
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



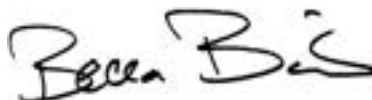
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



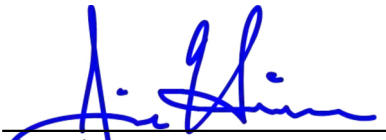
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



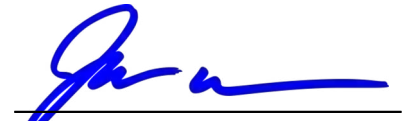
Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



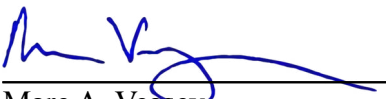
Becca Balint
Member of Congress



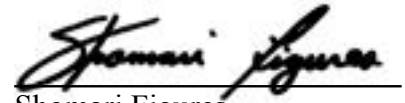
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



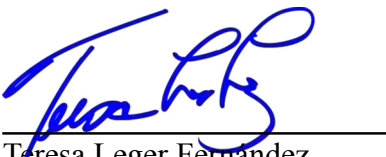
Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



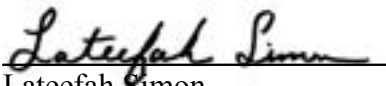
Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



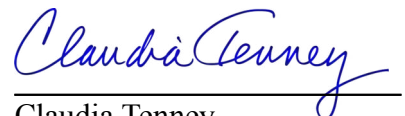
Teresa Leger Fernandez
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



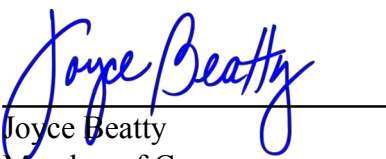
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



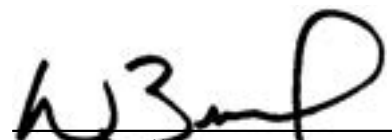
Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



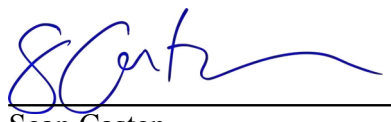
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



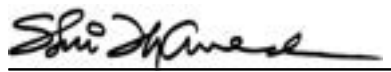
Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



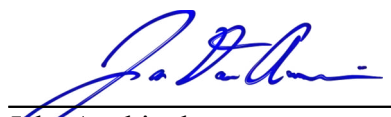
Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



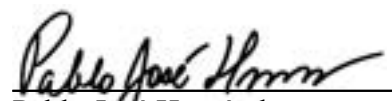
Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



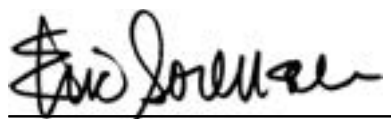
Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



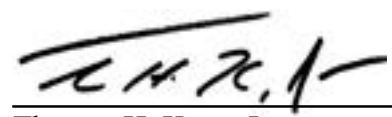
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



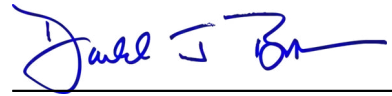
Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



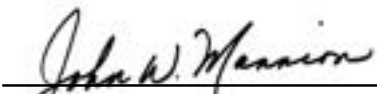
Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Rob Bresnahan, Jr.
Member of Congress



John W. Mannion
Member of Congress