

Attorney General of Missouri Andrew Bailey

October 10, 2023

Ambassador Michael Herzog Embassy of Israel 3514 International Drive N.W. Washington D.C. 20008 Via email: political@washington.mfa.gov.il

Dear Ambassador Herzog:

Over the past few days, Americans have watched in disbelief and horror as terrorists have descended on our friends and allies, the people of Israel. Not only are Israelis victims of this terrible violence, American citizens are as well. A woman from my State of Missouri and her husband were murdered by radicalized Islamic extremists while bravely shielding her son from a hail of bullets fired by Hamas terrorists.

It has rightly been said that "silence in the face of evil is evil itself." Now is the time for all who love liberty and ordered self-government to stand with the State of Israel and loudly denounce the evil forces who have indiscriminately savaged and killed men, women, and children by the most horrific means imaginable.

The State of Missouri has long been a friend of the Jewish state. The Office of the Missouri Attorney General has vigorously defended our ally against the quiet and subtle bigotry of large corporations who seek to undermine the wellbeing of Israel through economic boycotts. We have defended Missouri's statute prohibiting such discrimination and have publicly denounced corporations who attempt to undermine state law on this issue.

Now, as Israel faces its darkest days in half a century, we renew our promise of support and solidarity. The State of Israel is the only democracy in the region and America has no more reliable friend. When our nation was attacked by radical Islamic extremists on September 11 2001, Israelis mourned with us while crowds in neighboring regional capitols openly celebrated the murder of our citizens. We will never forget the faithfulness of our ally nor the seething hatred of

our common enemies. And now, while some may speak in terms of moral equivalence and phony ceasefires in the face of this weekend's attacks, we do not. This is a time for solidarity, and we here in the heartland of America have your back.

On the eve of D-Day in June of 1944, as tens of thousands of young soldiers from the allied nations prepared to storm the beaches held by the Nazis, another plain-spoken man from America's heartland, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, spoke these immortal words, "The eyes of the world are upon you. The hope and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you."

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and with the brave men and women of your military who are even now locked in combat with the evil forces of terror.

Most Truly Yours,

Andrew Bailey

MISSOURI ATTORNEY GENERAL