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SevenDays® Board of Directors issue statement on Tree of Life shooter conviction

SevenDays® expresses its profound gratitude for the system of justice in Pittsburgh., Pa., that held accountable Antisemite Robert Bowers for the murder of 11 people at the Tree of Life Synagogue there in 2018.

Antisemitism, now resurgent in the U.S. and around the world, must be confronted wherever it appears. It has no place in a world that should be built on kindness and inclusion. The jury's finding of Bowers' guilt is an important statement that this ancient hatred of Jewish people is unacceptable everywhere.

SevenDays® works to overcome hate by teaching kindness through education and dialogue. SevenDays® continues the healing journey following the hate murders that took the lives of Dr. William Corporon, his grandson Reat Underwood and Teresa LaManno outside of Jewish facilities in April 2014 by a White Supremacist looking to kill Jews. None of the three was Jewish.

As we always mention the names of Reat, Bill and Terri when speaking out against hate and promoting kindness, any dialogue about the mass murder at the Pittsburgh synagogue should now include naming the victims, which is what U.S. Department of Justice criminal section attorney Mary Hahn did in her closing argument: Joyce Fienberg. Richard Gottfried. Rose Mallinger. Jerry Rabinowitz. Cecil Rosenthal. David Rosenthal. Bernice Simon. Sylvan Simon. Daniel Stein. Melvin Wax. Irving Younger. We pray for continued healing in the Pittsburgh community.

Please consider how YOU can be a ripple of kindness today. Our website, SevenDays.org, offers many ideas.