

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



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February 28, 2016

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo  
State Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I am writing to request that you direct action to be taken to address the troubling instances of harassment aimed at members of the Jewish faith on CUNY campuses.

Recent media reports have noted a number of disturbing acts targeting Jewish students and faculty at CUNY campuses, including Brooklyn College, John Jay College, Hunter College and the College of Staten Island. According to the reports, members of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) have directed numerous ethnic slurs at Jewish students, disrupted a faculty meeting and called one professor "a Zionist pig," and defaced university property with swastikas.

These incidents are not just people exercising their first amendment rights; this is hate speech and intimidation. No one should feel threatened at a college campus because of their religious beliefs.

These anti-Semitic actions are deplorable and have no place in New York State, especially at institutions of higher learning. Knowing that you have long been a strong supporter of Israel, I'm certain you agree. As such, I respectfully request that you order an investigation into these disgusting incidents of anti-Semitism so that they can be stopped and the people who perpetrate, allow or enable them held accountable.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack M. Martins". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

JACK M. MARTINS  
New York State Senator