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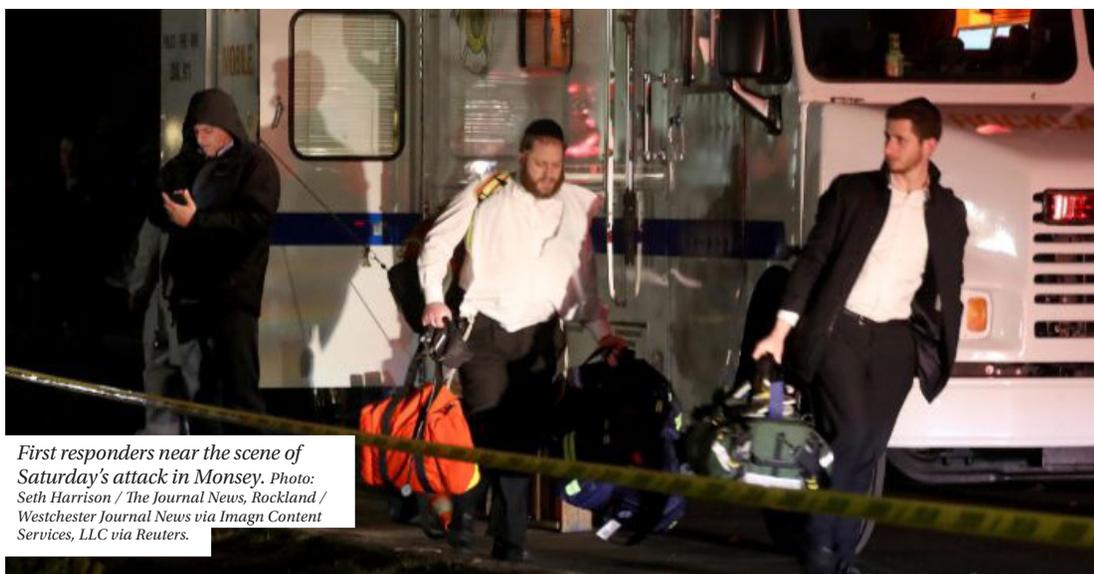
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## Federal Hate Crimes Charges Filed Against Monsey Stabbing Attack Suspect



First responders near the scene of Saturday's attack in Monsey. Photo: Seth Harrison / The Journal News, Rockland / Westchester Journal News via Imagin Content Services, LLC via Reuters.

### BY ALGEMEINER STAFF & AGENCIES

Federal prosecutors have filed hate crimes charges against the suspect in Saturday's antisemitic stabbing attack at a Hanukkah celebration in a rabbi's home in Monsey, New York, in which five people were wounded, including two critically.

Grafton Thomas was

arraigned on Sunday in a state court in Ramapo on five counts of attempted murder.

The hate crimes charges were added on Monday by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

Handwritten journals confiscated from the suspect's Greenwood Lake, New York, residence contained antisemitic sentiments including "referring to 'Adolf Hitler' and 'Nazi culture'"

as well as a drawing of a swastika, FBI agent Julie Brown said in the complaint.

She further noted his cell phone was used to search "Why did Hitler hate the Jews" on Nov. 9, Dec. 3, Dec. 7 and Dec. 16.

Brown also said the phone showed searches for Jewish synagogues in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and Staten Island, New York, both on Dec. 18, and for

*Continued on Page A4*

## Monsey Hanukkah Party Hero Recalls Face-to-Face Confrontation With Attacker

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

A synagogue administrator who helped other guests get to safety before confronting the the machete-wielding assailant who stabbed five people at a Hanukkah party in Monsey, New York, on Saturday night is being hailed as a hero.

In a TV interview on Monday, Joseph Gluck recalled that the attacker, Grafton E. Thomas, had entered the house of Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg just as the menorah-lighting ceremony was ending in the dining room.



Synagogue administrator Joseph Gluck confronted the machete-wielding assailant at a Hanukkah party in Monsey, New York, Dec. 28, 2019. Photo: Screenshot.

"First he stood in the anteroom, hitting people right and left with a big machete knife," Gluck told CNN. "That's when I started to run out through a side door with all the people in the dining room. We ran to the back of the house, going out by the back door."

Gluck said that he immediately turned and ran to the front of the house to offer further assistance. Going back inside, he quickly came face to face with Thomas.

"I grabbed the coffee table that was on the floor, hit him in his face, and that's when he came back outside after me," a visibly-exhausted Gluck continued. "He told me, 'Hey you, I'll get you!' I was a few feet in front of him, I was screaming,

*Continued on Page A4*

## Bret Stephens Falsely Blamed

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### ShabbatCalendar

Parshat VAYIGASH  
פרשת ויגש

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting  
Shabbat Begins: 4:23pm | Shabbat Ends: 5:27pm

the **algemeiner**  
aj.com  
P.O.B. 208 East 51st St, Suite 185  
New York, NY 10022  
Tel: (718) 771.0400 | Fax: (718) 771.0308  
Email: editor@algemeiner.com  
www.algemeiner.com



## Opinion.

## No More Sitting Ducks: Jews Need to Learn Self-Defense

DAVID SUISSA/  
JNS.org

After each antisemitic attack, Jews seem to get weaker and more vulnerable. One reason is that instead of taking real action, we prefer to complain and release cliché-ridden statements expressing our “outrage.”

If you have a political agenda, such loud condemnations can be useful. If a white supremacist attacks Jews, Trump-hating Democrats will be all over it. If the attacker is Islamic or from the left, Republicans will feast.

Remember when antisemitism used to bring Jews together by uniting us against a common enemy? What happened? Vicious, partisan politics happened. In these days of political trench warfare, the essential question has become: How can we use this incident to help our side and hurt the other side?

The recent string of attacks in New York City by blacks against Orthodox Jews doesn't fit into a neat political narrative. Had the perpetrators been white supremacists, you can be sure the mainstream media would have gone into overdrive.

Progressive activist Rabbi Shmuly Yankowitz posed this question on Facebook to his comrades: “Do you only rally against acts of hate against minorities if done with a gun & done by a white supremacist (i.e. fits the set narrative)?”

In any event, it seems as if we've reached

a tipping point with the Saturday night attack in Monsey against Orthodox Jews celebrating Hanukkah. Coming on the heels of similar assaults over the past couple of weeks, there are signs that diverse groups are trying to put politics aside and say, “OK, enough is enough.”

The real question is: What will we do? Will we continue to settle for empty statements of condemnation, demanding that “this must stop”? Will activist groups feast on the fundraising boost triggered by fear? Will we put all the responsibility on the government to protect us?

It's fine to demand more from law enforcement, but that only goes so far. You can't put a guard in front of every Jewish house. Faster response times don't help when the violent act has already been committed. Certainly, authorities can do a better job of tracking hate speech and trying to anticipate hate crimes, and legislators can strengthen the laws. And let's not forget everyone's favorite word — education. Yes, I dream of the day when education will make people stop hating Jews.

But let's be realistic: No matter what we do, no matter how many task forces we launch and “state of emergencies” we declare and community security initiatives we promote, Jews will still be vulnerable targets.

This is especially true for the large, visible Orthodox community in the New York area, who have become virtual sitting ducks. In an open society where millions of people can circulate freely, it's unfair to expect authorities to protect each individual Jew.

That's why Jews must learn to better



The scene of the attack at a rabbi's house in Monsey. Photo: Monsey.info.

protect themselves — personally and physically. They must learn self-defense. It's as simple and painful as that.

Most of the recent attacks in New York have used knives and fists rather than guns. A self-defense technique like Krav Maga could be invaluable both to counter and deter such attacks. There are many other techniques. The point is, we need to put individual self-defense on the communal agenda.

Look at Israel: Is there a nation in the world that has faced more antisemitism? The Jewish state has survived for so long because it has understood that bullies are stopped not by reason but by force. It's not pretty, but it's reality.

It would be more civilized, and more

appealing, if antisemitic attacks in the United States could be eradicated through regular channels such as our security and legal establishments and our various communal institutions. But they can't do it alone. There are simply too many targets.

We can do our share by strengthening these human targets and making them less vulnerable. If Torah study makes us stronger, well, so does Krav Maga.

David Suissa is editor-in-chief and publisher of Tribe Media Corp and The Jewish Journal. He can be reached at [davids@jewishjournal.com](mailto:davids@jewishjournal.com).

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## Will Bernie Sanders Become the First Jewish President?



JONATHAN S. TOBIN  
JNS.org

We're still more than a month away from the first actual votes being cast in the Democratic presidential race. But an analysis piece published on the influential *Politico* website last week reminded observers of a possibility that many are ignoring: Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders could win and ultimately become the nation's first Jewish president.

While generations of American Jews have dreamed of a day when one of their own won the White House, a Sanders's presidency would actually be an unprecedented nightmare for Israel and Jewish interests.

The *Politico* article reported that Sanders's resilience has impressed Democratic insiders. Despite suffering a heart attack in October — something that not only sidelined him for a time, but also reminded voters that he is 78 years old — Sanders has remained in the top tier of contenders.

While acknowledging that he has won both the affection and loyalty of much of the party's left-wing base, not least for his strong showing while opposing Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination in 2016, a lot of pundits disparage his chances. They say that despite the party's clear tilt to the left since the victory of President Donald Trump, Sanders is too radical and would easily be beaten in November.

Yet Sanders has not faded the way some other candidates who were once highly touted have done in the past year. He is currently in second place in the RealClear-Politics average of national polls, trailing only former Vice President Joe Biden. He is a threat to win three out of the first four early voting states, with the average of polls showing him leading in New Hampshire, a close second in Iowa, and in contention in Nevada. That means that although Biden remains the front-runner and South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg's stock is rising (while that of Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren is falling), it would be foolish to assume that Sanders *can't* be the Democratic nominee.

Though his extreme positions horrify moderates, Sanders is utterly authentic and, despite his long tenure in Congress, can't be accused of being part of the establishment, as can be said of Biden. Indeed, being a Socialist outlier makes him seem more genuine to voters who are tired of conventional politicians, the same factor that helped elect Trump.



Sen. Bernie Sanders speaking at a past J Street National Conference in Washington, D.C.  
Photo: Screenshot.

Moreover, his radicalism has won him both affection and loyalty from those in the Democratic base who think that choosing the candidate conventional wisdom deems more electable will be just as much of a disaster for their party in 2020 with Biden as it was when Hillary Clinton was the nominee.

Sanders's irascible demeanor also endears him to primary voters, much as it did when unelected superdelegates and party rules that favored Clinton were needed to beat him in 2016. On top of that, the Democrats' proportional voting rules that eliminate winner-take-all outcomes will ensure that Bernie remains a factor even if he loses the early states.

His capturing the Democratic Party in 2020 might still be less likely than the scenarios predicting a win for Biden, or a turn of events that would allow Buttigieg or even a second-tier contender to catch fire and win the nomination. But the *Politico* analysis does require an evaluation of what a Sanders nomination or presidency (despite the GOP's open rooting for Sanders to be their opponent, matchup polls with Trump predict such a race would be a tossup) would mean for Jewish interests and Israel.

Though he is Jewish and has repeatedly said that he supports Israel's existence, there is also no doubt that Sanders is the Democratic contender who is the most critical of Israeli policy and the most sympathetic to the Palestinians. Though other Democrats may agree with his scorn for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, most of them would

## World News.

# High Court Delays Decision on Netanyahu's Legal Right to Form a New Government

BY DOV LIPMAN/  
JNS.org

Following a preliminary hearing on Tuesday by Israel's High Court of Justice on the question of whether an indicted lawmaker can be tasked with forming a government, a three-judge panel ruled that a decision will be handed down at a future date.

The hearing followed a petition filed by 67 citizens with academic, security and culture backgrounds arguing that even though Israeli law allows a prime minister to continue serving in his position until proven guilty in court—and even until all appeals are exhausted—the same law should not permit a candidate under indictment to be tasked with forming a government and becoming prime minister.

Netanyahu submitted a letter to the court on Monday countering the basis of the petition, writing: "In a democracy, the people decide who leads them and no one else. Otherwise, it's not a democracy. This petition is an attempt to drag the court into an issue which is not under the court's jurisdiction. The respectable court has no authority in this matter, and the issue should not have been brought before it. It should have been left to the decision of the voters. For this reason alone, the petition must be rejected out of hand."

Netanyahu added that the law already specifies that a prime minister "can serve until convicted in a final ruling for transgressions that carry with them moral turpitude ... There is no reason to veer from this constitutional principle, outlined in the Basic Law and in an explicit law only because a specific prime minister is not liked by the petitioners."

He is not alone in his rejection of the court dealing with this issue. Political leaders on all sides of the spectrum have criticized the petition. One of Netanyahu's political opponents, Knesset member Ofer Shelah of the Blue and White Party, told *JNS*, "In my opinion, it would be best for the courts not to invalidate Netanyahu from putting together a government. It is best for the public to make this decision and not the court."

Professor Yedidia Stern, vice president of the progressive Israel Democracy Institute, told *JNS* that "it would be far-reaching judicial activism to establish that the president cannot give the mandate to form a government to someone who the citizens of the country vote for, assuming that they vote in high numbers of Netanyahu. It is better for decisions regarding who the country's leader will be to remain in the hands of the citizens and not the legal system."



Supporters of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu demonstrate outside Likud headquarters in Tel Aviv, Nov. 22, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Corinna Kern.

Stern added that if Netanyahu wins the next election, "I believe the president should not be held back from giving [him] the mandate to form the next government even while under indictment."

Professor Aviad HaCohen, president of the Shaarei Meida U'Mishpat Academy and an expert in constitutional law who has argued cases before the Supreme Court, said on Monday that "given the politically explosive nature of this case, one can assume that the judges will listen to the petitioners, but it would be best for them to make their decision after the March election."

He noted that at this point, such a ruling would be purely "theoretical," as Netanyahu has yet to win the election.

Even once it is no longer theoretical, HaCohen said, the court should be careful not to overstep its boundaries.

"In general, I think that the courts should do whatever it can to refrain from dealing with subjects which are mostly political and societal and not law," he said.

Meanwhile, Israel's Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit has declined a court request to issue his opinion on the matter due to the theoretical nature of such an opinion. He said that he would issue an opinion only if Netanyahu wins the election, and the president then considers tasking him with forming a government.

The petitioners, on the other hand, have argued that voters deserve the right to know whether or not Netanyahu will be allowed to form a government before they go to the polls.

Members of the Likud Party have stated that should the court invalidate Netanyahu from forming a future government, the Knesset can employ a mechanism to overturn the ruling.

Knesset member Miki Zohar said that "if the High Court makes the scandalous decision to mix into politics and prohibit Netanyahu from forming a government, we will pass the override clause," which refers to a bill that would allow a Knesset majority to overrule a decision made by the court.

# Israeli Terror Victims File Massive Lawsuit Against Arab Bank



The aftermath of the suicide bombing at the Sbarro pizzeria in Jerusalem on Aug. 9, 2001, that killed 15 people, including two Americans, and wounded around 130 others. Photo: Flash90.

BY ISRAEL HAYOM/  
JNS.org

A group of more than a thousand Israeli victims of Palestinian terror attacks on Monday filed an NIS 20 billion (\$5.78 billion) lawsuit against the Jordan-based Arab Bank PLC at the Jerusalem District Court, claiming that the bank cooperated with, supported, assisted, funded and encouraged terrorist acts that killed hundreds of people.

This is the first time a bank has been sued in Israel for alleged involvement in financing terrorism, although victims of terrorism have filed suits in the country against both the Palestinian Authority and Hamas. The Israeli lawsuit follows a similar one filed in the United States in 2004, which was resolved last year through a settlement that paid out some \$1 billion to victims of terrorism.

The Israeli lawsuit was filed in the names of the Israelis who were left out of the US suit and is seeking compensation for special damages, punitive damages and future damages. The US Supreme Court ruled in 2018 that foreign businesses cannot be sued in US courts by foreign victims of human rights abuses and extremist attacks.

The Arab Bank is one of the largest banking institutions in the Arab world and operates some 600 branches internationally, in addition to subsidiaries. The lawsuit claims that the bank, its employees and its managers played an integral role in the system that supported terrorist activity and even knowingly—if indirectly—provided assistance by funding actions carried out by Palestinian terrorists and terrorist organizations. According to the plaintiffs—1,132 Israeli citizens who were wounded in terrorist attacks or who lost family members to terrorist actions committed within the Green Line as

well as in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip from 1995-2005—the bank was involved in funding terrorist attacks carried out in Israel by Hamas, Fatah, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other Palestinian terrorist groups during those years. These attacks claimed the lives of hundreds of Israelis, and wounded thousands.

Specific attacks cited include but are not limited to the 1996 suicide bombing at Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Center, in which 13 people were murdered; the 2001 suicide bombing at the Dolphinarium nightclub in Tel Aviv in 2001, which killed 21 and wounded over 120; the 2001 suicide bombing at the Sbarro pizzeria in Jerusalem, which claimed the lives of 15 and left over 100 wounded; and 2002 suicide bombing at the Park Hotel in Netanya on the eve of Passover, in which 30 people were killed and 160 wounded.

The bank is accused of playing a significant role in collecting donations to support the families of suicide bombers, wounded terrorists and Palestinians serving sentences in Israeli prisons for terrorist activity. The bank even disbursed the money in violation of accepted banking practices, the lawsuit claims.

The lawsuit also claims that the bank was more directly involved in supporting terrorism, and that at the outbreak of the second intifada in 2000, bank chairman Abd al-Majid Shuman established the Fund to Support the Palestinian People's Resistance, which was designed to support the intifada. Shuman promised to donate \$500,000 of his own money to the fund, and the bank committed to an additional donation of \$2 million.

The lawsuit is being filed by attorneys Gilad Markman and Benjamin Perlman, as well as attorneys Gil Maman and Gavriel Mairone, whose firm specializes in pursuing legal action against terrorist funding, genocide, and crimes against humanity.

# Graffiti Found Sprayed Across North London

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

Antisemitic graffiti was found on a north London synagogue and local businesses on

Saturday night.

Most of the graffiti is of a Star of David in red and the numbers "911," a possible reference to antisemitic conspiracy theories

surrounding the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. It appeared in the Hampstead and Belsize Park areas.

Local councilor Oliver Cooper tweeted, "I am walking around Hampstead documenting all the antisemitic graffiti that mars our community this morning, and just got to South Hampstead Synagogue. This is a place of peace and prayer, desecrated by the world's oldest hatred."

Local daily *The News and Star* quoted

Cooper as saying, "I've had to report antisemitic graffiti in Hampstead a number of times before, including by a banned neo-Nazi group, but I have never seen anything approaching this extent."

The local member of parliament, Tulip Siddiq, called the graffiti "unbelievable, senseless, disgusting antisemitism."

The Metropolitan Police said it was stepping up patrols in the affected areas and was taking the incident "seriously."

## World News.



View of the Israeli Leviathan gas field gas processing rig near the Israeli city of Caesarea, on January 31, 2019. Photo: Marc Israel Sellem/POOL.

## Gas Pumping From Israel's Offshore Leviathan Field Gets Underway

BY JNS.ORG

Gas pumping from Israel's Leviathan offshore natural gas field got under way on Tuesday after Israel's Environmental Protection Ministry said Noble Energy and its partners had met all necessary conditions, despite ongoing protests from coastal residents and environmental activists warning of pollution emitted by the pumping rigs.

The largest energy project in Israel's history, it is expected that the Leviathan field will yield 22 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. After extraction, the gas will then make a 120-kilometer journey via pipelines to a processing platform 10 kilometers off the Israeli coast.

From there, the processed gas and stabilized condensate will be transported by pipeline to the national gas transmission system and pipeline.

"For the first time since its establishment, Israel is now an energy powerhouse, able to supply all its energy needs and gaining energy independence," said Delek Drilling CEO Yossi Abu, a partner in the field. "At the same time, we will be exporting natural gas to Israel's neighbors, thus strengthening Israel's position in the region. [The] Leviathan project will bring the coal era in Israel to an end, and will supply efficient, inexpensive and clean energy

to people in Israel and in the Middle East."

Residents along the coast have expressed concern over the possible carcinogenic effects of chemicals and pollutants from the project, with thousands of residents of Zichron Yaakov and areas south of Haifa even evacuating their homes and shuttering schools as nitrogen was flushed from pipes during initial tests on Tuesday.

The Environmental Protection Ministry, however, said there was no cause for concern.

Earlier this month, a petition to Jerusalem's District Court argued that the single eight-hour test on Tuesday would release more pollutants than two years of drilling operations.

The court ruled that the tests could move forward, citing the petitioners' failure to provide expert testimony refuting the state's claims that the test would be safe.

In October, the scientific journal Environmental Impact Assessment Review found that environmental impact assessments by Noble Energy "grossly underestimate" the volume emissions that will be spewed into Israel's air, contain "a series of flaws," rely on "overly simplistic" models and should be redone.

Noble Energy rejected the article, saying it was installing technology on the platform that would keep emissions close to zero.

## Number of Jews Visiting The Temple Mount on Hanukkah Increased by 50 Percent

BY JNS.org

During Hanukkah this year, there were 50 percent more Jewish visitors to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem compared to last year. According to Temple Mount organization Yaraeh, more than 1,200 Jews visited the site. Last year, there were 800 Jewish visitors to the same area during the holiday.

Notable guests included rabbis and the heads of Jewish learning institutions, such as Rabbi Dov Lior, Otniel Yeshiva head Rabbi Ram HaCohen and Rabbi Eyal Yaakovovitz.

The rise in the number of visitors may be connected to the recent easing of restrictions on Jewish worship on the Temple Mount. According to visitors, police have allowed Jewish prayer in recent weeks. However, the

Jordanian Waqf, which administers the site, still prohibits Jewish worship and any Jewish ritual paraphernalia.

The story of Hanukkah centers around the Jewish Temple in the second century BCE, when the outnumbered Maccabees defeated the heavily armed Greek forces and then rededicated the Temple with sacred oil that miraculously lasted for eight days.

The name of the holiday refers to the ceremonies that dedicated and sanctified the Temple.

According to Jordan's official news agency, the Jordanian Foreign Ministry condemned the rise in Israeli visitors, referring to them as part of the "ongoing Israeli violations against Al-Aqsa mosque."

## Law Enforcement Believes Monsey Attack Suspect May Have Beaten and Stabbed a Jewish Man in November

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

Police believe the suspect in Saturday's antisemitic stabbings in Monsey, New York, may have assaulted a Jewish man a month earlier in the same area.

According to *The New York Post*, law enforcement sources said Grafton Thomas, currently being held on five counts of attempted murder in connection to the Monsey attack, may have beaten and knifed a 30-year-old Jewish man in Monsey on Nov. 20.

The victim was set upon while walking to the Mosdos Meharam Brisk Tashnad religious center in the early hours of the morning. Beaten and repeatedly stabbed, his injuries were so extensive that police initially believed he had been the victim of a car accident.

Local paper *The Rockland/Westchester Journal News* quoted Rabbi Yisroel Kahan

saying of the attack, "No words were exchanged and they pummeled him to the ground for several minutes."

Police Chief Brad Weidel commented, "At this point ... I am not willing to say it's a hate crime. That doesn't mean it won't be established through our investigation it's a hate crime."

The victim was operated on several times and as of early December was considered to be in stable condition.

The FBI and other agencies became involved, the *Journal News* reported, and were aiding local authorities in enhancing surveillance video of the assault, though the footage was described as being of very low quality.

Thomas was arrested late Saturday night in Harlem after he fled the scene of the Monsey attack, in which he allegedly stabbed five Orthodox Jews gathered for a Hanukkah candle-lighting ceremony with a machete.

*Continued from Page A2*  
**Jewish President**

hesitate to hurl epithets like "racist" at him, as Sanders has done.

Every one of the other Democratic candidates would reinstate the dangerous 2015 nuclear deal with Iran and likely revert to President Barack Obama's policy of seeking more "daylight" between America and Israel. But Sanders goes further by seeking to also create a "pro-Palestinian" foreign policy. In the past, that has led him to call for the end of the blockade of Hamas-run Gaza, as well as issuing scathing and fallacious critiques of Israel's efforts to defend its border and people against attacks from a coastal enclave governed by terrorists.

While this wouldn't advance a two-state solution that both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority have no interest in, it would bring US-Israel relations to a historic low point, while emboldening the Jewish state's foes to a point where they might consider war a reasonable option.

On the domestic front, Sanders would not merely end Trump's policy seeking to enforce laws against antisemitic activity on college

campuses. His active opposition to anti-BDS laws and his close ties with advocates of this variant of Jew-hatred could potentially unleash a wave of anti-Zionist and antisemitic activity throughout the country.

That reminds us that Sanders has the support of most of the nation's most notorious left-wing anti-Semites, such as Reps. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) and Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.), as well as fellow BDS advocate Linda Sarsour. His refusal to repudiate these figures sets an ominous precedent that would come into play when it comes to staffing an administration, which can be expected to be populated by fellow radicals hostile to Israel and indifferent at best to antisemitism.

More to the point, the person who would be responsible for this catastrophe would be insulated from criticism simply by the fact that Sanders and his apologists would claim that, as a Jew, he could not be termed hostile to his own people. Seen from that perspective, such a Jewish president might be the worst thing yet to befall American Jewry.

*Jonathan S. Tobin is editor in chief of JNS-Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter @jonathans\_tobin.*

*Continued from Page A1*  
**Hate Crimes**

prominent American companies founded by Jews, on Dec. 27.

The following day, Dec. 28, the phone was used to access an article headlined "New York City increased police presence in Jewish neighborhoods after Possible Anti-Semitic Attacks. Here's what's to know."

There was also a reference to the Black Hebrew Israelite movement, which one of the perpetrators of the Dec. 10 shooting attack on a kosher market in Jersey City, New Jersey, was affiliated with.

*Continued from Page A1*  
**Face-to-Face**

"He's coming, he's coming!"

When Thomas returned to his car to drive away from the crime scene, it was Gluck who wrote down his license plate, enabling police in New York City to apprehend the 37-year-old attacker in uptown Manhattan a few hours after the attack.

Gluck also spoke about the sense of shock that descended on the community in the wake

of the attack, particularly among its children. Thomas' family said through his attorney on Monday that he had a long history of mental illness, no known history of antisemitism and no prior convictions for any crime.

He is due to return to court in Ramapo on Jan. 3.

Some of Thomas' neighbors described him to *The New York Times* as an "unassuming person" who "did not appear troubled."

Four of the five victims of the Monsey stabbings have been released after being treated at a local hospital, while one was still hospitalized with a skull fracture, *The New York Times* quoted officials as saying on Monday.

of the attack, particularly among its children.

"My kids couldn't fall asleep, so they came into my bed that night," Gluck said.

For children who had been in attendance at the party, the experience had been even more shattering. Gluck recalled that one child had hidden from Thomas under a pile of coats at the entrance to the dining room.

"A lot of the children were traumatized," Gluck went on. "A lot of the adults were traumatized as well."

U.S. News.

# Following Antisemitic Attack, Monsey's Jewish Community Will Not Be 'Cowed' to Change

BY FAYGIE HOLT/ JNS.org

Less than 24 hours after five people were stabbed at a rabbi's home on Forshay Road in Monsey, NY, Jews gathered on the lawn to sing and dance as a Torah scroll was dedicated at a nearby synagogue, making for a far different scene from the night beforehand.

On Saturday night, Grafton Thomas, 38, entered the home of Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg and began stabbing people who had come to celebrate the seventh night of Hanukkah. Using what has now been described as a machete, the attacker began slashing at people in the home, though several people reportedly threw objects at him, eventually prompting him to flee.

He then turned his attention to Rottenberg's synagogue, located on an adjacent lot. Finding the building locked, the attacker returned to his car and fled the scene. He was apprehended several hours later by members of the New York Police Department.

While a motive for the attack has not been released, on Sunday New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo called the rampage an "act of domestic terrorism" after meeting with Rottenberg. Cuomo said he planned to introduce legislation that would increase the penalty of such cases to reflect the seriousness of the crime.

A statement released by Thomas's lawyer, Michael Sussman, said he had suffered from a "long history of mental illness and hospitalizations," and had "no known history of antisemitism." Thomas pleaded not guilty to five counts of attempted murder and one count of burglary at his arraignment on Sunday. Bail was set at \$5 million.

Nevertheless, in the federal hate-crime criminal complaint on Thomas—an African-American who grew up in the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY, and now lives with his mother in Greenwood Lake, NY, about 20 miles from Monsey—said that law-enforcement agents recovered journals from his mother that included antisemitic references, as well as Internet searches on Adolf Hitler and where to find local Jewish synagogues.

Eli Cohen, a lifelong resident of Monsey who grew up going to the Rottenberg shul, said the attack has impacted the whole community. "We are all concerned. People are nervous," he said, noting that kids can no longer walk to synagogue on their own because no one knows what will happen. "Monsey used to be a nice, calm, quiet place, and now, not so much."

On any given Shabbat morning, some 200-plus people attend Shabbat services at the Rottenberg shul. Holiday programs, like the Hanukkah gathering the rabbi was holding at his home on Saturday night, can draw hundreds more people from the community.

Rivkie Feiner, a member of the Jewish Federation and Foundation of Rockland County's Jewish Community Relations Council and a board member of the JCC Rockland, was spending Saturday evening with her children at a skating rink less than two miles from Rottenberg's home when her phone began shrill with notifications about the attack.

As the assailant was on the run and no one knew where he was heading, Feiner began urging everyone standing outside of the indoor rink to come inside and wait.

"It was scary," she recalled. "Then you started hearing the sirens, the ambulances, the helicopters flying above."

"People don't understand the ripple effect. It's horrible. The entire community is connected through social media, and even our kids hear about it," said Feiner, a communal leader who was at the scene for a while on Saturday night and met with government officials Sunday. "My 8-year-old came over and asked me what's a stabbing, and my 11-year-old wouldn't go to bed until we checked that all the doors were locked. He just wanted to know that the person was caught."

According to Richard Priem, the Anti-Defamation League's associate regional director for New York and New Jersey, the attack in Monsey was the 10th antisemitic attack recorded by the group since Dec. 23 in the region. Many of those attacks happened in the borough of Brooklyn, NY, and were directed at Chassidic Jews who are identifiable by their dress, which for men include long black coats, black hats and on Shabbat, wide fur hats known as streimels.

"The Jewish community is utterly terrified," Evan Bernstein, the regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of New York and New Jersey, said in a statement. "No one should have to live like this."

The attack also came less than three weeks after a deadly attack on a Jewish market in Jersey City, NJ, where two

members of the Chassidic community were among three civilians and a police detective killed during an hours-long siege. The two attackers in that case—a man and a woman—were also killed.

According to Feiner, members of the Chassidic community in Rockland County and elsewhere have expressed how vulnerable they feel because the way they dress makes them identifiably Jewish. "We need more police presence," she said. "We need to feel more secure, and we don't feel that now."

Priem said "It's hard to pinpoint a specific cause as to why this is happening, but we do know that something meaningful needs to change. We need change from the top level—from the government down to the grassroots."

In the hours after the attack, life began to return to normal—or at least a "new normal"—in Monsey. People continued to



Members of the Monsey Jewish community show solidarity following an antisemitic attack on Dec. 28, 2019. Photo: Screenshot.

go to synagogues throughout town to pray and shoppers filled local stores, including the kosher supermarkets.

Even Rottenberg continued with his plans. Just hours after the attack—his son was among those who had been stabbed—

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## Opinion.

# Israel Is Not the Solution to Global Antisemitism



SHMULEY BOTEACH  
ENGELWOOD

Had Israel existed in 1939, there would not have been a Holocaust. Of that I am fairly certain. The policy of Hitler and the Nazis was not yet extermination but expulsion. But no one wanted to take the Jews so they had nowhere to flee. Had the Jewish state existed just six years before the Holocaust's end, we might have saved six million Jewish lives.

But for all that, those who argue that the solution to the shocking new wave of global antisemitism — including in the United States — is for all Jews to move to Israel are making a big mistake. By doing so they are letting governments around the world off the hook from protecting their Jewish citizens. They are essentially telling them that Jews should not be living in their countries in the first place. And even if all Jews in the world moved to Israel — which right now is pretty unrealistic — what would happen when they have to travel abroad for vacation or business? Would they have to hide the fact that they are Jews? Would we tell them to take off their yarmulkes and put away their Stars of David before they visited a judenrein France?

And then there is the question of Judaism as a global religion with global influence. Saying that no Jews should live anywhere outside of Israel because they might be attacked minimizes the huge impact that Jewish values are meant to have on the world.

And furthermore, do we really want to raise a generation of young Jews who are mentally scarred into believing that being Jewish means you're always a victim? That when you come under attack, rather than organizing and fighting back, you should flee?

These are just some of the things I'd like to respectfully share with former Israeli

Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman, who said after the Monsey machete attack, "It is important to know that the main solution to such phenomena is immigration to Israel." Israel is itself a miracle. And though living in Israel for a Jew is a virtue in its own right, it cannot be a place to which we Jews flee to because we are not protected by our host countries. No. America, Britain, France, Belgium, Australia, and every other country has to protect its Jewish citizens and fight the scourge of antisemitism head on.

As of this writing, one of the five Hasidic Jews stabbed in Monsey is in critical condition and the fact that there were no fatalities after a man rampaged through a home with a 12-inch blade is "The Monsey Miracle." But it might easily have been "The Monsey Massacre," so common are such attacks becoming in the United States, and we continue to pray for the victim who is fighting for his life.

Only a Hanukkah miracle prevented the stabbings in Monsey from turning into an outright slaughter. My daughter Shaina spent the Sabbath at the home of her in-laws with her husband Moshe, whose parents live just three doors from the Rabbi's home where the attacker struck. At about 10pm, a man frantically knocked on their door, ghostly pale, begging to be admitted. He said he was next door at the Rabbi's house when an attacker burst in wielding what he called "a sword" and began stabbing everyone in sight. The man actually apologized for intruding on my wife's family as they locked the doors and turned off all the lights, because the attacker was still at large and they all feared for their lives. The victim fleeing the orgy of violence explained that he saw Moshe's parents' Hanukkah menorah through their front window, jumped off a balcony, and fled to them for safety. Had the menorah not been in the front window, he might not have been saved.

It was quite literally Hanukkah that saved him.

Still, we Jews should not have to rely

on miracles to remain alive. The outbreak of violence against Jews, especially in the United States, is foul, deplorable, and utterly outrageous. It must be stopped by every legal means necessary.

My daughter described on my Facebook page to approximately 100,000 viewers what she and her family had been through in Monsey. She said, "I heard nearly every day for the past year about attacks on Jews. But it wasn't until this happened tonight — where a victim fled a potential massacre and we saved his life — that I understood just how real the threat is."

The United States is quickly becoming like Europe. Jews are now afraid to wear kippot, even in New York. They are afraid to wear Stars of David and other overtly Jewish symbols. So many of the attacks have been on those who look undeniably Jewish, like the "ultra-Orthodox" shootings in Jersey City, the endless attacks against religious Jews in Brooklyn, and now Monsey. Jews with beards and peyyot (sidecurls) have no way to escape from looking Jewish. They are sitting ducks.

But even if they could hide their identities, would that be an acceptable solution? To be afraid of looking Jewish? Will religious liberty just die in America because we don't know how to adequately combat antisemitism?

And let's remember that antisemitism is becoming a truly universal phenomenon. After the Tree of Life attack in Pittsburgh and the attack on Chabad of Poway, the Trump haters came out and said the president is responsible because the assailants were white supremacists. Amazingly, I heard Mayor Bill de Blasio of New York say the same thing on Fox News about the attack in Monsey, although the suspect was African-American and was arrested by police in Harlem, not an area where the president is said to have much influence. And surely no one is going to say that President Trump inspired the Black Hebrews to attack a kosher store in Jersey City? And then there is the simple fact



Antisemitic graffiti found scrawled on a Melbourne cafe, July 4, 2019. Photo: screenshot.

that President Trump had a Jewish daughter and grandchildren and is arguably the most pro-Israel president in American history.

Rather, we are seeing Jews being murdered by white nationalists and black nationalists. Neo-Nazis and Islamic terrorists. People on the extreme right and people on the extreme left. It's open season on the Jews and it's coming from every corner.

What needs to be done? Before anything else, I believe New York, which has seen so many attacks, needs to declare a day in January where all citizens are called on to wear to wear a kippa for the day. And why just New York? Let's make it "National Kippa Day." Show solidarity with the Jewish community by stating publicly around the US that you stand with the Jewish community who are open and visible targets. Instead of asking Jews to be less visible, show that Jewish symbols are universally respected and embraced.

It was a call made in Germany last May by Anti-Semitism Commissioner Felix Klein, who called upon all Germans to wear kippot ahead of an annual anti-Israel protest on Al Quds Day. The call came after the Central Council of Jews warned about the dangers of Jews wearing the kippa in public.

If Germany, which 75 years ago murdered six million Jews, can today call on its citizens to show solidarity with the Jews by wearing a kippa, surely America that stopped the Holocaust and defeated Hitler, and is the freest and noblest country in the world, can do the same.

*Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, whom The Washington Post calls "the most famous Rabbi in America," is the international best-selling author of 33 books, including the upcoming Holocaust Holiday: One Family's Descent into Genocide Memory Hell. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @RabbiShmuley.*

## Jews and Slavery Reparations



HAROLD BRACKMAN  
LOS ANGELES

In *The Chicago Tribune*, Rabbi Jonah Pesner, Director of Reform Judaism's Religious Action Center, has offered his prescription for racial healing through reparations for slavery.

Rabbi Pesner calls for the Jewish community to end its "silence" about "the continued legacy of slavery." Jews, so often "proudly on the front lines of social justice causes" must now awaken from their torpor about reparations.

Though our grandparents may have pulled themselves up by the bootstraps to overcome poverty and discrimination, "we can now understand that they and many of us also benefited from, and continue to benefit from, the same white privilege that allows for

the continued discrimination against black Americans."

But Rabbi Pesner fails to provide either a contemporary or historical context. American Jews are not going to take kindly to him making them guilty beneficiaries of "white privilege" during this Hanukkah season when in Jersey City and New York something like a slow-motion pogrom is occurring, committed mostly by African American assailants, some of whom are followers of Louis Farrakhan, whose big lie is that Jews "dominated" the slave trade.

Carl Sandburg's "city of big shoulders" has been central to American struggles with racial injustice since Abraham Lincoln was nominated for president in Chicago in 1860 warning of "a house divided" over slavery.

Does the rabbi know that blaming Jews for "white privilege" also originated in Chicago? In 1967, the National Conference for New Politics sought to mobilize white and black radicals. Reverend Martin Luther King,



Jonah Pesner of the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism at the ACT to End Racism rally, April 4, 2018.

Jr. delivered a keynote begging the delegates to reaffirm white-black cooperation. His plea was spurned.

Instead, the radical Black Caucus, representing at most 20% of delegates, seized control and demanded unanimous adoption of their 13 Point Program. Among the Points: "We, as black people, believe that the United States system is committed to the practice of genocide. ... [We demand] immediate reparation for the historic, physical, sexual, mental, and economic exploitation of black people ... [and] condemnation of the 'imperialist Zionist war.'" White New Leftists — particularly Jews — were all but written out of the black liberation struggle.

Rabbi Pesner's agenda demands Jewish

"atonement" for slavery and kicking the wheels off Reverend King's interracial crusade. He always believed that disadvantaged whites — not only African Americans whose ancestors were enslaved — were victims of slavery and segregation.

Today, Holocaust survivors and their families still receive restitution from Germany and other countries. Japanese-Americans and their families who were interned during World War II were rightly granted restitution in 1988. But Palestinians — including generations not born in Israel — dubiously claim they deserve reparations and "the right of return."

If Rabbi Pesner is really serious, he should propose reparations; not for slavery, but for post-slavery Jim Crow segregation that stifled the aspirations of free blacks. There are African-Americans alive today who suffered the sting of Jim Crow when JFK was president, just as there are Jews today who survived the Holocaust and whose children and grandchildren still suffer the aftereffects of genocide. Why go back to Abraham Lincoln's time for rationales to privilege with reparations recent African immigrants whose ancestors were never slaves?

Yet there is a compelling argument for restitution to people who have suffered

*Continued on Page A7*

## Opinion.

# A Long-Awaited Holiday Gift for Victims of Terror

SARAH N. STERN/  
JNS.Org

Anyone who cares at all about the pursuit of justice just got an unexpected holiday gift last week. Congress just passed a huge omnibus spending bill, which was signed by the US President Donald Trump on Dec. 20 and became the law of the land: Public Law 116-94.

Tucked into this bill by an anonymous member of Congress, without any fanfare, was HR 7055, which states: "None of these funds provided by this Act, may be used to provide assistance, [here there is a reiteration of the emergency exceptions], to the central government of a country which has notified the Department of State of its refusal to extradite to the United States any individual indicted for a criminal offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, or for killing a law enforcement officer."

For many families who have been suffering in quiet anguish for the last 18 years, this is nothing short of a long overdue miracle.

Let me explain. On Aug. 9, 2001, 21-year-old Ahlam Tamimi picked up Izz Al-Din Shuheil Al-Masri from the West Bank and accompanied him to the Sbarro pizzeria on the corner of Jaffa and King George streets in the heart of West Jerusalem. Ms. Tamimi had said that she particularly scouted out this restaurant because it was frequented by young Jewish families.

Mr. Masri walked into the restaurant, ordered, and calmly proceeded to eat his lunch. He was carrying with him a guitar case rigged with explosives, nuts, bolts, nails, and a suicide belt. Shortly after 2 pm, an explosion could be heard that rocked Jerusalem for miles. Mr. Masri detonated the belt, killing 15 people, including seven children, and wounding 130 others.

Two among those murdered were American citizens, Malki Roth, 15, and Judith Greenbaum, 31, who was pregnant at the time. Another four Americans were seriously wounded: David Danzig, Mathew Gordon, Joanne Nachenber, and Sarah Nachenberg. To this day, Joanne Nachenberg remains in a vegetative state.

According to the Antiterrorism Act of 1991, USC 18, section 2332 (b) anytime an American is maimed or murdered overseas in an act of terrorism, the United States maintains the right and responsibility to try that suspect in American courts and have her serve out her punishment in the United States.

Ahlam Tamimi, the woman who was responsible for planning and helping to execute this heinous crime, has made a career out of boasting about this vile act.

She has confessed numerous times on tape, bragging about the extent of the crime and the number of Jewish casualties. It is particularly revolting to hear her speak of her

delight, on tape, when she first learned that she had killed eight Jewish children.

In 2002, an Israeli court sentenced her to 16 consecutive life sentences.

However, in 2011, the government of Israel decided to trade her along with 1,026 other Hamas terrorists with "blood on their hands" for captured Israel Defense Forces' soldier Gilad Shalit.

She immediately fled to Jordan, where she was treated like a conquering hero and showered with flowers. She had been given her own Hamas television show, "Breezes of the Free," every Friday, which was broadcast far and wide, basically being used as a role model for would-be terrorists throughout the world.

She has even appeared several times on a secular television show, "Carnival," and was



The US Capitol Building. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

fawned over as though she were a celebrity.

We at EMET have successfully pushed for many congressional letters and two congressional hearings about this issue. One hearing was held in the Senate Judiciary Committee under the direction of Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) in 2015, and another in the House Oversight Committee led by then-chairman (now governor of Florida) Ron DeSantis in 2016.

Primarily because of the forceful line of questioning by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on March 4, 2017, the Justice Department met with Malki Roth's parents, Arnold and Frimet Roth, and uncovered an indictment of Ms. Tamimi and put her on our "Most Wanted List," offering a \$5 million award.

The United States has made an extradition request to the government of Jordan for Tamimi.

Jordan claims, however, that they have no extradition treaty with the United States. According to the US State Department however, Jordan signed an extradition treaty in 1995.

Three Jordanian terrorists have, in fact, been extradited from Jordan to the United States and are now serving lengthy prison sentences in American jails — Eyad Ismoil, Mohammad Zaka Amowi, and Nader Saadeh.

Somehow, when the terrorists don't have the rock-star status of a Tamimi, then an extradition treaty suddenly exists.

The United States gives Jordan approximately \$1.7 billion each year. The government of Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994, but they have done absolutely nothing to sow the societal landscape for peace.

Perhaps this new law will incentivize them to uncover their buried extradition treaty.

Sarah N. Stern is founder and president of the Endowment for Middle East Truth (EMET), a pro-Israel and pro-American think tank and policy institute in Washington, DC.

# Hamas Has Lost Its Mojo in Gaza



DEXTER VAN ZILE  
BOSTON

Talk about being obtuse. The folks at *The Palestine Chronicle*, a pro-Hamas propaganda outfit operating as a non-profit organization here in the US, is trying to put the best possible spin on the collapse of the "Great March of Return" protests that have petered out after almost two years of failure.

"It's still unclear why the organizing committee has decided to scale back on the protests," the outlet declared in a blog post published on Dec. 26, 2019.

No, it's not unclear. It's not unclear at all. Hamas lost. Big time.

More than three hundred Palestinians have died during these riots at the border between Israel and Gaza, with little effect on US policy or public opinion.

In years past, deaths in Gaza would have generated a tsunami of anti-Israel sentiment in the US with rallies in every major city, but not anymore.

Hamas failed to turn the move of the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem into a world-shaking event that would generate worldwide support for the Palestinian cause. It failed in its effort to convince Israelis to stop the blockade of Gaza and make it easier to smuggle weapons into the hands of terrorists. And it failed to convince Israel to commit suicide and acquiesce to the "right of return," allowing Jews to become a minority in their own state.

Attendance at the protests, which began in March 2018, had been declining, but the impending collapse of the protests became undeniable when march organizers cancelled two Friday protests in a row in November.

The cancellations prompted Neri Zilber, a senior fellow at BICOM in the UK, to tell *The Times of Israel* that Hamas is concerned that congregations of people could turn into protests against their regime for a lack of aggressive action against Israel. According to the *Times*, "dozens of protesters" had marched against Hamas after the terror organization announced a ceasefire with Israel.

In March, 2019, a year after the "March of Return" protests began, hundreds of protesters took to the streets as part of the "We Want to Live" movement. This movement, which was put down violently by Hamas with firing live ammunition into the air and midnight raids on homes of protesters (which were largely ignored by indignation junkies in the West) was prompted by the economic suffering endured by Palestinians living in Gaza.

"We want jobs, we want to live. We want equality, dignity and freedom," one protest

organizer told the *BBC* at the time.

The upshot is that Hamas has nothing to show for itself after more than 300 Palestinian rioters who put themselves in harm's way were killed in confrontations with Israel. Some folks apparently want more violence, but a larger number of inhabitants living in Gaza want their leaders to start building their society so they can get on with their lives, work for a living, and provide for their families.

For all of its talk about being committed to "democracy" and "free elections," Hamas is, in practice, a collection of top-down gangsters who impose their will on the people they have promised to liberate.



Palestinians burn tires to throw over the Gaza border into Israel on May 4, 2018, as part of weekly riots led by Hamas since March 30. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

Hamas is so committed to liberation and "coexistence of people with dissenting views" that its leaders can't even allow people the freedom to gather in the streets to protest its policies. Spontaneous bottom-up protests are a lethal threat to Hamas, just as they are to the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank and the mullahs in Iran.

Maybe, just maybe, young people in Gaza are starting to come to grips with the central facts of Palestinian national life — that Israel isn't going away and that in their refusal to accept this reality, Palestinian elites are consigning yet another generation of young people to pointless death and suffering.

With the collapse of the March of Return movement, Hamas is learning that anti-Israel propaganda will only get you so far in the face of facts such as this. In the long run, mass ideologies only work when they explain the facts, not when they demand that people deny or ignore reality.

Hamas and the Palestinian Authority are revealing themselves as fundamentally indifferent to the welfare of the people whose destinies they currently control. As a result, the wheels are starting to come off the bus of their anti-Israel jihad, which is ultimately nothing more than a cover and a distraction for the corrupt habits and agenda of Palestinian elites.

Good luck finding coverage of that reality in *The Palestine Chronicle*.

Dexter Van Zile is *Christian Media Analyst for the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and Analysis*. His opinions are his own.

## Continued from Page A6 Reparations

great injustices or whose families have been victimized in living memory. Included are both Holocaust survivors and African-Americans and their families victimized by Jim Crow. But don't pay historical reparations for the sins of long-dead slave masters. Their sins were paid for by the 365,000 Union

soldiers, white and black, who died winning the Civil War.

Today's politically-correct activists like Rabbi Pesner "virtue signal" by embracing race hustlers like Reverend Al Sharpton.

We need to do better.

Harold Brackman is an authority on relations between Jews and African-Americans.

## Impressions.

# New York Times Editors Falsely Blame Bret Stephens for 'Mistake' in Column on Jewish Genius



IRA STOLL  
BOSTON

The *New York Times* has published an "Editors' Note," inaccurately accusing the newspaper's own star columnist, Bret Stephens, of committing a "mistake" by "uncritically" citing a study that Stephens actually did criticize.

The 170-word note from the unidentified plural "editors" reads in full:

*An earlier version of this Bret Stephens column quoted statistics from a 2005 paper that advanced a genetic hypothesis for the basis of intelligence among Ashkenazi Jews. After publication Mr. Stephens and his editors learned that one of the paper's authors, who died in 2016, promoted racist views. Mr. Stephens was not endorsing the study or its authors' views, but it was a mistake to cite it uncritically. The effect was to leave an impression with many readers that Mr. Stephens was arguing that Jews are genetically superior. That was not his intent. He went on instead to argue that culture and history are crucial factors in Jewish achievements and that, as he put it, "At its best, the West can honor the principle of racial, religious and ethnic pluralism not as a grudging accommodation to strangers but as an affirmation of its own diverse identity. In that sense, what makes Jews special is that they aren't. They are representational." We have removed reference to the study from the column.*

The *Times* editors write that the Stephens column had the effect of leaving "many readers" with the "impression" that he was arguing that Jews are genetically superior. Yet the real "mistake" here was not by Stephens but by those readers.

Plenty of these outraged readers almost certainly never read the whole column, which is behind the *Times* paywall, but they did read tweets about it or misleading summaries published in other places. Those who did read the full column must have missed or failed to understand the sentences in which Stephens wrote, "the 'Jews are smart' explanation obscures more than it illuminates. Aside from the perennial nature-or-nurture question of why so many Ashkenazi Jews have higher I.Q.s, there is the more difficult question of why that intelligence was so often matched by such bracing originality and high-minded purpose."

To say that something obscures more than it illuminates is a criticism. So it is not accurate to say that Stephens was uncritical of the study. Maybe the Stephens critics are themselves so low-I.Q., as a result of either genetics or environment, that they don't understand the words "obscure" or "illuminate." Or maybe their attention spans are so short that they couldn't sustain the concentration needed to get from the paragraph where Stephens linked to an MIT version of the intelligence study to the sentence just a bit father down in the column where he said that approach obscures more than it illuminates.

Stephens himself has written eloquently and frequently about the threat to freedom of speech posed by what he has called "the siege of the perpetually enraged part of our audience." Stephens has observed, accurately, that "journalism can only be *as good* as its audience. Intelligent coverage requires intelligent readers, viewers and listeners" and also that "[w]e cannot expect columnists to be provocative if readers cancel their subscriptions the moment they feel 'triggered' by an opinion they dislike."

The "editors' note" and the rewriting of the Stephens column post-publication are examples of the *Times* spinelessly surrendering to the perpetually-enraged faction of its readers. They also are a

nists want to work for those sorts of editors, and that encourages the risk-taking that is an essential ingredient to good column writing. If an editor wants to edit or kill a crummy column, the time to do it is before the column is published, not afterward.

The "editors' note" is also a double standard. The *Times* has published far more egregious columns than Stephens' latest without appending editors' notes or publishing bowdlerized revisions of those other ones. A *Times* opinion columnist named Michelle Alexander, for example, published a column cheering as an example of "moral clarity" the United Methodist Church pension fund's boycott of the five largest Israeli banks. That's not a columnist being misunder-



Journalist Bret Stephens. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

demonstration that, alas, the *Times* readership isn't intelligent enough for Stephens' column.

Moreover, even if Stephens had made a mistake, which he didn't, the job of a good editor in these situations where a columnist writes a bad column is not to undercut the columnist or hang the columnist out to dry by publishing a sanitized version of the column, but to defend the columnist. Let me repeat that, because it apparently isn't clear to the editors at the *Times*: the job of the editor is to defend the columnist. There are exceptions to this rule, but they are rare — a genuine factual error that needs correction, a truly egregious ethical lapse. Stephens' column doesn't approach that.

Every columnist who writes a weekly column lands a dud once in a while (trust me, I know from experience). The good columns aren't the ones that editors need to stand up for. It's the bad ones where editors of true character defend the columnist, at least in public. That's not defensive, circle-the-wagons behavior, it's just good newspaper editing of the sort practiced by the late, great Robert L. Bartley of *The Wall Street Journal*, under whom Stephens learned some of his journalistic craft.

Bartley wasn't a Jewish genius of the sort the Stephens column discussed but he was a gentile genius. It's that sort of editing that makes colum-

stood for quoting and then disagreeing with a paper by someone who wants to boycott Israeli banks; that's an actual *Times* columnist herself endorsing a boycott of Israeli banks. No *Times* "editors' note" or revised and redacted version of that column.

And the *Times* has published eight op-ed pieces by Mohammad Javad Zarif, the foreign minister of the terror-sponsoring, Holocaust-denying, political-prisoner executing, Jew-killing, woman-oppressing government of Iran. No "editors' note" has yet described Zarif as promoting views that go beyond the limits of what is acceptable on the *Times* op-ed page.

When the *Times* hire of Stephens was announced back in 2017, I wrote that he would fill the slot left open by A.M. Rosenthal and William Safire and that "his voice will be a welcome addition and corrective to the *Times* tilt against Israel." I may have overstated the degree of "welcome" by generalizing from my own views rather than by accurately assessing the *Times* audience. For a certain segment of the *Times* readership, and even apparently some *Times* editors, alas, one openly pro-Jewish, pro-Israel regular *Times* columnist is one too many.

*Ira Stoll was managing editor of The Forward and North American editor of The Jerusalem Post.*

# Legal Notice.

## LEGAL NOTICE



BARRY R. CLARKE PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/15/19. Office: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC, c/o Barry R. Clarke, 144 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11226. Purpose: For the practice of the profession of Law. AJ; 11/29; 12/6/13/20/27; 1/3

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: DS TECHNICAL CREATIVE, LLC . Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 09/17/2019. Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to: David Scheideler 428 Lexington Ave Brooklyn, NY 11221. Purpose: All lawful activity AJ; 12/13/20/27; 1/3/10/17

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR DEUTSCHE ALTA SECURITIES, INC., MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-AR3, V. OLGA BORTNIKOVA; ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 29, 2019, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR DEUTSCHE ALTA SECURITIES, INC., MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-AR3 is the Plaintiff and OLGA BORTNIKOVA; ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE 360 ADAMS STREET, ROOM 224, BROOKLYN, NY 11201, on January 16, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 2515 E 63RD STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11234: Block 8461, Lot 18: ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500890/2016. Jeffrey R. Miller, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 12/13/20/27; 1/3

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT. COUNTY OF KINGS. ASPEN G REVOCABLE TRUST, Pltf. vs. SOPHIE GRAND, et al, Defts. Index #518773/2018. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered Nov. 13, 2019, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY on January 16, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. prem. k/a 1141 East 10th Street, Brooklyn, NY a/k/a Block 6536, Lot 69. Said property beginning at a point on the easterly side of East 10th Street, distant 342 ft. 8 inches Southerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the easterly side of East 10th Street with the southerly side

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of Avenue K, being a plot 100 ft. x 17 ft. 4 inches. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$333,277.72 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. CHARLANE BROWN, Referee. THE MARGOLIN & WEINREB LAW GROUP, LLP, Attys. for Pltf., 165 Eileen Way, Ste. 101, Syosset, NY. #98018 AJ; 12/13/20/27; 1/3

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff - against - RIFKY GRUNHUT, A/K/A RIVKY GRUNHUT et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on December 3, 2018. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, at room 261, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York on the 16th Day of January, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, City of New York, County of Kings, State of New York. Premises known as 1139 42nd Street, Brooklyn, (City of New York) New York 11219. (Block: 5592, Lot: 64) Approximate amount of lien \$772,321.00 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 11902/2013. Mark Longo, Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: October 22, 2019 AJ; 12/13/20/27; 1/3

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings The Bank of New York Mellon fka The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-9, Plaintiff AGAINST Raja M. Javed a/k/a Raja M. Javid a/k/a Javed Raja, Khawar Latif Raja, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 1/3/2017 and entered on 1/24/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 16, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 2076 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 7807, LOT: 78. Approximate amount of judgment is \$594,467.91 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 511373/2014. Richard Klass, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 12/13/20/27; 1/3

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT KINGS COUNTY U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Plaintiff against EUGENE LEFKOVITZ A/K/A EUGENE LEFKOWITZ, et al Defendants Attorney for Plaintiff(s) Fein, Such & Crane, LLP, 28 East Main Street Suite 1800, Rochester, NY 14614 Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered March 20, 2019, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York on January 23, 2020 at 2:30 PM. Premises known as 155 Clymer Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Block 2169 Lot 54. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land,

## LEGAL NOTICE

with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$824,153.98 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 5975/13. Dominic Famulari, Esq., Referee VERN810 AJ; 12/20/27; 1/3/10

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST Tino Estrada, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 5/16/17 and entered on 5/30/17, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 23, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 584 Linwood Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4050, LOT: 124. Approximate amount of judgment is \$704,389.87 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 24323/2010. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www. Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. Jaime Lathrop, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 12/20/27; 1/3/10

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for Ellington Loan Acquisition Trust 2007-2, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-2, Plaintiff AGAINST Ludes Cesar, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 10/23/19 and entered on 11/13/2019, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 23, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 1434 East 98 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 8262, LOT: P/O 61. Approximate amount of judgment is \$639,820.13 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 524590/2017. Mark Longo, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 12/20/27; 1/3/10

Public Notice: The Original Golden Coffee LLC Arts of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 11.12.2019. Office: King County. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy to Attn: Henrik Friedman, 416 Mayfair Dr. S., Brooklyn, NY 11234. Purpose: any lawful activity. AJ; 12/20/27; 1/3/10/17/24

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR HSI ASSET LOAN OBLIGATION TRUST 2006-2, Plaintiff against LAURIE CADANER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on February 28, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Court-

## LEGAL NOTICE

house, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 30th day of January, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Said premises known as 324A New York Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. 11213. (Block: 1276, Lot: 42) Approximate amount of lien \$ 906,835.29 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 12901-09. Leonard C. Spector, Esq., Referee. FEIN SUCH & CRANE, LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, NY. 14614 (585) 232-7400 AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC AUCTION Supreme Court of New York, KINGS County. U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT, Plaintiff, -against- HAROLD ODLE; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; NEW YORK CITY, ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; CARL ODLE, Index No. 508218/2017. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated, May 16, 2019 and entered with the Kings County Clerk on May 23, 2019, Jacob Gelfand, Esq., the Appointed Referee, will sell the premises known as 464 East 55th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11203 at public auction at Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on January 30, 2020 at 2:30 PM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York known as Block: 4765; Lot: 11 will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment, Index No. 508218/2017. The approximate amount of judgment is \$281,260.63 plus interest and costs. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO LLP 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff -against- JAAKOV WINKLER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated May 16, 2018, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Courthouse 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY on January 30, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the Southerly side of 52nd Street, distant 360 feet 6 inches Westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the Southerly side of 52nd Street with the Westerly side of 20th Avenue; being a plot 100 feet 2 inches by 18 feet 3 inches by 100 feet 2 inches by 18 feet 3 inches. Block 5475 and Lot 23. Said premises known as 1940 52ND STREET, BROOKLYN, NY Approximate amount of lien \$554,292.43 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Index Number 19421/2013. M. RANDOLPH JACKSON, ESQ., Referee David A.

## LEGAL NOTICE

Gallo & Associates LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 99 Powerhouse Road, First Floor, Roslyn Heights, NY 11577 File# 9026.01 AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Federal National Mortgage Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Amer Anwar a/k/a Amer Jamil Anwar; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated July 25, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 30, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 2004 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 5231 Lot 60. Approximate amount of judgment \$381,930.42 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 502221/2014. Leonard Spector, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: November 11, 2019 AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for J.P. Morgan Mortgage Trust 2004-S2, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Plaintiff AGAINST Audrey Savin; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated January 2, 2019 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 30, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 8901 Avenue M, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block: 8068 Lot: 1. Approximate amount of judgment \$393,894.70 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 507884/2015. Shmuel Taub, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: November 26, 2019 AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings CitiMortgage, Inc., Plaintiff AGAINST Kepler Balde, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 10/10/2018 and entered on 10/18/2018, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 30, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 12421 Flatlands Avenue , Unit 6B, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4423, LOT: 1412. Approximate amount of judgment is \$280,351.29 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 504331/2014. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www. Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832.

Continued on Page A10

## Tradition.

## The Future of the Past



JONATHAN SACKS  
LONDON

In our parsha, Joseph does something unusual. Revealing himself to his brothers, fully aware that they will suffer shock and then guilt as they remember how it is that their brother is in Egypt, he reinterprets the past:

*"I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no ploughing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt."* (Gen. 45:4-8)



This is markedly different to the way Joseph described these events when he spoke to the chief butler in prison: "I was forcibly carried off from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing to deserve being put in a dungeon" (Gen. 40:15). Then, it was a story of kidnap and injustice.

Now, it has become a story of Divine providence and redemption. It wasn't you, he tells his brothers, it was God. You didn't realise that you were part of a larger plan. And though it began badly, it has ended well. So don't hold yourselves guilty. And do not be afraid of any desire for revenge on my part. There is no such desire. I realise that we were all being directed by a force greater than ourselves, greater than we can fully understand.

Joseph does the same in next week's parsha, when the brothers fear that he may take revenge after their father's death:

*"Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now*

*being done, the saving of many lives.* (Gen. 50:19-20)

Joseph is helping his brothers to revise their memory of the past. In doing so, he is challenging one of our most fundamental assumptions about time, namely its asymmetry. We can change the future. We cannot change the past. But is that entirely true? What Joseph is doing for his brothers is what he has clearly done for himself: events have changed his and their understanding of the past.

Which means: we cannot fully understand what is happening to us now until we can look back in retrospect and see how it all turned out. This means that we are not held captive by the past. Things can happen to us, not as dramatically as to Joseph perhaps, but nonetheless benign, that can completely alter the way we look back and remember. *By action in the future, we can redeem the past.*

A classic example of this is the late Steve Jobs' 2005 commencement address at Stanford University, that has now been seen by more than 40 million people on YouTube. In it, he described

three crushing blows in his life: dropping out of college, being fired by the company he had founded – Apple, and being diagnosed with cancer. Each one, he said, had led to something important and positive.

Dropping out of college, Jobs was able to audit any course he wished. He attended one on calligraphy and this inspired him to build into his first computers a range of proportionally spaced fonts, thus giving computer scripts an elegance that had previously been available only to professional printers. Getting fired from Apple led him to start a new computer company, NeXT, that developed capabilities he would eventually bring back to Apple, as well as acquiring Pixar Animation, the most creative of computer-animated film studios. The diagnosis of cancer led him to a new focus in life. It made him realise: "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life."

Jobs' ability to construct these stories – what he called "connecting the dots" – was surely not unrelated to his ability to survive the blows

he suffered in life. Few could have recovered from the setback of being dismissed from his own company, and fewer still could have achieved the transformation he did at Apple when he returned, creating the iPod, iPhone and iPad. He did not believe in tragic inevitabilities. Though he would not have put it in these terms, he knew that by action in the future we can redeem the past.

Professor Mordechai Rotenberg of the Hebrew University has argued that this kind of technique, of reinterpreting the past, could be used as a therapeutic technique in rehabilitating patients suffering from a crippling sense of guilt. If we cannot change the past, then it is always there holding us back like a ball and chain around our legs. We cannot change the past, but we can reinterpret it by integrating it into a new and larger narrative. That is what Joseph was doing, and having used this technique to help him survive a personal life of unparalleled ups and downs, he now uses it to help his brothers live without overpowering guilt.

We find this in Judaism throughout its history. The Prophets reinterpreted biblical narrative for their day. Then came Midrash, which reinterpreted it more radically because the situation of Jews had changed more radically. Then came the great biblical commentators and mystics and philosophers. There has hardly been a generation in all of Jewish history when Jews did not reinterpret their texts in the light of the present tense experience. We are the people who tell stories, and then retell them repeatedly, each time with a slightly different emphasis, establishing a connection between then and now, rereading the past in the light of the present as best we can.

It is by telling stories that we make sense of our lives and the life of our people. And it is by allowing the present to reshape our understanding of the past that we redeem history and make it live as a positive force in our lives.

I gave one example when I spoke at the Kinus Shluchim of Chabad, the great gathering of some 5000 Chabad emissaries from around the world. I told them of how, in 1978, I visited the Lubavitcher Rebbe to ask his advice on which career I should follow. I did the usual thing: I sent him a note with the options, A, B or C, expecting him to indicate which one I should follow. The options were to become a barrister, or an economist, or an academic philosopher, either as a fellow of my college in Cambridge or as a professor somewhere else.

The Rebbe read out the list and said "No" to all three. My mission, he said, was to train Rabbis at Jews' College (now the London School of Jewish Studies) and to become a congregational Rabbi myself. So, overnight, I found myself saying goodbye to all my aspirations, to everything for which I had been trained.

The strange thing is that ultimately I fulfilled all those ambitions despite walking in the opposite direction. I became an honorary barrister (Bencher) of the

## Legal Notice.

## LEGAL NOTICE

*Continued from Page A9*

Leonard Spector, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706  
AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for the Holders of The Ellington Loan Acquisition Trust 2007-2, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-2, Plaintiff AGAINST Lester D. Henry, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 12/20/2017 and entered on 1/23/2018, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 30, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 105 Rogers Ave A, Brooklyn, NY 11216-6006. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 1233, LOT: 6. Approximate amount of judgment is \$981,240.61 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 504795/2015. Leonard Spector, Esq, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706  
AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name : NORTH KEERAGOOLARCHITECTURE PLLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 11/15/2019 Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC 69 Halsey Street,3RD floor Brooklyn, NY 11216 purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17/24/31

INDEX NO. 518086/2017 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., PRIME MORTGAGE TRUST, CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-1, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, Plaintiff, vs. RACHEL SHAMI A/K/A RACHEL WEISS; EZRA SHAMI; if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or

Inner Temple and delivered a law lecture in front of 600 barristers and the Lord Chief Justice. I delivered Britain's two leading economics lectures, the Mais Lecture and the Hayek Lecture at the Institute of Economic Affairs. I became a fellow of my Cambridge college and a philosophy professor at several universities. I identified with the biblical Joseph because, so often, what I had dreamed of came to be at the very moment that I had given up hope. Only in retrospect did I discover that the Rebbe was not telling me to give up my career plans. He was simply charting a different route and a more beneficial one.

I believe that the way we write the next chapter in our lives affects all the others that have come before. By action in the future, we can redeem much of the pain of the past.

Shabbat Shalom

## LEGAL NOTICE

who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.; APPROVED FUNDING CORP; PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY BANK; LUCKY K. CONTRACTING CO; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; BENJAMIN ERBST; if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, Defendants. To the above named Defendants YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until (60) days after service of the Summons; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE CAPTION ACTION IS TO foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$728,000.00 and interest, recorded

## Social.



Lior Raz (center) with the cast of Fauda. Photo: Provided.

## Premier Episode of Season 3 of Israeli Drama 'Fauda' Gets 1 Million Views in 48 hours

BY LAUREN IZSO

The opening episode of the third season of the Israeli drama "Fauda" got around one million views over the weekend, in its first 48 hours of availability, according to Israeli media outlets quoting the Yes satellite cable provider.

The show which centers around an elite Israeli counter-terrorism squad and its Palestinian rivals, has garnered attention from all over the world since its first two seasons aired on Netflix with options for subtitles in multiple languages.

The record numbers of the third season's premier include the original live broadcast of the episode on the Yes Action channel, as well as Yes VOD, and the Yes YouTube channel.

The show aired on Thursday evening in Israel, with a viewer rating of 12.6%, relatively high compared to other simultaneous network specials, but the subsequent digital views sent those numbers skyrocketing.

As of Sunday, according to Yes, the episode already had close to 800,000 views on the company's YouTube

channel alone.

The first season of "Fauda," created by journalist Avi Issacharoff and the series' lead actor Lior Raz, aired in February 2015.

Season one and two both revolved around undercover counterterrorism operations in the West Bank, but promotional billboards throughout the country which read "Welcome to Gaza" in Hebrew, indicated the series would take a turn to the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip in the new season.

Earlier this month, *The New York Times* ranked "Fauda" eighth on its list of the "best international TV shows of the decade," calling it an "absorbing, straightforward thriller... that shrewdly exploits the exigencies and emotions of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its dusty, mazelike locales."

Another Israeli television series, "Prisoners of War," took the list's top spot.

Netflix has not yet announced a date for the international premier of the third season of "Fauda," but it is expected to occur sometime in 2020.

## Startup Employees Make Double the Average Israeli Wage, Report Says

BY MEIR ORBACH/CTech

The average monthly wage of a startup employee in Israel is NIS 20,000 (approximately \$5,780), twice as much as the country's general average wage, according to a Monday report by Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). For larger startups employing between 21 and 50 people, the average wage is NIS 23,000 (approximately \$6,650), the report stated.

Geography also makes a difference. In Tel Aviv, startup employees make on average NIS 22,100



Hard at work during the fourth annual Jerusalem College of Technology (Machon Lev) "Great Minds Hackathon," December 2019. Photo: Michael Erenburg.

(approximately \$6,390) a month, while in Jerusalem they will have to settle for NIS 16,700 (approximately \$4,830), or only 1.3 times more than the general average monthly wage.

The report, which relies on tax authority data and on filings submitted to Bituah Leumi, Israel's national social security agency, also reveals that 5,313 new startups were founded in Israel between 2011 and 2018, but 2,387, or 45%, closed or froze their operations by 2018. In total, 4,363 startup companies were active in Israel in 2018, a 6% drop from 2017 but an overall annual increase of 5% since 2011. Those companies employed 29,000 people in 2018, making for an annual increase of 7% since 2011. Seventy-three percent of startups and 79% of jobs were concentrated in the greater Tel Aviv area, and 64% of companies were in the software industry.

According to the report, the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA), the government's tech investment arm, gave research and development grants to 13% of active companies in the years 2016-2018, spending a total of NIS 1.7 billion (approximately \$491 million in current exchange rates). In 2018 alone the authority gave NIS 589 million (approximately \$170 million), mostly to medtech startups.

**Opinion.**

# My Man of the Decade: Donald Trump



**BOAZ BISMUTH/**  
JNS.org

Over the past decade, the world's equilibrium has been disrupted. Social media helped advance the democratic debate, but also intensified the shaming of others, not to mention psychological warfare.

And the US, as always, was the leader of the pack. Self-appointed clergy from the Political Correctness Religion have been telling us what we can say and what we cannot. If you make one bad joke, you are automatically put on trial. The Inquisition is back, but this time in English.

But there is one person who has taken it upon himself to counter this trend, using the very social media networks that have created this problem.

His name is Donald Trump, the same person who was dismissed all through the presidential primaries and the general election, only to prove his detractors wrong, eventually becoming the 45th president of the United States.

He has already fulfilled his most important pledges, among them the appointment of two Supreme Court justices and 50 federal judges to lower courts.

The US economy is on fire even with ongoing spats with China. And despite the domestic problems Trump faces at home, he has managed to successfully amend free-trade agreements, create new alliances, and successfully promote US interests in NATO and other international bodies.

He has maintained his policy of maximum pressure on Iran by withdrawing from the 2015 nuclear deal and imposing sanctions. Even the investigations

into alleged Russian interference in the election went nowhere, and now people are asking questions over law enforcement's conduct and why Trump's campaign was subject to wiretapping.

The Israeli public has also understood that the president has lived up to his promises, especially after his decision to move the US embassy to Jerusalem and recognize the Golan Heights as Israeli territory, as well as his decision to view Israeli settlements as consistent with international law and his executive order punishing campuses for allowing anti-Israel activity.

But the media herd, the intellectuals, and the fundamentalist liberals will just not let go. For them, Trump is like a red rag to a bull. They consider him a thug who has taken over the White House.

I had the opportunity to meet and interview him multiple times on the campaign trail and three times as president. I have come to the realization that Trump is one of the most important presidents in US history.

In a world where boundaries are blurred, where it is unclear who is good and who is bad, it is good to know that that the world's superpower is led by a person with moral clarity, a president who knows which side creates technology and develops medicine, and which side exports terrorism. He knows that there are some who are for liberty and some who live in darkness.

We live in an era where if you are a conservative, God forbid, you are automatically considered an enemy because you are against political correctness.

Some would say that he is vulgar, but he has forced the liberals to confront the reality they have created with their discourse on the "Deplorables," as Hillary Clinton called his supporters.

Trump is the man of the



*US President Donald Trump. Photo: Reuters / Jonathan Ernst.*

decade because he has been the leader of the good guys. Regardless of whether he wins another term, he has redefined the world and challenged the cardinals of the new Inquisition— and by doing that he changed our discourse and reality.

*Boaz Bismuth is the editor-in-chief of Israel Hayom.*

*This article first appeared in Israel Hayom.*

**LEGAL NOTICE**

on March 1, 2006, at Instrument number CRFN 2006000115221, of the Public Records of KINGS County, New York, covering premises known as 2083 EAST 1ST STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11223. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. KINGS County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Plaintiff designates KINGS as the place of trial situs of the real property SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Mortgaged Premises: 2083 EAST 1ST STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11223 District: Section: Block: 7104 Lot: 511 AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17/

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC AUCTION Supreme Court of New York, KINGS County. FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, -against- LEAH DEMBITZER INDIVIDUALLY AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST OF LEAH DEMBITZER UNDER AGREEMENT DATED DECEMBER 4, 2001; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; BANK OF AMERICA N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FLEET NATIONAL BANK; YISROEL JAKOBOVITS; MR. BARBER (FIRST NAME REFUSED); FAIGY "DOE" (LAST NAME REFUSED); DAVID DEMBITZER; ABRAHIM "DOE" (LAST NAME REFUSED); MATI JAKOBOVITS; JOE "DOE" (LAST NAME REFUSED); ESTI DEMBITZER; DEBBIE BARBER, Index No. 512614/2015. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated, March 28, 2019 and entered with the Kings County Clerk

**A:** No, while there is a large contingent of religious Jews in Monsey, other communities do live in town.

**Q: Who is the mayor of Monsey?**

**A:** Monsey is an unincorporated hamlet in the larger Town of Ramapo. While it does have its own fire department, it does not have its own governmental body or municipal laws. Instead, it governed and serviced by the Town of Ramapo.

**Q: Is Monsey very big?**

**A:** No, it's actually quite small, only about three miles wide.

**Q: Is Rabbi Rottenberg the only rabbi in town?**

**A:** Monsey has many rabbis and rabbinic leaders; in fact, the Rottenberg synagogue is one of several on Forshay Road alone.

*Continued from Page A5 'Cowed'*

the rabbi addressed members of his congregation. He also recited the Jewish prayer of gomel, which is said when a person survives a dangerous situation.

For Priem, who along with his colleagues had been on the scene for hours, seeing the Torah procession stop in front of the Rottenberg residence was a particularly powerful moment.

"This shows that despite the fear, they continue to adhere to their faith," he said. "They won't be cowed to change."

**Q: How do you pronounce the town's name?**

**A:** Mun-see.

**Q: Do only Chassidim or Orthodox Jews live there?**

**Legal Notice.**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

on April 9, 2019, Gregory M. Laspina, Esq., the Appointed Referee, will sell the premises known as 1417 57th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11219 at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, Room 224 on February 6, 2020 at 2:30 P.M. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York known as Block: 5692; Lot: 63 will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment, Index No. 512614/2015. The approximate amount of judgment is \$245,367.42 plus interest and costs. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO LLP 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 1/3/10/17/24/

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings US Bank National Association as Trustee for CMALT REMIC Series 2007-A5-REMIC Pass-Through Certificates Series 2007-A5, Plaintiff AGAINST Junior Newton, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 5/17/2019 and entered on 5/28/2019, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on February 06, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 864 Euclid Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4505, LOT: 119. Approximate amount of judgment is \$585,352.63 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 522995/2016. Joel E. Abramson, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 1/3/10/17/24/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Trustee for Nomura Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-AF1, Plaintiff -against- Neetra Estwick a/k/a Neetra L. Estwick, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Mortgage Enterprise, Ltd., Green-Point Mortgage Funding, Inc., City of New York Environmental Control Board, City of New York Department of Transportation Parking Violations Bureau, Davon Dockery, John Smith (Name Refused), Natasha Dockery, Venita Balthazar, Shaquana Dockery, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered on November 13, 2019 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the highest bidder at ROOM 224 F/K/A ROOM 274 OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201 on February 6, 2020 at 2:30 PM premises known as 92 Williams Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207. ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of KINGS, City and State of New York. Block: 3682 Lot: 52 Approximate amount of lien \$587,649.90 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index # 508277/2014 Joel Abramson, Esq., REFEREE STEIN, WIENER AND ROTH, L.L.P., ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF ONE OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 113 CARLE PLACE, NY 11514 DATED: December 19, 2019 FILE #: WELLS 66234 AJ; 1/3/10/17/24/

**LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST Shakir Mustafa; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated October 23, 2019 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 6, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 444 Autumn Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 4171 Lot 21. Approximate amount of judgment \$331,359.15 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 504909/2018. Joel Abramson, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: December 5, 2019 66950 AJ; 1/3/10/17/24/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp., CSMC Mortgage-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, series 2006-9, Plaintiff AGAINST Todd Milner; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated May 31, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 6, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 619 Grand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11238- 4129. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 1155 Lot 6. Approximate amount of judgment \$822,695.83 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 500138/2015. Philip L. Kamaras, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: December 23, 2019 AJ; 1/3/10/17/24/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS PHH Mortgage Corporation, Plaintiff AGAINST Tyrelle Johnson a/k/a Tyrelle K. Johnson; Andrew Adams; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated April 24, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 6, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 10 Pleasant Place, Brooklyn, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 1568 Lot 31. Approximate amount of judgment \$418,417.08 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 505826/2015. Jageshwar Sharma, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: December 4, 2019 66930 AJ; 1/3/10/17/24/