

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COUNTY OF BALDWIN)

**RESOLUTION #2024-170
OF THE
BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION**

**EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORISM
IN THE GAZA STRIP.**

WHEREAS, Hamas was founded with the stated goal of destroying the State of Israel; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has been designated by the United States as a Foreign Terrorist Organization; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has launched thousands of rockets and mortars against Israeli population centers since Israel withdrew its civilian population and its military from Gaza in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Palestinian terrorists of the Islamic Jihad and Hamas have launched over 1800 rocket and mortars against Israeli civilian areas in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has increased the range and payload of its rockets, reportedly with support from Iran and others, putting hundreds of thousands of Israelis in danger of rocket attacks from Gaza; and

WHEREAS, Hamas locates elements of its terrorist infrastructure in civilian population centers, thus using innocent civilians as human shields; and

WHEREAS, the democratic, Jewish State of Israel is a key ally and a strategic partner of the United States and friend and partner of the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Israel has an inherent right to self-defense in the face of terrorist attacks; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama plays an important role in the production of the Iron Dome missile defense system which has saved countless lives against rocket attacks by Hamas onto population centers in Israel; and

WHEREAS, Alabama has led the way in many ways with its unwavering support for Israel, and Baldwin County, as the fastest growing county in the State of Alabama, wishes to express its solidarity with Israel in its defense of terrorist attacks; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, that the Baldwin County Commission:

1) Expresses vigorous support and unwavering commitment to the welfare, security, and survival of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state with secure borders and recognizes its right to act in self-defense to protect its citizens against Hamas's unceasing aggression.

2) Reiterates that Hamas must end the rocket and mortar attacks against Israel, recognize Israel's right to exist, renounce violence, agree to abide by previous agreements between Israel and the Palestinians, and verifiably dismantle its terrorist infrastructure.

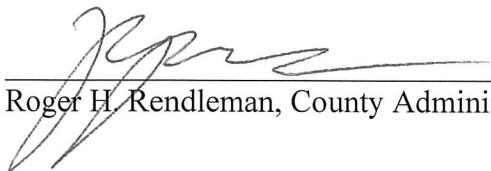
3) Encourages the Administration to work actively to support a durable and sustainable cease-fire in Gaza, as soon as possible, that prevents Hamas from retaining or rebuilding its terrorist infrastructure, including the capability to launch rockets and mortars against Israel, and thereby allowing for the long-term improvement of daily living conditions for the people of Gaza.

4) Condemns Hamas for deliberately embedding its fighters, leaders, and weapons in private homes, schools, mosques, hospitals, and otherwise using Palestinian civilians as human shields while simultaneously targeting Israeli civilians; and to lay blame both for the breaking of the calm and for subsequent civilian casualties in Gaza precisely where blame belongs, that is, on Hamas.

DONE, under the Seal of Baldwin County, Alabama, as affixed on this the 17th day of September, 2024.


Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood, Chairman

ATTEST:


Roger H. Rendleman, County Administrator

