

ADL Condemns Antisemitism Directed at Hawai'i Lt. Governor Josh Green

The Anti-Defamation League strongly supports Lt. Governor Dr. Josh Green as he and his family face antisemitic invective by anti-vaccine protesters. His steadfast dedication to protecting the health of all Hawai'ians while forced to confront protesters' hate-filled slurs and disturbing tactics sets an example for us all.

“Dr. Green is a voice of reason, both regarding the urgent need to safeguard public health in Hawai'i and the First Amendment rights of protesters” says Seth Brysk, ADL Central Pacific Regional Director.

“ADL respects a person's right to protest. But we strongly condemn the use of antisemitic and other hate-filled slurs. Extremists have blamed Jews for the pandemic's spread. The escalation in antisemitic rants and [Holocaust analogies tied to anti-vaccine and anti-masking protests](#) is as alarming as it is inaccurate and offensive.”

Josh Green, Hawai'i's Lt. Governor and a practicing emergency room physician, has become the target of hostile anti-COVID-19 vaccine protesters whose vitriol has escalated to include antisemitic language outside of his family home. Dr. Green, who is Jewish, has repeatedly stated to media outlets that he respects the protesters' First Amendment rights to voice their opinion, and that he hopes to bring calm and peace to the discussion.

The antisemitic invective hurled at Dr. Green comes at a time of rising antisemitism in Hawai'i. ADL has been tracking a troubling increase in extremist and antisemitic acts in the state, ranging from antisemitic slurs spray-painted on walls in Honolulu to the strong presence of Hawai'i's [Proud Boys](#) leadership at the January 6 Capitol Insurrection.

We encourage anyone who witnesses or is targeted by a hate incident to report it to law enforcement and also [file a report to ADL](#). (www.adl.org/report)

According to the Associated Press, since Hawai'i announced a mandate in early August requiring state and county workers to show proof of vaccination or face weekly tests, around 50 to 100 unmasked vaccine opponents have gathered almost nightly outside Lt. Governor Green's Honolulu condominium. Flyers with his photo and the words “Jew” and “fraud” have been plastered around the neighborhood.

ADL is a leading anti-hate organization. Founded in 1913 in response to an escalating climate of anti-Semitism and bigotry, its timeless mission is to protect the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all. Today, ADL continues to fight all forms of hate with the same vigor and passion. ADL is the first call when acts of anti-Semitism occur. A global leader in exposing extremism, delivering anti-bias education and fighting hate online, ADL's ultimate goal is a world in which no group or individual suffers from bias, discrimination or hate. More at www.adl.org.