



SECURE COMMUNITY NETWORK

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MICHAEL MASTERS
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CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 24, 2022

The Honorable Bennie Thompson
2466 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Katko
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

RE: Support for the “Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022”

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Katko,

On behalf of the Secure Community Network (SCN), I am writing to commend you for introducing the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022. This legislation, if enacted, would make funding and program improvements to this critical effort that would dramatically enhance the safety and security of vulnerable faith-based institutions across the country. In this, we appreciate your leadership and dedication to addressing the rising threats facing the faith-based community, and the Jewish Community specifically.

SCN, as the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America, empowers and supports individuals and Jewish organizations across North America with information and intelligence sharing, security assessments of organizations and facilities, training, grant education, guidance and support and incident response and consultations.

Many of SCN’s partners from over 50 national Jewish partner organizations, 146 Jewish Federations and over 300 independent communities rely on Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) funds to assist in enhancing the security of their institutions.

Earlier this month I was pleased to provide testimony in your committee during the hearing entitled “*The Nonprofit Security Grant Program and Protecting Houses of Worship: A View from the American Jewish Community.*” We are grateful that you incorporated into your bill many of the suggestions that stakeholders offered, including a necessary increase in funding to \$500 million annually, the creation of a program office at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to better provide support throughout the grant cycle, and broadened definitions to promote more flexible and desired uses of the funds.

We applaud your leadership and the committee's support for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022, and SCN looks forward to continued collaboration with you to ensure the program addresses needs in the field. Thank you for everything you have done to highlight and address the complex and dynamic threat landscape affecting the Jewish community, the broader faith community, and vulnerable non-profit institutions around the country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael A. Masters". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M".

Michael Masters
National Director & CEO
Secure Community Network