

SDSU received a report on June 25 of evidence of vandalism at the Chabad House. Upon arriving, it was apparent that the large menorah and banner on the entrance had been damaged.

The University Police Department is reviewing video footage and is asking anyone with details to report information to the department by calling 619-594-4636 or emailing policeinvestigations@sdsu.edu. Please reference Case# 21-393.

Immediately after learning about the vandalism, SDSU's administration took numerous actions, including meeting with Rabbi Chalom Boudjnah to extend support and learn more about what had occurred. University Police Department officers were also alerted to the vandalism and deployed officers to the scene to investigate. The university is encouraging all members of the community who need support to rely on the [campus support services](#), including those for [counseling and psychological services](#) and to [report bias-related incidents](#).

“This act of vandalism is beyond offensive, but let it not deter us from the important work that has occurred and that is ongoing in support to members of our Jewish community,” said SDSU President Adela de la Torre. “To members of our Jewish community: Our campus community stands with you and is in opposition to every act of bias and discrimination targeting you — all of which fail to undermine who you are and the many positive contributions you make to our community.”

On Friday afternoon, the university also quickly convened a meeting with members of the SDSU Presidential Task Force on Addressing Antisemitism, which is charged with developing programs, courses and response efforts in response to antisemitism.

Risa Levitt, a member of the Presidential Task Force on Addressing Antisemitism and chair of the Department for the Study of Religion and director of the Jewish Studies Program, said: “SDSU is experiencing a significant increase in antisemitic incidents. We hope the broader community will take notice and action. The mass shooting in Poway, vandalism attacks on community centers, and ongoing harassment targeting individuals and groups in the Jewish community leave no doubt that we are being targeted. We hope to see SDSU students, faculty, staff and administration join the San Diegans and San Diego authorities confronting this bigotry.”

“This is an appalling act of antisemitism,” said J. Luke Wood, Vice President for Student Affairs and Campus Diversity and Chief Diversity Officer. “With antisemitic assault, harassment and vandalism occurring at higher rates across the nation, these incidents do not push us into the ground; they do the opposite. This event is among a series of events that have occurred in

recent months. We remain motivated, will continue to be direct in our support of our Jewish community and will continue elevating the lives and experiences of those within our community. As a university and community, we strongly condemn anti-semitism and hate.

SDSU stands in solidarity with the Chabad House and all members of the Jewish community. Importantly, the Chabad House is an important space of gathering and support for members of or Jewish community, particularly students. There, programs, services and events are held to educate, support and uplift Jewish students. The Chabad House is gathering donations and also running a food drive, and the community is encouraged to provide support by [making a contribution](#) online.