Guidelines for Reporting Anti-Semitic Incidents

What is Considered Anti-Semitic Activity?
Anti-Semitic activity includes overt acts of expressions of anti-Jewish bigotry and hostility. Many incidents are not crimes. Activity can generally be categorized as follows:

- **Expression** – Written or verbal communication by groups or individuals, including public, elected, or religious figures. Includes publicly or privately directed letters, phone conversations, articles, speeches, e-mail, or other Internet communication.
- **Vandalism** – Desecration, vandalism, or other criminal activity against property
- **Harassment, Threats, and Assaults** – Directed at individuals or institutions
- **Discrimination** – Employment, education, housing, or organizational membership
- **Hate Group Activity** – Rallies, recruitment, or other activities organized or sponsored by groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, Skinhead, or other White Supremacist groups

- These are not exhaustive or exclusive. We encourage you to report all incidents.

How to Report an Anti-Semitic Incident of Activity

- All incidents, regardless of whether or not they are reported to a law enforcement agency, should be reported to:  
  Elana Kahn, Director  
  Jewish Community Relations Council  
  (414) 390-5736 or elanak@milwaukeejewish.org
- Harassment or threats made directly to an individual or an institution, vandalism, defacement, or other desecration of property (public or private) should be report to:
  Local Police Department

What Type of Evidence or Corroboration Material is Necessary?
It is extremely important both for the purpose of auditing, as well as for intervention and follow-up, that any information or material that can be used to verify or substantiate reports be available.
Examples include:
- Original letters, envelops, faxes, printed copies of e-mail, articles in newspapers, etc.
- Answering machine tape recordings, transcriptions of conversations, pertinent information about radio or television programs (name, date, speaker, etc.)
- Police reports, photographs, video-tape
- Fliers, mailings, posters

How Does the Council Use the Information?

- The professional staff attempts to verify or corroborate all incidents.
- We respect all requests for anonymity and/or confidentiality by those reporting incidents.
- We refrain from publishing or otherwise making available the names of individual victims or perpetrators. This policy may exclude public figures or comments made in the public domain.
- The JCRC may intervene or provide follow-up on reported incidents. This is done on a case-by-case basis, in conjunction with the reporting party.
- Based on reported incidents, the JCRC prepares and distributes an annual audit of anti-Semitic incidents to local Jewish organizations, agencies and synagogues, local media and national organizations, as deemed appropriate.
- The information is used to develop educational and outreach programming which is designed to combat anti-Semitic activity.