



JFB strongly condemns the antisemitic statement posted by the Bracken County Republican Party on Friday afternoon.

The Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass strongly condemns the antisemitic statement posted by the Bracken County Republican Party on Friday afternoon. We are dismayed at yet another ignorant, hateful statement from political leaders in our state – taken together with recent statements made by State Representatives, social media posts from the US Congressman who represents Bracken County, and antisemitic training materials in the State Police, the trend is truly alarming.

Furthermore, we find the excuse that their account was “hacked” to be wholly insufficient. If the Bracken County and Kentucky GOP are truly serious about their commitment to fighting antisemitism among their members, they will engage in genuine efforts to educate themselves, and offer more than a generic dismissal of the statements. It is additionally shameful that this hate came as a response to the confirmation of a new director for the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms agency – a crucial government role in combating the epidemic of gun violence that plagues our country.

Antisemitic tropes and conspiracy theories have been used for centuries to justify persecution and violence against Jews. The rise in antisemitism in the US and in Kentucky in recent years are of grave concern – the Jewish community must not be alone in responding to this hate.

We call on our elected officials - our governor, senators, congressmen, and those seeking such offices - to not only condemn such hate, but provide details to the Jewish community about what will be done to combat this, and how the political leaders who espouse this will be held accountable.