



**Jewish Community  
Relations Council**  
**MILWAUKEE**  
JEWISH FEDERATION

August 24, 2020

### Statement on Jacob Blake

The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation is deeply disturbed by the shooting incident in Kenosha yesterday. While much remains unknown, it is indisputable that Jacob Blake was shot several times in the back by at least one Kenosha police officer. This took place in the presence of his children and was captured on video. In the following hours, protests erupted and the situation remains volatile.

We regret the many acts of vandalism and destruction to Kenosha's public institutions and businesses that emerged in the wake of these events. We call for nonviolence in efforts to right wrongs and call for justice.

Today and every day, we stand with the Black community to fight hate and injustice. The toxic effects of racism and violence are felt most acutely by our Black community and its insidious effects harms all of us.

May Mr. Blake be granted *refuah shlemah* – a complete and speedy recovery. May his children and fiancé be comforted. We pray for the families of Breonna Taylor, Dontre Hamilton, Syville Smith, Muhammad Muhaymin, and too many others whose lives have been cut short.

We also call for a prompt, thorough and transparent investigation. Delay and a lack of accountability poisons our public trust. We cannot become numb or accustomed to the shooting of persons of color by law enforcement. We are compelled to speak out for justice so that no more lives are senselessly threatened or taken.

As we await more information from the Wisconsin Department of Justice, we encourage everyone to find safe, strong, powerful ways to voice their outrage and anger.

We will continue to fight until racism and injustice become relics.