Wyn Spiller,
Rotary International Director 2025-2027

August 5, 2026

Steven Routburg
General Counsel
Rotary International

Re: Follow-Up Regarding Former Irvine Mayor Farrah Khan, President, Rotary Club of Orange County-Los Angeles

Dear Ms. Spiller and Mr. Routburg,

We write jointly as leading Jewish community organizations in Orange County, California and neighboring communities: the Jewish Community Action Network (JCAN), the Jewish Federation of Orange County, the Israeli American Council (IAC), ADL (Anti-Defamation League) Orange County/Long Beach, AJC (American Jewish Committee), StandWithUs Southwest, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Approximately one month ago, we brought to your attention a series of public social media posts by former Irvine Mayor Farrah Khan, who has since been installed as president of the Rotary Club of Orange County-Los Angeles. We provided documentation of those posts and explained the historical context and documented harm associated with the rhetoric they contain.

We have not yet received a substantive response.

To briefly restate the concern: Ms. Khan publicly posted, in reference to Israeli government officials and the military, that they are "sick pedophiles/cannibals." In separate posts, she alleged that unidentified "elites" are "worshipping evil, eating humans, engaging in rape and pedophilia." She also shared an unverified claim of Israeli atrocities without any cited source, and posted content that frames "Zionism" as antithetical to "humanity." ADL has documented extensively that accusations of cannibalism and child abuse against Jewish people represent some of the oldest and most dangerous antisemitic tropes in history, tropes that have been used for centuries to incite violence against Jewish communities. AJC's "Translate Hate" glossary explains how the blood libel trope, along with other words and symbols, can be antisemitic and hide in plain sight. They are a form of rhetoric with a well-documented record of fueling hate.

We are aware that Rotary International has indicated that local chapters have full autonomy in matters of club leadership. We respectfully note that Rotary International's own

Manual of Procedure provides that members must "demonstrate good character, integrity, and leadership." We urge Rotary International not to treat local autonomy as a reason to decline to act when its own governing standards provide a clear basis and a clear obligation to do so.

The stakes in this community are real and documented. According to AJC's 2025 State of Antisemitism in America report, 91% of Jews in America say they feel less safe today compared to a year ago. And in California, nearly 6 in 10 Jews reported changing their behavior out of a fear of antisemitism. The California Department of Justice "Hate Crime in California 2025" Report showed that while Jews make up an estimated 3.25% of California residents, nearly 74% of all religiously motivated hate crimes reported to the CA DOJ were anti-Jewish.

A newly released demographic study of Orange County's Jewish community found that **63% of Jewish adults in the county reported avoiding Jewish activities out of fear of antisemitism, and that nearly half (45%) have avoided wearing or displaying items that would identify them as Jewish.** Orange County's approximately 93,500 Jewish residents represent roughly two percent of the county's population, yet ADL data and local reporting indicate the Jewish community is targeted in a disproportionate share of the county's reported hate crimes. Open survey responses from the demographic study reflect the human dimension behind these numbers; one respondent wrote simply: "I don't feel safe being Jewish in the world today."

Rotary International has publicly stated: "We have no tolerance for racism. Promoting respect, celebrating diversity, and working tirelessly to advance peace are central tenets of our work." We take those words seriously, which is precisely why we are writing again. The elevation of a chapter leader whose public conduct is inconsistent with those principles, and whose rhetoric echoes some of the most dangerous antisemitic tropes in circulation, sends a troubling signal to the Jewish community and to the broader public about what Rotary's stated values mean in practice.

We respectfully renew our request that Rotary International's leadership take a direct and active role in reviewing whether Ms. Khan's public conduct is consistent with the Rotarian Code of Conduct and the Four Way Test, and that you communicate with us about what steps, if any, are being taken. We remain available to speak with you directly and to provide any additional documentation that would be helpful.

Sincerely,

**Ilana Meirovitch**
CEO
Jewish Community Action Network

**Matthew Friedman**
Regional Director
ADL Orange County/Long Beach




**Joey Good**
Senior Director, Community Relations
Jewish Federation of Orange County

**Inbal Greenberg**
Regional Director
Israeli American Council

**Sara E. Brown, PhD**
Regional Director
American Jewish Committee San Diego

**Oz Laniado**
Executive Director, Southwest
StandWithUs

**Vlad Khaykin**
Executive Vice President, Social Impact & Partnerships
Simon Wiesenthal Center