



To the University Community,

Over the weekend, anti-Semitic graffiti depicting the Star of David with the German word for Jews, *juden*, written below appeared on the side of the GrandMarc apartment building. This symbol is reminiscent of the mark placed on stores owned by members of Germany's Jewish community during the time of the Third Reich. It was meant to single out these shops and ostracize members of the Jewish faith. The continued use of this symbol draws on memories of Nazi Germany to incite fear. Even while significant progress has been made in the United States to promote tolerance, anti-Semitism persists. This is not an isolated incident, but one that follows a disturbing pattern of prejudice that affects Jewish members of our community.

We must recognize this for what is: hate speech. The imagery painted at GrandMarc is intended to intimidate Jewish students and make them feel uncomfortable in their community. Our University is made richer by our diversity of cultures and faiths, and we stand firmly against hate speech of all kinds. When incidents of hate like this occur, students should report them to the authorities and through <http://www.virginia.edu/justreportit/>. Speak up against anyone who spreads intolerance. All students deserve to feel safe, but it requires everyone to stand against bigotry.

The University Police Department and members of the University Administration are aware of the situation and are responding accordingly. We encourage any students who have been affected by this incident or others like it to reach out for support. Consider:

- **UVA Counseling and Psychological Services:** 434-243-5150 (day), 434-972-4261 (evenings and weekends), <http://www.virginia.edu/studenthealth/caps.html>
- *For faculty and staff, Faculty and Employee Assistance Program:* 434-243-2643, <https://www.medicalcenter.virginia.edu/feap/general-information>
- **Rabbi Jake Rubin, Brody Jewish Center, Hillel at UVA:** [jake@brodyjewishcenter.org](mailto:jake@brodyjewishcenter.org)
- **Rabbi Shlomo Mayer, Chabad at UVA:** [chabadofuva@gmail.com](mailto:chabadofuva@gmail.com)
- **The Jewish Leadership Council:** <https://atuva.student.virginia.edu/organization/hilleljewishleadershipcouncil/about/contact>

In solidarity,  
Student Council  
Jewish Leadership Council