

Press Release

December 15, 2015

Masjid Al Madinah / Upper Darby Islamic Center

In the name of God, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

The Muslim American community of Upper Darby is deeply saddened by the act of terrorism in San Bernardino that claimed the lives of 14 innocent people earlier this month. As the Qur'an teaches us, "Whoever kills a person [unjustly]...it is as though he has killed all mankind. And whoever saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind." (Qur'an, 5:32)

Violence such as this has no place in our America, a country built on the values of freedom and tolerance. An attack on any person, regardless of their faith, ethnicity, or political persuasion, is an attack on all Americans. Terrorism's intention is to sow fear and create division among neighbors. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow Americans in rejecting this evil, and we are ready to support the victims.

A nationwide campaign, spearheaded by brothers and sisters in our faith, to raise funds for the victims' families, has so far raised over \$175,000. Those interested may donate at: [Muslims United for San Bernardino](https://goo.gl/6lJpum) (<https://goo.gl/6lJpum>)

We are continuing to engage with and build greater rapport with local law enforcement and civic leaders. We thank Superintendent Michael Chitwood of the Upper Darby Police Department for his efforts in combating intolerance and racism in our community and we are proud to call Upper Darby Pennsylvania, our home.

Finally, given the current intense climate, we understand that our neighbors and fellow Americans may have unanswered questions and concerns about Muslim beliefs. Therefore, we are opening our doors to visitors. We encourage those who are interested from, our schools, our civic and professional groups, our neighborhoods, as well as, churches and other faith communities, to reach out and schedule a visit.

May God bless America. Amen!

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