

Multiple Attacks on Chicago Jewish Community on Sabbath

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(IsraelNN.com) The Chicago Jewish community was attacked in a number of different locations over the Sabbath, with vandals destroying property and defacing five synagogues and Jewish schools in the city.

Five Chicago synagogues and Jewish schools were attacked. Unidentified men were caught on security video tapes Saturday, breaking windows and writing "Death to Israel" in orange spray paint at several locations.

At the Chabad-Lubavitch Mesivta (high school) in Chicago, security cameras caught two men at approximately 4:40 a.m. vandalizing the building. One spray-painted the side of the building while the other hurled rocks at the front door.

Less than two hours later, at 6:10 a.m. the caretaker of Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation awoke to the sound of breaking glass. He ran to the front of the synagogue and saw two men fleeing the scene. The vandals had also scrawled "Death to Israel" and "Free Palestine" on the walls of the building.

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Similar acts of vandalism occurred the same night at Congregation Anshe Motele, Hana Sacks Girls' High School, and the Young Israel Synagogue of West Rogers Park.

Chicago police are investigating the crimes. In addition, they have contacted the U.S. Joint Terrorism Task Force of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to help with the probe.

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Chicago has been the focus of other anti-Semitic attacks this month as well.

Barely a week ago, the Ida Crown Jewish Academy received a bomb threat in the mail, threatening other Chicago area Jewish schools as well. In addition, on December 29th, a man hurled a firebomb at Temple Sholom, also in the same area.

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