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Service Employees International Union
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Sikh Coalition
Bryan Fair
Southern Poverty Law Center
Janet Murguía
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President and CEO
Maya Wiley

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

June 24, 2026

Dear Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin,

As Christian faith leaders, we write to express our deep and abiding support for the people and the vital work of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). While the SPLC's history of working to eradicate the KKK is, of course, laudable, we wish to emphasize the importance of what the SPLC does for the people we serve in the trying times we are navigating today.

The SPLC devotes its time and its resources to tackling the most essential problems faced by the members of our communities and our congregations, and we firmly reject the untruthful allegation that the SPLC is anti-Christian. Our faith teaches us to care for the sick and the imprisoned, to feed and clothe the impoverished, to house the homeless, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. The SPLC embodies these tenets. Through litigation, through its tireless work in state legislatures and on Capitol Hill, through educating and equipping the public to advocate for itself, and through substantial contributions of its financial resources, the SPLC stands up for voting rights, seeks to protect the poor against threats to their access to housing, food and healthcare, advocates for the rights of the incarcerated, and continues its longstanding work to prevent hatred from wielding power over marginalized communities.

Hatred takes many forms, and at times attempts to cloak itself with religious justifications. Jesus warned us in the Gospel of Matthew to "beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves." Just as communities of faith have endured far too much violence motivated by religious, ethnic, race-based, and other forms of hatred – from harassment and threats to mass shootings and church burnings – so have marginalized communities come under attack by the forces of hate. The SPLC has stood with us all, time after time. We stand now with the SPLC, as it is under attack by those who oppose its work for their own political gain.

Sincerely,

John Allen, Reverend, United Methodist Church
Martin Todd Allen, Reverend, Dr., Unitarian Universalist Church of Jackson

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Leo Seyij Allen, Reverend, Park Avenue Baptist Church and Transmission Ministry Collective
Dwight D. Andrews, Reverend Dr./Pastor, First Congregational Church, UCC of Atlanta
Andy Andrews, Reverend/Pastor, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Jonathan C. Augustine, Reverend Dr., Big Bethel AME Church (Atlanta)
Rosa S. Barron, Reverend, Second Allen AME
James C. Beam-Ingram, Reverend, Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church
Rachel Benefield, Senior Pastor, The Nourishing Place
Robert M. Blanton, Reverend/Pastor, The Episcopal Church of the Creator, Clinton, Mississippi
Marta Sobrino Bolen, Associate Pastor, New Albany UMC
Chris Bowers, Pastor, Gautier First United Methodist Church
John Brown, Pastor, Faith of Hope Baptist Church
Vivian Brown-Toussaint, Pastor, Mississippi Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church
Susannah Grubbs Carr, Senior Pastor, Wells UMC
Bruce Case, Senior Pastor, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Jackson, MS
Steve Casteel, Reverend, United Methodist Church
Elizabeth Davidson, Clergy, United Methodist Church
Dorothy Dickson-Rishel, Clergy, Mississippi United Methodist AC
Michael Dixon, Reverend, Ekklesia Hattiesburg
Lisa Garvin, Clergy, The United Methodist Church
Clint Gill, Retired UMC Pastor, Mississippi Annual Conference
Brandon Halford, Reverend, MS AC UMC
Eddie C. Hartwell, Sr., Pastor, St. James Baptist Church
Kim Jackson, Reverend, Episcopal Church of the Common Ground
Allen D. Jenkins, Senior Pastor, First Missionary Baptist Church of Bay St. Louis
Francys Johnson, Senior Pastor, Mount Moriah and Magnolia Baptist Churches
Mat Laney, Pastor, Virginia-Highland Church, United Church of Christ
James Lawrence, President, Swedenborgian Church
Russell Meyer, Reverend Dr., Florida Council of Churches
Philip Messner, Reverend, Mississippi Conference – United Methodist Church (Retired)
Allen Regan, Associate Pastor, Main Street UMC
Walter Roberts, Jr., Pastor, Leavell Woods UMC and Lynch Chapel UMC
Jonathan Tullos, Pastor, Mississippi Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church
John H. Vaughn, Reverend Dr./Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church
James “Major” Woodall, Minister, Former State President, Georgia NAACP
Christopher Zacharias, Rev. Dr., John Wesley AMEZ Church