OCTOBER 13, 2000

STATEMENT OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JAN SCHAKOWSKY ON ATTACKS ON JEWISH RESIDENTS OF WEST ROGERS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

CHICAGO, IL - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today issued the following statement after last night's attacks on Jewish residents of the West Rogers Park neighborhood in Chicago.

"I am concerned and deeply saddened that Chicago residents are being singled out for attack because they are Jewish.

"I, along with the residents of West Rogers Park and the Chicago Jewish community, am grateful for the outstanding work of the Chicago Police Department in apprehending the suspects responsible for two of the hate crimes. We are hopeful and confident that the remaining perpetrators will be brought to justice shortly.

"Every person has a right to feel safe in his or her neighborhood, no matter your religion, race or place of origin. Hate based violence has no place in our society and we must make that clear to anyone who thinks otherwise. Our community in Chicago is united and strong. We thrive on our diversity and will stand together against the few who try to divide us."