WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 15, 2012) – Today, Rep. Schakowsky (D-Ill.) released the following statement in response to reports of the serious situation developing in Gaza and southern Israel:

“I strongly condemn Hamas’s decision to escalate violence by launching a barrage of rockets against civilian centers in southern Israel. I stand with the President of the United States in unequivocally supporting
Israel
’s right to defend itself and its citizens from violence. Hamas and other terrorist groups must immediately halt the attacks against
Israel
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The loss of innocent civilian lives, both Israeli and Palestinian, is tragic and regrettable, and I urge all parties to take every precaution to protect civilian lives. I support Prime Minister Netanyahu’s statement that Israel is doing "everything in its power" to avoid civilian casualties.

Hamas’s ongoing use of indiscriminate violence against Israeli is harmful to the cause of Palestinian statehood and dangerous to the Palestinian people in Gaza. Its oppressive regime has caused immense suffering.”

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