Media Advisory: Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas (JCRC)

Contact: Sami Rahamim – sami@minndakjcrc.org / 612-865-4012

Jewish Students and JCRC Outline Roadmap for UofM Administration to Address Campus Antisemitism

Thursday, May 2nd / 12:30 PM Minnesota Hillel

1521 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

MINNEAPOLIS, MN – Following a meeting between Jewish students and Interim President Jeff Ettinger scheduled for Thursday morning (May 2), Minnesota Hillel students and JCRC are hosting a joint press conference to discuss concrete measures the University must take to confront systemic campus antisemitism.

At their meeting with Interim President Ettinger, Jewish students will have outlined the following action steps the University must take to address antisemitism on campus.

- 1. The University must enforce its own rules and policies, which exist for the protection and benefit of all students.
- 2. University administrators must work with the Jewish community to develop a robust plan for addressing campus antisemitism, including commitments to:
 - a. Provide comprehensive antisemitism training for administrators, faculty, staff, and students;
 - b. Curb ongoing classroom and departmental bias against Jewish and/or Israeli students;
 - c. Balance academic freedom and all students' First Amendment rights while calling out antisemitism and other forms of bias.
- 3. The University must not reward Hamas and their supporters on campus by engaging in discriminatory boycotts and divestments of Jewish and/or Israeli academics or businesses.

Additionally, the JCRC will discuss the University's ongoing "legal obligation under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) to provide all students, including Jewish students, a school environment free from discrimination based on race, color, or national origin, including shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics." (U.S. Dept. Of Education).

As noted in our April 26 media advisory, although Jewish students are approximately one percent of the U of M undergraduate student body, reports of anti-Jewish/anti-Israel incidents account for 1 of 3 bias incidents reported on campus this year.

Nationally, Jewish students have been assaulted, verbally abused, and marginalized to the point where, in many instances, it is no longer safe to be visibly Jewish on campus, with Hiller International documenting a 700% increase in antisemitism year over year.