

## Letter to Community Rabbonim in Chicago

מרחשון תשפ"ד

*(This letter is not to be used for any other purpose)*

According to Law Enforcement agencies and in light of recent world events, we unfortunately are in a state of סכנה ספק amidst threats of violence directed at our shuls, batei medrash, and community. Security experts have advised that we must establish methods to maintain contact amongst shuls and law enforcement if, chas v'Shalom, an emergency arises on שבת ויום טוב. This in the interest of protecting human life, which Chazal teach is משובח (Yoma 84b).

In light of this מציאות, it is our opinion that it is permissible for trained Shul Safety Officers / Greeters (SSOs/SSGs) from MAGEN Chicago to utilize dedicated two-way radios on שבת ויום טוב, as part of your shul's safety plan.

Final approval, and conditions of use, are ultimately to be determined by the Rav of each shul. Care should be given to avoid any זלזול שבת. Our guidance dictates that if carrying a radio is necessary it should be done with the utmost discretion and solely for safety concerns. It is our opinion that these radios may be carried about by assigned individuals similar to a doctor's beeper or Hatzalah device. Specific halachic concerns, such as the parameters for charging the radios, should be addressed by the Rav of each shul as appropriate.

We daven for continued דשמיא and for the safety and security of כל בית ישראל. May we be ביאת גואל צדק with כל הרשעה בלה בענין תכלה כי תעביר ממנשלת זדון מן הארץ to a time when זוכה במהרה בימינו.



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