

# ADAMS & CRIPE

## Maplewood Township Committee

Issue statement: **Middle East**

Authors: **Nancy Adams/Jamaine Cripe**

One of the benchmarks of our constitution affords every American the freedom to speak out for or against government policies at home and abroad. To speak out against war everywhere or anywhere on the globe is not a statement against one group or another. It is a statement in support of saving lives.

Nancy Adams and Jamaine Cripe have consistently taken a humanitarian position, condemning the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel on Oct 7, 2023. They have repeatedly asked for peace in the Middle East as well as in our community. Global issues put a strain on our diverse community, but the strength of Maplewood is not letting these forces divide us at home. We strive to be an example of what living together in harmony should look like to the world.

Nancy Adams and Jamaine Cripe as Township Committee members and candidates for reelection have condemned antisemitism and Islamophobia in our community and have called for a forceful, unified response to incidents against these groups that have occurred in our community.

### **The Facts:**

- 1) Nancy and Jamaine endorsed the Township Committee Proclamation condemning antisemitism and Islamophobia.
- 2) Nancy and Jamaine endorsed the Township Committee's condemnation of Hamas in the wake of its October 7th attack on Israel.
- 3) Nancy and Jamaine voted for the Township Committee resolution of October 17 which reiterated the condemnation of Hamas and also called for avoiding civilian casualties and increased humanitarian assistance for the civilians of Gaza.
- 4) Nancy and Jamaine attended multiple local gatherings after October 7th to support the return of the Israeli hostages and to express support for the Jewish community in South Orange-Maplewood.

- 5) Jamaine spoke in favor of a ceasefire in Gaza at a rally in South Orange. She subsequently apologized to any members of the Jewish community who were hurt by her words, and she reiterated her condemnation of Hamas, calling it a "a terrorist organization that has committed atrocities towards innocent men, women and children on both sides of this conflict".
- 6) Nancy and Jamaine supported the Township Committee's webinar on reconciliation between Jews and Palestinian victims of the conflict, following Township Committee member Engels' statement calling for unity on the Township Committee and civil discourse in the community.
- 7) Nancy and Jamaine individually support President Biden's call for a ceasefire and increased humanitarian aid to Gaza.

**References to facts cited above:**

(1) TC Proclamation on Antisemitism, Islamophobia

<https://villagegreennj.com/towns/maplewood/maplewood-tc-passes-proclamation-condemning-antisemitism-and-islamophobia/>

(2) TC Statement Oct 9

<https://villagegreennj.com/towns/south-orange/south-orange-officials-condemn-terrorist-attacks-on-israel/>

(3) TC Resolution Oct 17

[https://villagegreennj.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/347-23\\_RESOLUTION\\_OF\\_THE\\_MAPLEWOOD\\_TOWNSHIP\\_COMMITTEE\\_CONDEMNING\\_THE\\_TERRORIST\\_ATTACKS\\_BY\\_HAMAS\\_AGAINST\\_INNOCENT\\_ISRAELI\\_CIVILIANS.pdf](https://villagegreennj.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/347-23_RESOLUTION_OF_THE_MAPLEWOOD_TOWNSHIP_COMMITTEE_CONDEMNING_THE_TERRORIST_ATTACKS_BY_HAMAS_AGAINST_INNOCENT_ISRAELI_CIVILIANS.pdf)

(5) Jamaine addresses her call for ceasefire

<https://villagegreennj.com/opinion/maplewood-deputy-mayor-cripe-statement-on-ceasefire-vigil-comments/>

(6) Engel's call for unity

<https://villagegreennj.com/towns/maplewood/maplewood-deputy-mayor-calls-for-unity-following-tc-members-ceasefire-rally-comments/>

(7-8) Biden's call for a ceasefire

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/04/04/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-call-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel-3/#:~:text=He%20underscored%20that%20an%20immediate,to%20bring%20the%20hostages%20home.>