



Montefiore

From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN



Dear Einstein Community:

It is both disturbing and devastating to write to you about another senseless mass shooting on the eve of a special community celebration.

On Saturday night, as members of the Asian community in Monterey Park, California began to mark the Lunar New Year, a gunman opened fire in a local dance club. Ten individuals lost their lives, while another 10 were hospitalized with injuries. The gunman attempted a similar attack at a second club but thankfully was disarmed by a brave individual who wrested the gun from him.

While authorities have not labeled the incident a hate crime, the timing and proximity to the Monterey Park's weekend-long festival were nonetheless alarming and traumatizing for those within the community. Tragically, there have been more than 30 mass shootings in the U.S. during the first three weeks of 2023 after approximately 700 last year. This recurring gun violence demonstrates that it is critically important to enact sensible gun control legislation, and a renewal of the assault weapons ban that expired in 2004.

Offering Support to Our Campus Community

As it's been stated before, at Einstein we condemn all forms of violence and hate directed against any group or individual, and we stand with our colleagues and students of Asian and Pacific Island heritage, supporting you and your right to live your life free from harassment and harm. Because acts such as these can

trigger anxiety or depression, I want to remind everyone in our community that help is available through our [student mental health center](#) or [office of academic support and counseling](#) (for students and postdocs), or through our employee assistance program, [Carebridge](#).

If you are seeking additional resources, you also may contact our [office of diversity and inclusion](#). You need only reach out to any of these contacts, your program leadership, or my office for support or to share any concerns you may have.

As we have in the wake of similar tragic incidents, let's offer one another support and redouble our efforts toward addressing this public health crisis that continues to produce senseless deaths throughout our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Tomaselli', with a stylized, flowing script.

Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D.
The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer
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