



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

February 8, 2018

Dear Mrs. Ben-Gal and Children,

Perhaps the most difficult task I have as the U.S. Ambassador to Israel is that of consoling victims of terror. Once again, my heart breaks as I reach out to a beautiful family that has lost a husband and a father.

There is no greater contribution in life than the providing for the education and development of the next generation. By devoting his life to teaching at Yeshiva Bnei Akiva in Givat Shmuel as well as in your hometown of Har Bracha, Rabbi Ben-Gal pursued this mission not as a job, but as a higher calling. Upon hearing your words at the funeral about the life of your husband, it became clear to me that you, too, have an inner strength and courage cultivated by a life of care and concern for others.

Just as Rabbi Ben-Gal dedicated himself to nurturing others, during this terrible time the Government and people of the United States of America are standing with you, your precious family and community.

Wishing you no further sorrow and may Rav Itamar Ben-Gal's memory be a blessing to your entire family. יהי זכרו ברוך

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

Sincerely,

David M. Friedman
Ambassador