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Sheriff Mike Chitwood battles bigotry and hatred



Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood. COURTESY/SHERIFF MIKE CHITWOOD

By **Linda Chase**
Contributing Editor

I recently attended Shabbat services at Temple Anshei Shalom in Delray Beach. As I listened to Rabbi Raphael Adler's sermon on combating hatred, where he recognized the work of Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood, I knew I had to share the sermon with our readers.

During kiddush I asked the Rabbi if he could share it with me for the Jewish Journal. Below is part of his sermon.

"As antisemitic incidents mount to unprecedented numbers worldwide and disturbingly in our own backyard, we become increasingly frustrated and wonder where the vigorous and successful responses are by the good people to mitigate this nightmare? There are plenty of voices counting the incidents, publishing their findings and fundraising, but doing very little to demonstratively and effectively stem the tide of hatred. Finally, there is a no nonsense response. We don't have to look any further than Volusia County's Sheriff, Mike Chitwood, a welcome breath of fresh air and a true hero successfully battling the forces of bigotry and hatred. As the Daytona International Speedway in his jurisdiction drew throngs of spectators, banners were unfurled, fliers distributed to vehicles, and motorists were accosted with the most vile insults mainly targeted to the Jewish Community. That is when Sheriff Chitwood stepped in. He had enough

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