



## THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

*HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME*

May 26, 2016

To: Springfield's Religious Organizations

Dear Houses of Worship:

Wednesday, June 1, 2016 marks the fifth anniversary of the EF-3 tornado that left a 6.2 mile long scar through the City of Springfield. Soon after the tornado touched down at 4:38 p.m., the resiliency of our first responders, residents, and business began to shine through.

Five years later the City of Springfield has shown significant progress in our rebuilding efforts. Springfield has come back stronger and more determined in our convictions to forge a brighter future.

Today, I am writing to ask for your assistance in marking the fifth anniversary of the June 1, 2011 Tornado. I believe it would be a fitting tribute to pause and reflect on our ability to join together and to work so diligently on making our city whole again. I am requesting that all of our religious organizations, which have the capacity, to **chime your bells** on **Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 4:38 p.m.**, marking the moment the tornado touched down. The goal is to collectively reflect on how far we have come in the past four years. In an instance where your place of worship does not have bells we ask that your congregation join congregations across the City in prayer and reflection.

Respectfully,

Domenic J. Sarno  
Mayor