



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John J. Flanagan

## Statement from Senate Republican Leader Flanagan Regarding NRSP Graffiti

JOHN J. FLANAGAN February 11, 2019

| ISSUE: **NISSEQUOGUE RIVER STATE PARK, ANTISEMITISM, KINGS PARK, VANDALISM**



Over the weekend, hate-filled anti-Semitic graffiti was discovered in the Nissequogue River State Park. The chalk drawn messages are deeply troubling to those who live in the Kings Park community and all who continue the fight against hatred. I want to make it clear that all elected officials and community leaders are united in saying that hateful symbols must never be tolerated and those responsible must and will be held accountable for their actions.

While some may try to divide us, this nation was built to protect and respect our differences and we will stand stronger together in the face of those who look to divide us. We must use this as another opportunity to become stronger.

Everyone has the right to live free of fear and oppression and those who feel otherwise have no place in our community. That stands truer today than it ever has and those who test our resolve on this will find that they are the ones who are not welcome.