

# Alabama-Israel Task Force

## *Remembering Our Past, Shaping Our Future*

LEGACY OF HONOR • MORAL RESPONSIBILITY • GENERATIONAL COMMITMENT • VITAL LEADERSHIP

### The Vision - Bridges and Brotherhood

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**Mission** - The Alabama-Israel Task Force (AITF) seeks to provide a **bridge** and catalyst for **broader** cooperative efforts and help cultivate an even **stronger** and expanding state-to-state **relationship** between Alabama and Israel for the **mutual benefit** of their people.



#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Distinguished Leaders from Israel hosted for the Alabama-Israel Leadership Gala 2017 Alabama Governor Recipient of the Israel Leadership Award

October 8, 2017 (Huntsville, AL) - The Alabama-Israel Task Force (AITF) will be hosting several distinguished leaders from Israel for a special **Alabama-Israel Leadership Gala** in North Alabama on Saturday, November 18th 2017 at 7pm. **Brigadier General Gal Hirsch**, Israel Defense Forces (IDF), is a leading expert in counter-terrorism and one of Israel's most decorated heroes. **Mr. Eeki Elner** is the founder of the Israel Leadership Institute in Sderot-Israel.

The evening will **honor leadership** and **celebrate friendship** between Alabama and Israel during this **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** and Jubilee of the reunification of Jerusalem. It will include the **Israel Leadership Award** ceremony and presentation from the Steering Committee and Board of Directors of the Israel Leadership Institute (ILI). The ILI is one of Israel's most advanced and creative leadership schools, with a board of directors including some of Israel's most distinguished leaders across a variety of disciplines. There will also be a special **commemorative presentation** honoring the Consul General of Israel to Alabama, Lior Haiat.

We are pleased to announce **Governor of Alabama, Kay Ivey**, will be honored as the **recipient** of the **Israel Leadership Award 2017**. BG Gal Hirsch will present the award personally. The Alabama-Israel Task Force had nominated Governor Ivey for consideration having witnessed first-hand her exceptional work and leadership on behalf of the Alabama-Israel relationship. As Lt. Governor and President of the Senate, her strong keynote at a statewide gathering, her invitation to the Deputy Speaker of the Knesset to address a Joint Session of the Legislature, and her support of anti-BDS resolution and legislation, have been a testament to her leadership and dedication to this historic relationship. As Governor, she has carried on that legacy signing a Statement Against Anti-Israel Bias and issuing a Proclamation Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Reunification of Jerusalem.

The Gala is a **charitable benefit** for the Alabama-Israel Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EPDR) initiative with the Israel Leadership Institute in Sderot. Through AITF's partnership, ILI was able to launch an 18-month leadership training earlier this year in Kiryat Shmona (Israel) at request of the Mayor.

The Alabama-Israel Task Force (AITF) seeks to provide a bridge and catalyst for broader cooperative efforts and help cultivate an even stronger and expanding state-to-state relationship between Alabama and Israel for the mutual benefit of their people. For more on the Task Force visit [www.AITF-Web.org](http://www.AITF-Web.org), [facebook.com/AlabamaisraelTaskForce](https://facebook.com/AlabamaisraelTaskForce), or [@\\_AITF\\_](https://twitter.com/_AITF_) on Twitter.

For **Gala Tickets, Map, and Details** please visit: [www.AITF-Web.org](http://www.AITF-Web.org)

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#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

John Buhler or Laura King

Phone: (877) 770-9387, Email: [info@AITF-Web.org](mailto:info@AITF-Web.org), Web: [www.AITF-Web.org](http://www.AITF-Web.org)

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