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### **Statement on the tragedy in Rafah**

46 innocent civilians have been killed and hundreds have been injured due to an IDF bombing of a designated safe zone in Rafah on Sunday. The University Democrats condemn and are horrified by the tragedy and horror continuing in Rafah and the greater area of Gaza due to an indiscriminate military campaign directed by the Israeli government and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The attack on Rafah is only one part of a much larger horrific, brutal, and genocidal military bombardment on Gaza and Palestine since October 7th, and additionally, past unjustified military killings before October 7th must also be recognized and condemned.

The University Democrats are calling for the Biden Administration to halt all military aid to the Israeli government, public condemnation of the unjustified military actions in Gaza, and further action to ensure an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

We also call for UTIMCO to divest from any entities profiting off the military bombardment of civilians in Gaza. The world is watching the actions of the Israeli government, and we must look with great horror and condemnation for the ongoing genocidal and inhumane actions against the people of Palestine.

The University Democrats condemn antisemitism, islamophobia, and the horrific actions of Hamas on October 7th. However, we must still thoroughly criticize and condemn the ongoing unjustified killings of innocent civilians due to the IDF's military campaign in Gaza. Inhumane and genocidal actions that violate international law cannot go unnoticed and must be denounced. We will continue to push for peace in Palestine and Israel and long-term prosperity for all people in the region.