



HONORARY STREET NAME SIGN APPLICATION

City Hall, Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PLEASE NOTE: A \$100 PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM
(Checks should be made payable to "City Treasurer")

1. Applicant information:

Applicant's Name Gerald S Glazer
Organization or Company N/A
Street Address 5230 W Roosevelt Drive City/State Milwaukee, WI Zip 43216
Telephone 414-447-7727 Fax _____ Email GeraldGlazer@yahoo.com

2. Honorary Street Name Request

Street name requested Rabbi Michel Twerski Blvd

Location of proposed designation: (for example, West Main Street from North 12th Street to North 15th Street)

N 51st Blvd from Burleigh to Keefe

3. Required Submittals:

- Refer to Chapter 113-3, Milwaukee Code of Ordinances (attached)
- A typed statement containing no fewer than **500 words** describing the significance of the person, place, or event being honored. The statement should indicate why a particular section of street has been requested for the honorary designation.

4. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:

My application consists of the following items necessary to complete the application. Please check:

- ☒ \$100 fee (check made payable to "City Treasurer").
- ☒ Completed Application Form.
- ☒ Autobiography or statement regarding the person, place, or event being honored.

Signature Gerald S Glazer Date September 19, 2025
Printed Name Gerald S Glazer

Rabbi Michel Twerski



You need only to look at Rabbi Michel Twerski to know how strongly he has been shaped and influenced by the past - the history of his family and the Jewish people as a whole. And you need only to talk to Rabbi Twerski for a few moments to know how much in touch he is with the present, both in terms of his understanding of the contemporary world and his intense drive to get the most out of every moment.

Rabbi Michel and his twin brother, Aaron, were the youngest of five children in the family, all boys. In a city and Jewish community that was much different then is true today, they were brought up with few contemporaries who had the same commitments they had. But there was never any doubt of what direction they were headed - all five became ordained rabbis and, even as most pursued more secular careers, they never wavered from the traditions into which they were born.

After attending public school in Milwaukee, Rabbi Twerski went to yeshivas in Chicago, Baltimore and Lakewood, NJ. Lakewood, where Rabbi Twerski received his ordination, was then a small rabbinical seminary; it is



now the largest yeshiva in the world. He married Feige Stein, whose family lived in Brooklyn, and the couple moved to Milwaukee in 1962.

Rabbi Twerski became assistant rabbi to his father at Congregation Beth Jehudah. As he learned from and worked with his father, he also pursued studies at Marquette University, receiving a Masters of Science Degree in Clinical Psychology, completing all the work on a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology except for writing a dissertation.

It was in that era that the Rabbi's interest in music blossomed. He had almost no formal musical training as a child. As a young adult, he was given a guitar and, with minimal lessons, he was soon able to use it to accompany himself in playing the melodies that came to him. The 1960s and early '70s were years when Rabbi Twerski composed many of his most lasting melodies. Songs such as the Rabbi's melody of Modeh Ani, the prayer said on waking in the morning, are sung around the world. In 1966, prodded and assisted by friends, the Rabbi created the first formal album of his work Kol B'Rarna, "A Voice on High". Many of his songs written since then, including other ballads and a melody for the Friday night prayer "Lecha Dodi," have been more

elaborate and musically developed than the early melodies.

Rabbi Twerski continued to compose and sing for friends and small groups in the following years, but as the demands on him grew and changed and as the community developed, his musical interests did not take as prominent a place in his public life. In 1973, his revered father passed away and Rabbi Michel became the head rabbi of the congregation. The demands of that position and of a growing family further put writing and playing music somewhat to the side.

By the early 1980s, the shape of the community around Congregation Beth Jehudah - and the shape of Orthodox life throughout the United States - was changing rapidly. An older generation, many of them immigrants, was passing and relatively few of their own children remained traditional in their religious practice. But a small yet strong tide of young adults was finding out about and choosing to be part of Orthodox life. They were having a profound impact on many Jewish communities, Milwaukee included. The Twerskis, with their ability to connect with non-Orthodox people, became nationally recognized figures in fostering the growth of the Baal Tshuva movement, as it was called.

At a Beth Jehudah Sabbath retreat in 1983, Rabbi Twerski debuted a new song "The

Tree," the first of what has become a set of parables done in ballad form. The song, a tale of deferred and missed opportunities for spiritual growth, has had a marked impact on many who have heard it in following years and it marked a new stage in Rabbi Twerski's musical accomplishments.

In 1989, Rabbi Twerski led efforts to create an elementary school and Kollel adult learning program in Milwaukee aimed at serving the needs of a community increasingly interested in traditional Jewish education. The two institutions have been keys to the growth of Orthodox life in the city. They have greatly changed the nature of the congregation the Twerskis lead and the demands and roles of both Rabbi Michel and Rebbetzin Feige. Each of the Twerskis is also now widely known nationally and they are often called upon to speak in other cities or to counsel people from far beyond Milwaukee.

Rabbi Michel Twerski and his family have resided at 3259 N 51st Blvd since 1972 and 17 other families affiliated with Congregation Beth Jehudah also live on the 3100-3300 blocks of that street.

Receipt of Street Naming Fee

Date:	10/8/25
Received Of:	Gerald Glazer
Received By:	LME
Check # (If Applicable):	8331
Amount Received	\$100.00