



Council on American-Islamic Relations
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To Whom It May Concern

January 19, 2007

As-salaam Alaikum: (Peace be unto you)

The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) has a long history of positive social and political activism. In just over a decade, CAIR has grown to become one of America's leading voices for justice and mutual understanding.

CAIR is supported by the donations and volunteer work of thousands of American Muslims. In addition, we employ a professional staff of several dozen nationwide. CAIR chapters are in 20 states and have developed strong grassroots relations with people of all faiths in the communities in which they operate.

The attached document attempts to demystify the list of recycled smears and distortions often used to defame CAIR.

The fact that we come under attack by anti-Muslim extremists is no surprise to anyone who works for positive social change. All proponents of justice have faced similar attacks designed to silence their voices. It is our view that the attacks against us are an indicator of the effectiveness of our advocacy.

Even a cursory examination of the statements and agendas of our detractors will show that they represent the extremes in our society. They have created a network of people who quote each other, creating an illusion of a public outcry against CAIR. In fact, our detractors' allegations do not stand up to objective scrutiny. Moreover, those who defame CAIR have no record of principled advocacy.

In 2004, CAIR officials met with senior FBI officers at their headquarters in Washington D.C. At that meeting, the FBI told us that they have researched the allegations against CAIR and have concluded that all these false claims originate from one or two biased sources.

One senior FBI official said that CAIR will just have to live with these "urban legends."

CAIR is supported by many mainstream political, social and religious groups. We have active alliances with members of the Christian, Jewish, Sikh, Hispanic, African-American and Asian communities. We attend each others events and we share each others aspiration of making America's future brighter than its past.

It is our hope that fair-minded Americans will not be swayed by the extreme rhetoric of our detractors.

In the end, we place our trust in God and pray that He guides us and gives us the strength to endure this attempt to marginalize and silence the voice of a growing and contributing religious minority in America.

WASHINGTON D.C.

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In the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, these finite disappointments do not make us give up on the infinite hope of equality for all people.

We invite you to visit our website at www.cair.com to familiarize yourself with the work we do.

Also visit www.cair.com/factsaboutcair.asp to find out more about our recent accomplishments and www.cair.com/whattheysayaboutcair.asp to find out what America's leading politicians, interfaith leaders and community activists are saying about CAIR.

We remain an open and transparent organization. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be glad to answer your questions and address your concerns.

Thank you.

Sincerely,,



Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D.
Chairman



Ahmad Al-Akhras, Ph.D.
Vice Chairman



Nihad Awad
Executive Director

WASHINGTON D.C.

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DE-MYSTIFYING “URBAN LEGENDS” ABOUT CAIR

Introduction

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is arguably the most visible and public American Muslim organization, with a 13-year record of exemplary social and political activism. As a result of the organization’s high profile and its stellar record of principled advocacy of civil liberties, interfaith relations and justice for all people, a small but vocal group of anti-Muslim bigots has made CAIR the focus of their mean-spirited attacks. These smear campaigns aim at marginalizing Muslims in America by silencing one of the most prominent and respected American Muslim voices.

It can be demonstrated that the sources of fabricated allegations, distortions, and smears against CAIR are recycled time and again by the same Islamophobes.

During a 2004 meeting at FBI’s Washington, DC headquarters the assistant to Cassie Chandler, then Assistant Director for Public Affairs, told CAIR privately that they have researched all these allegations and they came to the conclusion that they come mostly from one or two biased sources, and yet are becoming an “urban legend.” CAIR has to live with it just as the FBI has to live with some urban legends of its own.

Disinformation: Some law enforcement officials have asserted that CAIR aids terrorists.

Of the hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officials in the United States, only two former FBI members, Steven Pomerantz and Oliver “Buck” Revell, have ever made such allegations against CAIR. It is important to note that these allegations, originally made in the mid-1990s when both men no longer served as FBI officials, remain nothing more than the opinions of men who stand to gain financially by smearing Muslims.

FACT: CAIR HAS A STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

CAIR works closely with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to foster a positive partnership with the Muslim community that ensures our country’s security and the protection of all people’s civil rights. CAIR’s relationship with the FBI goes back as far as 1995. After the 9/11 attacks, CAIR’s executive director met with Robert Mueller, the director of the FBI.

- In 2003, CAIR-Florida was invited to participate in a joint press conference with the FBI, seeking help from the public to find a man accused of plotting terrorist acts.
- In 2004, senior CAIR officials met with Cassie Chandler, then Assistant Director for Public Affairs, and Gary Bald, then Assistant Director for Counterterrorism, in

the FBI's Washington, DC headquarters to discuss ways to improve the working relationship between CAIR and the FBI.

- In 2006, senior FBI officials attended CAIR banquets in Florida, California and Washington, DC.
- In 2006, senior CAIR officials attended a meeting with FBI Deputy Director John Pistole in the FBI's National Headquarters in Washington, DC.
- On May 15, 2006 Bridges TV broadcast a CAIR moderated Town Hall forum with FBI Chief Legal Counsel Paul Moskal.
- On August 11, 2006 CAIR was invited to take part in an FBI press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., dealing with the alleged plot to bomb airliners flying between the United Kingdom and America.
- CAIR-California is a founding member of the FBI's Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee in Southern California.
- CAIR-California is a founding member of the Muslim American Homeland Security Congress (MAHSC) which advises the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the nation's largest sheriff's department.
- CAIR offices throughout the country provide diversity training on Islam to various FBI offices, and police and sheriff's departments.

Currently, CAIR officials are providing on-going diversity training about Islam and Muslims to participants at the Counterterrorism Division of Federal Law Enforcement Training and Education Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA. FLETC serves as an interagency law enforcement training organization for more than 80 Federal agencies. Recently CAIR officials gave seminars and lectures at Central Command in Tampa and at USMA in West Point.

FACT: POMERANTZ AND REVELL ARE PART OF A FOUR-MAN GROUP WHO 'SPEND THEIR TIME (AND MAKE MONEY) OUT OF PORTRAYING ARABS AND MUSLIMS AS TERRORISTS...'

Senior Editor John Sugg of Florida's Weekly Planet newspaper noted the following while discussing sources attesting to Steven Emerson's credentials: "These sources are Steven Pomerantz and Oliver 'Buck' Revell. Not noted is that Pomerantz and Revell are officers of the same institute, and that both have a close association with Emerson. They are hardly independent sources. In fact, the three spend most of their time nowadays quoting each other about what excellent terrorism experts they all are. Revell is prominent in Emerson's 'Jihad in America.'

"There's a fourth member of the association -- Yigal Carmon. A ranking member of Israel's intelligence and military establishment, he is considered to the right of even the current Likud government. As The Nation has reported (and never disputed by Emerson), Carmon was part of the 'gang of three' that spent much time lobbying Congress to derail the Middle East peace process -- and Carmon even stayed at Emerson's home on his visits to the United States. (The Nation, August 28/September 4, 1995 and May 15, 1995) Carmon is part of Revell's and Pomerantz's institute -- its 'Mideast Regional Director.' ...And Emerson even shuttles Carmon around to introduce him to journalists as an 'expert' on the Middle East."

Sugg went on to say, "Of course, these four people spend their time (and make money) out of portraying Arabs and Muslims as terrorists...I don't think it's too extreme to conclude that, considering the involvement of a top Israeli spook with Emerson and his friends, we have something much more sinister going on than 'journalism' and an institute studying terrorism."

Disinformation: Former CAIR employees and board members have been arrested, convicted, deported, or otherwise linked to terrorism-related charges and activities.

This is probably the most widely recycled example of McCarthy-like attempts to portray CAIR as guilty by association. Such efforts evoke memories of attempts to smear Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a communist or womanizer. CAIR would like to make it absolutely clear that it is our belief that anyone who is found guilty of committing a crime, especially one in the furtherance of terrorist motives, should be punished to the fullest extent of the law. CAIR would never compromise its principles, both American and Islamic, in the furtherance or assistance of any illegal criminal endeavors.

Anyone who has any knowledge of the law would know that the acts of a person done outside the scope or duration of his or her employment, and without the employer's knowledge, have no legal bearing on the employer.

For example, when Aldrich Ames (CIA) and Robert Hanssen (FBI) admitted to being spies for foreign governments, it did not automatically associate the CIA or FBI with being complicit in any of these criminal activities. Currently we have members of US Congress serving jail time and many others under the cloud of ethical suspicion. Does such behavior by members of Congress while in office incriminate the entire US Congress? Only Islamophobes will assign guilt to Muslims by such false associations.

These smears against CAIR are disseminated by agenda-driven extremists who seek to marginalize and disenfranchise the American Muslim community and its leaders. The smears normally involve the following individuals: Ismail Royer, Dr. Bassem El-Khafagi, Rabih Haddad, and Ghassan Elashi.

FACT: WHATEVER ISMAIL ROYER DID OR DID NOT DO HAS NO BEARING ON HIS PREVIOUS WORK FOR CAIR

In January 2004, Royer pleaded guilty to weapons charges and did not plead guilty to any charge of "terrorism." Notwithstanding the fact that any criminal action to which he pleaded guilty was done when Royer was no longer employed with CAIR and not at CAIR's direction, it is important to note that the only crimes that he pleaded guilty to were weapons charges, not charges of terrorism.

FACT: DR. BASSEM EI-KHAFAGI WAS NEVER AN EMPLOYEE OF CAIR AND WAS NEVER CONVICTED ON TERRORISM CHARGES.

El-Khafagi was an independent contractor for CAIR, effective November 2, 2001. According to the Associated Press (AP) article announcing his plea, federal officials stated that he was charged with writing bad checks in February and June of 2001, before any relationship with CAIR had commenced and without any knowledge on CAIR's part of any wrongdoing on his part. According to federal officials, on September 10, 2003, El-Khafagi pleaded guilty to charges of bank and visa fraud.

Bank and visa fraud are criminal offenses and not crimes of terrorism. Surely if there had been strong evidence of terrorist activities, the Justice Department would have vigorously pursued those avenues and not allowed him to plead guilty to non-terrorism related charges.

FACT: RABIH HADDAD, WHO WAS NEVER AN EMPLOYEE OF CAIR, WAS 'DEPORTED FOR OVERSTAYING HIS TOURIST VISA' AND WAS 'NEVER CHARGED WITH A CRIME.'

He was never an employee or associate of CAIR. His only association with CAIR was as a one-time speaker at a CAIR chapter dinner. He is not a "CAIR fundraiser."

FACT: GHASSAN ELASHI WAS NEVER AN EMPLOYEE OR OFFICER OF CAIR

CAIR has hundreds of board members and employees and some 50,000 members. It would be illogical and unfair to hold CAIR responsible for the personal activities of all these people.

The fact that Elashi was once associated with one of our more than thirty regional chapters has no legal significance to our corporation given the fact that any actions taken by him were outside the scope and chronology of his association with one of our chapters.

Disinformation: Rather than praise the conviction of the perpetrators of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, CAIR or Nihad Awad deemed it "a travesty of justice."

FACT: THIS IS A LIE; NO EVIDENCE SUBSTANTIATING THIS FALSEHOOD HAS EVER BEEN OFFERED.

CAIR has recently obtained hard copies of relevant editions of the Muslim World Monitor, the publication in which Awad is alleged to have made this remark. Awad never wrote or spoke the comment. In addition, he was not the editor in chief of Muslim World Monitor as CAIR's detractors claim; he was a contributing editor.

FACT: CAIR NEVER CALLED THE CONVICTION OF THE PERPETRATORS OF THE 1993 WORLD TRADE CENTER BOMBING 'A TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE.'

No CAIR document or official ever made such a statement. Other than a one-paragraph mention in the 1996 CAIR report on Muslim civil rights where CAIR quoted attorney Stanley

Cohen as saying that he thought “. . . the case against his client is political rather than criminal,” CAIR has never dealt with this case.

Disinformation: Concerns are raised over a September 2003 Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing on terrorism in which CAIR representatives did not show up to testify and two senators made disparaging remarks about CAIR

CAIR had only two days notice that the hearing was going to occur. On the same day as the Senate hearing, months of preparation were culminating for a CAIR 9/11 anniversary candlelight vigil at the Capitol Reflecting Pool. All CAIR staff was busy in preparing for this solemn event. Hundreds of people attended this vigil including many local interfaith leaders. Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA) spoke at the anniversary event.

FACT: CAIR SUBMITTED TESTIMONY INTO THE HEARING’S RECORD THAT ADDRESSES ALL THE ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST THE ORGANIZATION.

That testimony, which addresses all of the allegations that are constantly recycled against CAIR, is attached to this document. It is worth noting that those who benefit from distorting CAIR never reference this testimony in their writings, despite it being a public record.

FACT: IN THE WAKE OF THE HEARING, SENATOR DURBIN HAS ATTENDED EVENTS AT WHICH CAIR WAS A CO-SPONSOR

The Associated Press and Chicago Sun-Times both report that on Monday, April 10, 2006 Senator Durbin was a keynote speaker at an event sponsored by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), an event cosponsored by CAIR.

Disinformation: Steven Emerson asserts that the Holy Land Foundation (HLF) provided CAIR with \$5000 in “seed money.” In the other direction, according to some right-wing polemicists, CAIR sent potential donors to the Holy Land Foundation’s website when they clicked on CAIR’s post-September 11 weblink, “Donate to the NY/DC Disaster Relief Fund.”

FACT: STEVEN EMERSON MAKES MANY DUBIOUS ALLEGATIONS

EMERSON PAID \$3,000 TO SETTLE A DEFAMATION LAWSUIT: “In 1998, Emerson heard a Muslim activist planned to leaflet against him at a New York speech of his. He dashed off a withering seven-page response, which included the false assertion that in the 1960s one of his critics, California journalist Reese Erlich, ‘was charged with conspiracy to carry out violence in support of the Black Panthers.’ Emerson apologized and paid Erlich \$3,000.” (Washington Post, 11/14/2001)

ON THE DOWNING OF TWA FLIGHT 800: Reuters news service quotes Emerson as saying he is “confident that a bomb brought down the plane.” Emerson went on to say that the crash could have been a plot by “the permanent floating (Islamic) militant international.” (Reuters, July 31, 1996)

ON THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING: "This (the bombing) was done with the intent to inflict as many casualties as possible. That is a Middle Eastern trait." (CBS News, April 19, 1995)

The New York Times Book Review said Emerson's 1991 book *Terrorist* was "marred by factual errors...that betray an unfamiliarity with the Middle East and a pervasive anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian bias." (5/19/91) Chip Berlet wrote in 1995 in *Covert Action Quarterly*, a journal that investigates intelligence operations, "Emerson makes unsubstantiated allegations of widespread conspiracies in Arab-American communities and brushes aside his lack of documented evidence by implying it only proves how clever and sinister the Arab/Muslim menace really is."

FACT: THE DONATION WAS LEGAL

The funds referred to were a fee for PR consulting services, not a donation. The payment was made when CAIR was already in operation and at a time when there was no public concern raised about HLF.

Mr. Emerson must also think that United States District Judge Gladys Kessler backs terrorism when she said in an April 23, 2002 Washington Post article about the Holy Land Foundation case: "It seems the government's approach [to the Holy Land case] is too simplistic" and that the case raised "significant and distressing allegations" about government actions in its war on terror.

The HLF case is still working its way through the courts. As Americans we should withhold judgment and assume everyone is innocent until proven guilty in a fair and open trial.

FACT: CAIR PROVIDES LINKS TO MANY AID GROUPS IN TIMES OF NEED

CAIR listed HLF among many other relief agencies (such as the American Red Cross) to which people could donate. At the time of this listing HLF was neither indicted nor under any investigation. To claim intent other than a sincere effort to aid victims of tragedy is dishonest.

When a natural disaster strikes in a region of the world, CAIR may issue a press release or action alert urging American Muslims to donate to help victims.

An August 31, 2005 release urges Muslims to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina and provides links to a number of aid groups including the American Red Cross and ICNA Relief.

A CAIR action alert dated December 27, 2004 urges Muslims to aid the victims of the tsunami in Southeast Asia by providing links to a number of aid groups including the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

On August 18, 1999, after the massive Turkish earthquake in Izmit that took more than 10,000 lives, CAIR issued an action alert that listed the Turkish Relief Association as the primary relief outlet to aid the victims of the earthquake.

Disinformation: CAIR has not condemned Osama bin Laden

FACT: OUR CONDEMNATIONS CAN BE EASILY FOUND ON WWW.CAIR.COM.

FACT: CAIR HAS SAID BIN LADEN WAS COMPLICIT IN THE 9/11 ATTACKS AND CONDEMNED AL-QAEDA

In a December 13, 2001 release titled “CAIR: Video Shows Bin Laden's Complicity in 9-11 Attacks,” CAIR stated: “For anyone who was not convinced of Osama bin Laden's complicity in the events of September 11, the content of this videotape should remove all doubt.”

In a September 11, 2006 release titled “CAIR: U.S. Muslims Repudiate Al-Qaeda Rhetoric, Worldview,” CAIR stated: “As Muslims, we will continue to condemn Al-Qaeda and ensure that the rest of the world learns the true message of Islam and its teachings of peace, justice and compassion for all” and “In light of the 5th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, we feel the need to once again condemn and repudiate Al-Qaeda and its myopic worldview.”

Disinformation: Nihad Awad publicly declared his enthusiasm for Hamas at Barry University in Florida in 1994, saying: “I’m in support of the Hamas movement.”

FACT: AWAD MADE THIS STATEMENT BEFORE CAIR WAS FORMED, BEFORE HAMAS COMMITTED ANY SUICIDE ATTACKS AND BEFORE HAMAS WAS DESIGNATED A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

Nihad Awad said, “I’m in support of the Hamas movement more than the PLO.” This statement was made in response to a direct question from an audience member about social programs in the occupied territories. Moreover, this was lifted, without context, from a longer answer in which Awad also asserted: “There are some radicals. We are not interested in those people.”

Like most other accusations against CAIR, no historical or political context is given to this accusation.

Not only had CAIR not been formed as an organization at the time the statement was made in 1994, but Hamas was not designated as a terrorist organization at that time either.

Hamas was only designated a “foreign terrorist organization” on January 24, 1995. Furthermore, Hamas did not commit its first wave of suicide bombings until October 1994. Since the Barry University statements were made in March 1994, they were made both before any terrorist designation or campaign of suicide bombings ever began.

The disinformation about CAIR is the moral equivalent of saying that any past political support for Sinn Fein, a legal political movement established in 1905 dedicated to removing British forces from Northern Ireland, makes one complicit in the future terrorist actions of the Irish Republican Army, the clandestine armed wing of Sinn Fein and named as a terrorist group in the State Department's "Annual Report: Patterns of Global Terrorism, 2002."

It would be ridiculous to accuse someone of terrorist sympathy because they may have shared the political views of Sinn Fein prior to the IRA's terrorist activities. According to the same State Department report, even though the IRA is "...suspected of receiving funds, arms, and other terrorist-related materiel from sympathizers in the United States," any correlation between past political allegiance and present terrorist sympathy is a link made without any semblance of reason or logic.

Furthermore, Mr. Awad made the statement at a conference in March of 1994 in support of the social and humanitarian efforts of Hamas' work inside the Palestinian Occupied Territories as a comparison to analogous efforts by the PLO; he stated that he supported Hamas more than the PLO with respect to these humanitarian efforts. He made no statements supporting violence. Mr. Awad and CAIR have persistently and consistently denounced violence and advocated peaceful and negotiated resolutions to conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Disinformation: CAIR has not condemned Hamas or Hezbollah

Unfortunately, all parties in the Middle East conflict have committed violence against civilians. We unequivocally condemn all of these actions. Because we are concerned for innocent lives on both sides of the conflict, we routinely condemn attacks by both sides. It is this value for innocent life on both sides that gets us attacked by those who support Israel no matter what.

It is worthy of note that people who attack CAIR have yet to condemn any actions by the Israeli Defense Forces whose actions (intentional or otherwise) have contributed to the deaths of thousands of innocent Palestinians and Lebanese (read President Carter's book *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*).

While we condemn the terrorist actions of all sides in this conflict, our detractors stand silently on the sidelines when the innocent dead are Palestinian and hurl accusations at us even when we condemn the violence committed by Palestinians or Lebanese against innocent Israelis. The hypocrisy of the argument is clear to any neutral observer.

All through the recent war between Israel and Lebanon, we repeatedly asked the Bush Administration to demand an immediate ceasefire that would have prevented deaths on all sides. We care about human life, all human life regardless of whether they are Jews, Christians, Muslims or people of any other faith. We are proud of our principled advocacy for just and peaceful resolution to conflicts and we will not succumb to the mind games of our detractors.

Our moral position is clear. We are unequivocally against terrorism and any group that hurts innocent civilians deserve condemnation. But condemnations alone do not solve problems. We have always urged the United States to play the role of an honest broker in the Middle East and we hold out hope that a negotiated solution will allow all people in the region to live in peace, harmony and with dignity.

FACT: CAIR CONDEMNS THESE GROUPS WHEN THEY COMMIT ACTS OF TERRORISM.

As far back as 1995, CAIR condemned a suicide attack on a bus in Tel Aviv in which 19 people were killed.

In a March 28, 2002 release entitled: "CAIR Condemns Attacks on Civilians," the organization condemned a bomb attack on a Passover celebration in Netanya saying, "We condemn this attack and all other attacks on innocent civilians. Illegitimate and counterproductive tactics must not be used in the legitimate struggle to end Israel's brutal occupation."

In an October 4, 2003 release entitled "CAIR Condemns Haifa Suicide Bombing," the organization said, "CAIR condemns this vicious attack in the strongest possible terms. The bombing is particularly loathsome, coming as it did on the eve of the Jewish community's holiest day."

Former President Jimmy Carter in a recent CNN interview said "there's a good chance" that Hamas, which has operated a network of successful social and charitable organizations for Palestinians, could become a nonviolent organization. The 39th U.S. president said he met with Hamas leaders in Ramallah, in the West Bank, after 2006 elections. "They told me they want to have a peaceful administration. They want to have a unity government, bring in Fatah members and independent members," Carter said. Carter also noted, Hamas has adhered to a cease-fire since August 2004, which "indicates what they might do in the future."

In light of such statements from President Carter, should any reasonable person now allege that President Carter is a "terrorist" sympathizer because he met with Hamas leaders and he advocates political dialogue with them?

Disinformation: CAIR receives money from foreign governments.

This is yet another attempt to invent a controversy. CAIR's operational budget is funded by donations from American Muslims.

CAIR reportedly received \$500,000 from Saudi prince Al-Waleed bin Talal, reputed to be one of the world's richest men. Talal also, in May 2005, stated that he is "more than prepared" to work with organizations such as CAIR, "and to provide needed support" to them.

FACT: THE DONATION SUPPORTED A PROGRAM THAT PLACED BOOKS IN LIBRARIES

The purpose of the donation was the Library Project, a program designed to distribute a set of books on Islam, the majority of which are written by non-Muslim academics, to libraries so that people can learn more about Islam.

There is nothing criminal or immoral about accepting donations from foreign nationals. The U.S. government, corporations and non-profit organizations routinely receive money from foreign nationals. Bin Talal is not a member of the Saudi Arabian government. He is a private entrepreneur and international investor and was named the second most creative and successful business person in the world by Forbes Magazine.

CAIR is proud to receive support of every individual, whether Muslim, Christian, Jewish, or of another faith background, who supports the mission of promoting justice and mutual understanding as long as they are not an official of any foreign government and there are no 'strings attached' to the bequest.

FACT: AL-WALEED BIN TALAL OWNS SIGNIFICANT FIDUCIARY INTERESTS IN A NUMBER OF AMERICAN COMPANIES

If CAIR is taken to task for this endowment, then so should FOX Network, Citigroup, Four Seasons Hotels, AOL, Apple Computers, Amazon.com, Donna Karan International and Motorola. Bin Talal owns significant fiduciary interests in each of these American companies. If CAIR is taken to task for his donation to us, so should these companies be taken to task for accepting his money.

Disinformation: The family of John P. O'Neill, Sr., the former FBI counterterrorism chief who perished at the World Trade Center, named CAIR in a civil lawsuit as having "been part of the criminal conspiracy of radical Islamic terrorism" responsible for the September 11 atrocities.

FACT: THIS IS A CIVIL LAWSUIT THAT CASTS A WIDE DRAGNET OVER MANY MUSLIM ORGANIZATIONS IN AMERICA AND ABROAD

This civil action was filed only for money. It is a civil (not criminal) lawsuit that names a veritable who's who of Muslim organizations, seeking hundreds of millions of dollars.

Several defendants to this lawsuit (including foreign citizens) have already been cleared because Judge Casey found no evidence to support the claims being made by the plaintiffs. CAIR has submitted its motion for dismissal and we are confident of being granted our motion as soon as the case is heard by Judge Casey.

For more information, please visit www.cair.com