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# U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

1139 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Washington, DC 20515

January 13, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bessent  
Acting Commissioner  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20224

The Honorable Frank Bisignano  
Chief Executive Officer  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20224

Acting Commissioner Bessent and Mr. Bisignano:

I write today to refer the Council on American-Islamic Relations-California (“CAIR-CA”), a California-based 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, for investigation and potential revocation of its tax-exempt status. CAIR-CA, one chapter within the Council on American-Islamic Relations’ (“CAIR”) nationwide non-profit network, has reportedly engaged in systematic misuse of millions of taxpayer dollars, material support for activity resulting in violation of the law, and providing misrepresented and/or possibly misleading information to the IRS.<sup>1</sup> This conduct, coupled with CAIR’s troubled history, connections to Hamas, and recent designation as a terrorist organization by the State of Texas,<sup>2</sup> raises questions regarding whether CAIR-CA meets the standards required to maintain tax-exempt status.

As you know, section 7803 of the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) grants the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) the authority to execute and apply internal revenue laws,<sup>3</sup> including section 501 of the IRC’s requirements and prohibitions. Pursuant to section 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organizations must be organized and operated exclusively for a tax-exempt purpose, which includes charitable, educational, literary, and other purposes.<sup>4</sup> However, if a nonprofit organization conducts substantial activities that do not further

<sup>1</sup> Isabel Vincent, *Muslim group linked to Hamas accused of ‘financial irregularities’ with \$7 million taxpayer cash now unaccounted for*, THE NEW YORK POST (March 14, 2025), <https://nypost.com/2025/03/14/us-news/muslim-group-cair-accused-of-financial-irregularities/>.

<sup>2</sup> Erika Esquivel, *Gov. Abbott designates Muslim Brotherhood and CAIR as terrorist organizations*, KFOX14 (Nov. 18, 2025), <https://bakersfieldnow.com/news/nation-world/gov-abbott-designates-muslim-brotherhood-and-cair-as-terrorist-organizations>.

<sup>3</sup> See 26 U.S.C. § 7803.

<sup>4</sup> See 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

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its exempt purposes, such activity may result in the loss of the organization's tax-exemption.<sup>5</sup>

Tax-exempt organizations must meet other requirements to maintain their tax-exempt status as well. For example, under section 501(c)(3) of the IRC, organizations seeking to receive an exemption from federal taxes are prohibited from certain activity, including being involved in certain types of political activity.<sup>6</sup> In addition to the prohibitions of section 501, the IRS has also noted that violations of the law are an “antithesis of the public good” and, as such, may be a bar to tax-exemption.<sup>7</sup> Not only has the IRS found conducting illegal activities to be inconsistent with tax-exemption, but it has stated that the “planning and sponsoring of such activities are also incompatible with charity and social welfare.”<sup>8</sup>

For example, while mass demonstrations and other confrontational activities are generally permissible under section 501, the IRS previously found that an organization that sponsored protests where members were pressed to commit acts of civil disobedience “did not qualify for IRC 501(c)(3) or (4) exemption.”<sup>9</sup> When determining whether these types of demonstrations are consistent with IRC section 501(c)(3), the IRS has historically implemented a three-part test which states that such activities are permissible if: (1) the organization’s tax-exempt purpose is charitable; (2) the activities are not illegal, contrary to established public policy, or in conflict with statutory restrictions; and (3) the activities further the organization’s exempt purpose and are reasonably related to the accomplishment of that purpose.<sup>10</sup>

In the case of CAIR-CA, evidence suggests that the tax-exempt organization institutionally endorsed and materially supported several encampments on college campuses across California, some of which resulted in violations of the law and/or arrests.<sup>11</sup> For example, one of CAIR’s executive directors openly urged agitators to defy campus rules during an unauthorized encampment on the University of California-Los Angeles’s campus<sup>12</sup> that resulted in the arrests of more than 200 individuals<sup>13</sup>, while CAIR-CA’s San Diego branch went so far as to celebrate its institutional support “before, after, and during”<sup>14</sup> the University of California-San Diego encampment that resulted in 64 arrests.<sup>15</sup> Supporting these types of unauthorized encampments and condoning harmful and illegal behavior on college campuses is not only

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<sup>5</sup> Better Business Bureau of Washington, D.C. v. United States, 326 U.S. 279, 283 (1945).

<sup>6</sup> See 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

<sup>7</sup> Internal Revenue Service, Revenue Ruling 75-384, <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/eotopicj85.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> Internal Revenue Service, Revenue Ruling 80-278, <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/rr80-278.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> *On Intifada and Tax Reform: How Federal Funds Bankroll CAIR’s Radical Agenda in California*, NETWORK CONTAGION RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NCRI) (Nov. 19, 2025), <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/on-intifada-and-tax-reform-how-federal-funds-bankroll-cairs-radical-agenda-in-california/>.

<sup>12</sup> CAIRGLA, INSTAGRAM (April 26, 2024), <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6P0Kq6RAWf/>.

<sup>13</sup> Matthew Ormseth, Connor Sheets, Ruben Vives, et al., *UCLA struggles to recover after 200 arrested, pro-Palestinian camp torn down*, LOS ANGELES TIMES (May 3, 2024), <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-05-01/la-me-ucla-camp-police>.

<sup>14</sup> CAIRSANDIEGO, INSTAGRAM (May 8, 2024),

[https://www.instagram.com/p/DJZ7pjEBBjh/?hl=en&img\\_index=1](https://www.instagram.com/p/DJZ7pjEBBjh/?hl=en&img_index=1).

<sup>15</sup> Laura McCaffrey, *Dozens arrested as police clear UC San Diego encampment*, KPBS (May 6, 2024), <https://www.kpbs.org/news/education/2024/05/06/chp-raids-ucsd-gaza-solidarity-encampment>.

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alarming, but also raises serious questions given CAIR’s larger organizational involvement that same year in anti-Israel protests<sup>16</sup> in Washington, D.C., that quickly descended into chaos – including the burning of the American flag – and resulted in hundreds of arrests.<sup>17</sup> Not to mention CAIR’s apparent intervention in the Presidential campaign when endorsing and sponsoring a “Protest Donald Trump” rally at the annual Minnesota Republican Party Lincoln-Reagan Dinner (See Exhibit 5).<sup>18</sup>

Not only is CAIR-CA suspected of endorsing the disturbing of classes, shutting down of college campuses, and impeding of students’ access to education, but one recent report also found that CAIR-CA solicited food and supplies to support prolonging these encampments, received over \$64,000 in donations to “help students targeted for their pro-Palestine advocacy on college campuses,” and released a special edition report that supported the encampments and described police efforts to clear them as unlawful acts of violence.<sup>19</sup> Such conduct, as the IRS has previously said, raises questions as to whether CAIR-CA continues to qualify for tax-exemption under section 501 of the Code given its support for activity that are an antithesis of the public good.

In addition to providing support for acts of civil disobedience, any potential violation of the False Claims Act or willful failure to supply accurate information to the IRS should put a tax-exempt organization’s tax-exempt status in question.<sup>20</sup> And in this case, CAIR-CA’s reporting to the IRS draws serious concern. For example, reporting suggests that CAIR-CA received more than \$7 million in Federal refugee legal-aid funding to help re-settle Afghan immigrants, but assisted less than 10 percent of the proposed Afghan refugees and instead sub-granted half of the money to CAIR-Los Angeles—an unregistered entity operating under CAIR-CA’s Employer Identification Number (“EIN”).<sup>21</sup> Given that public records show CAIR-Los Angeles was not registered as a separate legal or tax entity at the time, coupled with the fact that CAIR-Los Angeles was operating under the EIN of CAIR-CA, this sub-grant appears to be a façade to merely obscure the trace of taxpayer funds and redirect the funding back to CAIR-CA.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> CAIRNATIONAL, X (July 24, 2024), <https://x.com/CAIRNational/status/1816275375581765918>.

<sup>17</sup> Ayana Archie, *About 200 people protesting Gaza war arrested in congressional building, police say*, NPR (July 24, 2024), <https://www.npr.org/2024/07/24/nx-s1-5050443/capitol-building-gaza-protests-arrests#:~:text=toggle%20caption,Netanyahu%20is%20addressing%20Congress%20tomorrow.;> Ellie Silverman, Jenny Gathright, Clarence Williams, et al., *U.S. flag set ablaze, 23 arrested as thousands protest Netanyahu’s D.C. visit*, THE WASHINGTON POST (July 24, 2024), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2024/07/24/dc-protest-netanyahu-visit-israel-gaza-war/>.

<sup>18</sup> Ryan Mauro, *Did CAIR Violate Its Tax-Exempt Status by Endorsing an Anti-Trump Protest?*, Capital Research Center (May 17, 2024), <https://capitalresearch.org/article/did-cair-violate-its-tax-exempt-status-by-endorsing-an-anti-trump-protest/>.

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> See 26 U.S.C. § 7206; see also 31 U.S.C. § 3729.

<sup>21</sup> Isabel Vincent, *Muslim group linked to Hamas accused of ‘financial irregularities’ with \$7 million taxpayer cash now unaccounted for*, THE NEW YORK POST (March 14, 2025), <https://nypost.com/2025/03/14/us-news/muslim-group-cair-accused-of-financial-irregularities/>.

<sup>22</sup> *On Intifada and Tax Reform: How Federal Funds Bankroll CAIR’s Radical Agenda in California*, NETWORK CONTAGION RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NCRI) (Nov. 19, 2025), <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/on-intifada-and-tax-reform-how-federal-funds-bankroll-cairs-radical-agenda-in-california/>.

Letter to The Honorable Scott Bessent and The Honorable Frank Bisignano

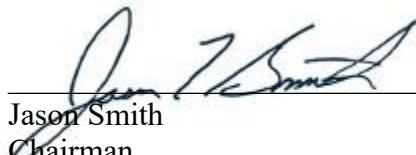
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Not only does this misdirection of funds back to itself potentially violate the law, but the failure of CAIR-CA to properly document the use of grant funding would also place the organization at risk of violating the False Claims Act for misrepresenting grant use. In this case, analysis of CAIR-CA's tax filings suggests that CAIR-CA not only failed to properly disclose both the millions in grant funding it received on its Form 990 in years 2022 and 2023, instead obscuring the funding under general contributions and grants, but also the millions of taxpayer dollars sub-granted to recipients in 2022 and 2023, failing to submit its Schedule I entirely in 2023.<sup>23</sup> Additional information related to CAIR-CA's concerning conduct and facts supporting revocation of CAIR-CA's tax-exempt status are provided in the appendices below.

Given CAIR-CA's alarming activity, along with the fact that CAIR's network holds suspicious ties to terrorist organizations like Hamas,<sup>24</sup> I ask that you use your authority to investigate CAIR-CA and consider the revocation of tax-exempt status of CAIR-CA upon adequate review. Thank you in advance for your time, cooperation, and response. If you have any questions, please contact Ways and Means Majority staff at (202) 225-3625.

Sincerely,



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Jason Smith  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means

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<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> *The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE* (Dec. 23, 2024), <https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounder/council-american-islamic-relations-cair>.

## **Council on Islamic Relations (CAIR): Relevant Facts**

### **Introduction**

The Council on Islamic Relations (“CAIR”) is a Washington, D.C., based non-profit organization that advertises itself as the leading American Muslim civil rights organization in the U.S.<sup>25</sup> Founded in 1994, the organization purports to focus on responding to and providing support in the wake of anti-Muslim incidents and sentiment, but key CAIR leaders often engage in openly antisemitism rhetoric, and some CAIR leaders were previously involved in a now-defunct organization that openly supported Hamas and functioned as its propaganda apparatus.<sup>26</sup>

### **CAIR’s Alleged Ties to Terrorism**

CAIR’s suspected connections to terrorism and illicit behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Several of CAIR’s executives and leaders were previously involved in the Islamic Association for Palestine (“IAP”), a now defunct organization that was found to be supporting Hamas.<sup>27</sup>
- In April 2024, Nihad Awad eulogized the late Sheikh Abdul-Majid al-Zindani, who the U.S. designated as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist in 2004 and who was a one-time mentor to Osama bin Laden.<sup>28</sup>
- Several members of CAIR justified Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attacks and Nihad Awad claimed that he was “happy” on October 7<sup>th</sup>.<sup>29</sup>
- CAIR is closely connected to American Muslims for Palestine, another tax-exempt organization under investigation for alleged support for Hamas.<sup>30</sup>
- CAIR has also been linked to the Holy Land Foundation, a now-shut-down tax-exempt organization that was convicted in 2009 for providing material support for Hamas.<sup>31</sup>
- CAIR was also previously a member of The Palestine Committee, which was created by the Muslim Brotherhood and headed by Hamas official Mousa Abu Marzook (Marzook has been designated by the U.S. government as a Specially Designated Terrorist).<sup>32</sup>
- CAIR was included on a 2007 Department of Justice list of nearly 250 “unindicted co-conspirators” in the Holy Land Foundation case.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> CAIR: Who We Are, CAIR (accessed Nov. 18, 2025), [https://www.cair.com/about\\_cair/cair-who-we-are/](https://www.cair.com/about_cair/cair-who-we-are/).

<sup>26</sup> The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE (Dec. 23, 2024), <https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounder/council-american-islamic-relations-cair>.

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*

<sup>28</sup> *Id.*

<sup>29</sup> *Id.*

<sup>30</sup> *Id.*

<sup>31</sup> The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE (Dec. 23, 2024), <https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounder/council-american-islamic-relations-cair>.

<sup>32</sup> *Id.*

<sup>33</sup> *Id.*

## Attachment 1 – Appendix

- CAIR was sued by a former employee who implied that CAIR was funded by foreign governments and terrorist organizations but ultimately settled the lawsuit to avoid disclosing the sources of its foreign funding.<sup>34</sup>

### **CAIR's Alleged Support of Illegal Activity**

CAIR is also suspected of providing funding and other support for protests and activity, some of which resulted in arrests and/or suspected illegal activity. Examples of this alleged support for illegal activity includes, but is not limited to:

- In July 2024, CAIR urged people to join the mass protest in Washington, D.C., during Benjamin Netanyahu's visit to Congress.<sup>35</sup> This protest resulted in numerous arrests.
- Also in April of 2024, a CAIR fellow staged a protest at the home of Berkeley Law School's Jewish dean, leading to an altercation at the home.<sup>36</sup>

### **Conclusion**

CAIR-CA's lack of transparency and potentially fraudulent tax filings raise questions around whether CAIR-CA is meeting the requirements necessary to maintain tax-exempt status. Further, CAIR's alleged ties to designated terrorist groups and purported support for civil disobedience and illegal activity does not further CAIR's stated tax-exempt purpose. As a result, I recommend the IRS initiate a vigorous review of CAIR-CA, with consideration of revocation of CAIR-CA's tax-exempt status. Please see exhibits below for examples that fail to advance any tax-exempt purpose.

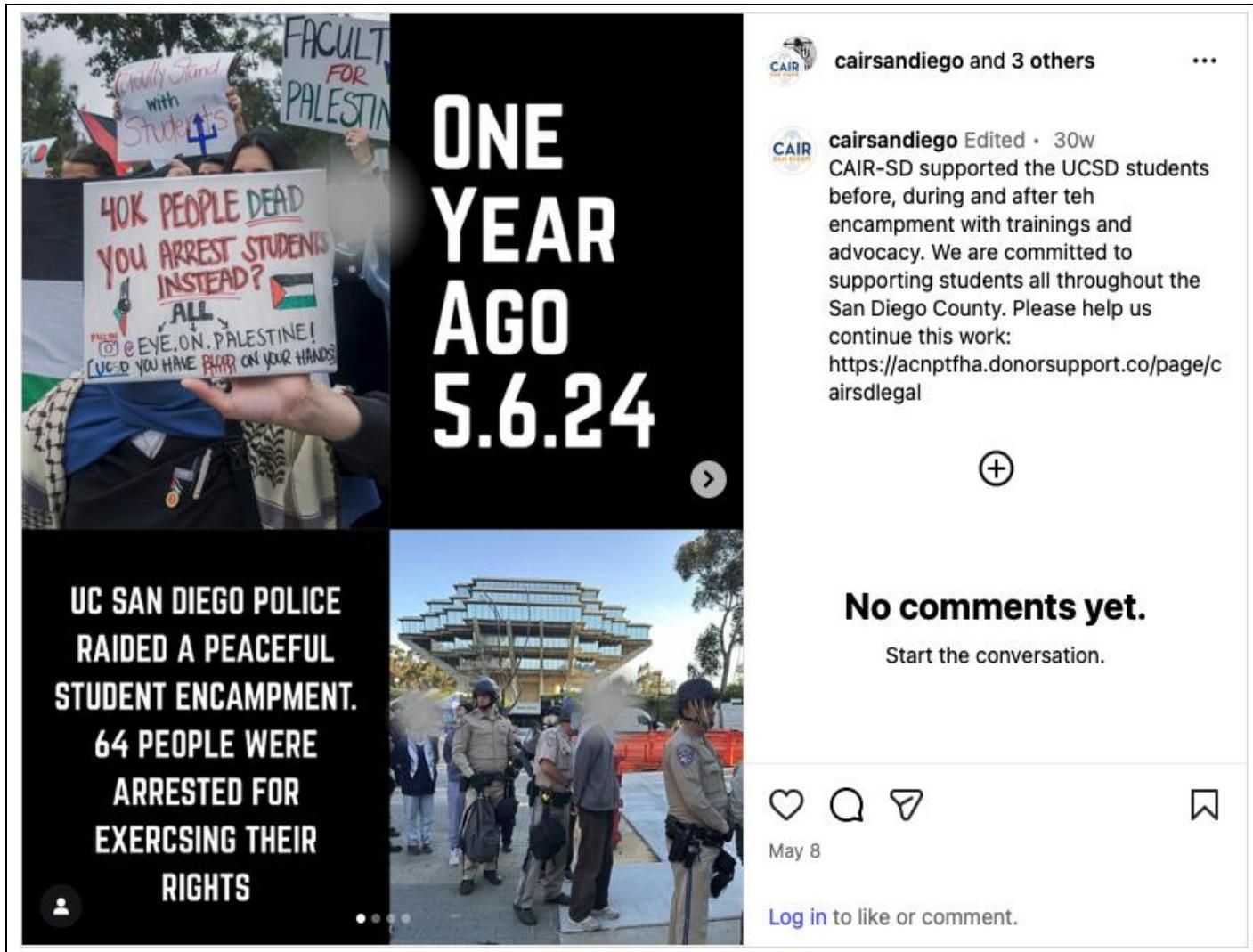
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<sup>34</sup> *CAIR Settles Lawsuit to Avoid Revealing Funding Sources*, GLOBAL INFLUENCE OPERATIONS REPORT (GIOR) (March 17, 2025), <https://www.global-influence-ops.com/cair-settles-lawsuit-to-avoid-revealing-funding-sources/>.

<sup>35</sup> *CAIR Community Advisory: Join Mass DC Protest of Netanyahu's Visit to Congress on July 24<sup>th</sup>*, CAIR PITTSBURGH (July 23, 2024), <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/CAIR-Community-Advisory--Join-Mass-DC-Protest-of-Netanyahu-s-Visit-to-Congress-on-July-24th.html?soid=1130988001204&aid=vvjloD6-ipI>.

<sup>36</sup> *Anti-Israel student activists disrupt Berkeley law dean's dinner for graduates*, JEWISH NEWS SYNDICATE (April 11, 2024), <https://www.jns.org/anti-israel-student-activists-disrupt-berkeley-law-deans-dinner-for-graduates/>.

## Exhibit 1



**cairsandiego and 3 others** ...

**cairsandiego** Edited • 30w  
CAIR-SD supported the UCSD students before, during and after teh encampment with trainings and advocacy. We are committed to supporting students all throughout the San Diego County. Please help us continue this work:  
<https://acnptfha.donorsupport.co/page/cairsdlegal>

**+**

**No comments yet.**  
Start the conversation.

**UC SAN DIEGO POLICE RAIDED A PEACEFUL STUDENT ENCAMPMENT. 64 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED FOR EXERCISING THEIR RIGHTS**

May 8

[Log in](#) to like or comment.

*Description:*

- CAIR-San Diego, part of CAIR-CA, acknowledging its support “before, during, and after” an encampment which resulted in the arrest of 64 individuals.

*Link:*

[https://www.instagram.com/p/DJZ7pjEBBjh/?hl=en&img\\_index=1](https://www.instagram.com/p/DJZ7pjEBBjh/?hl=en&img_index=1)

## Exhibit 2



A man with a beard and sunglasses, wearing a dark jacket and a white headscarf, is speaking into a microphone at a protest. He is holding a piece of paper. In the background, there is a large red brick building with arched windows and a blue sign that reads "UCLA GO BRUINS". A purple banner is visible with the words "CULTURAL AFFAIRS" and "ON". The crowd in the foreground is seen from behind, with some people wearing headscarves and hoodies.

cairgla and 2 others

cairgla 84w  
CAIR-LA Executive Director  
@hussam.ayloush gave the Jumu'ah khutbah today at @ucla's Gaza Solidarity Camp.

luislavi01 83w  
I hope they investigate you for inciting violence  
Like Reply

laleyhuda 83w  
Gonna post the video of your daughter assaulting a Jew?  
Like Reply

thatsonofapitch 83w

1,620 likes  
April 26, 2024

Log in to like or comment.

*Description:*

- CAIR-CA's Executive Director speaking in support of students participating in an encampment at UCLA, which later resulted in roughly 200 arrests.

*Link:*

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C6P0Kq6RAwf/>

## Exhibit 3

### PALESTINE ADVOCACY

In 2024, as we passed the one-year mark of Israel's genocide in Gaza, **CAIR-LA continued advocating for the people of Palestine by:**

- Advocating at the city, state, and county levels for the passage of ceasefire resolutions, including in a meeting with Governor Newsom, which resulted in him calling for an immediate ceasefire.
- Launching a high-impact petition to speak out against USC's censorship of pro-Palestinian Muslim Valedictorian Asna Tabassum.
- Hosting a Tatreez workshop with Badan Collective to promote the rich heritage of Palestinian embroidery and culture.
- Launching a billboard highlighting U.S. complicity in Israel's genocidal campaign.
- Organizing talks with doctors and nurses returning from medical missions in Gaza.
- Supporting Palestine solidarity encampments on college campuses, including delivering a Jumu'ah khutbah at the UCLA encampment.
- Protecting the rights of students and employees facing discrimination, harassment, and disciplinary action for their Palestine advocacy.
- Presenting the South African Consulate with an award recognizing the country's moral leadership in its genocide case against Israel in the International Court of Justice.

*Description:*

- In CAIR-CA's list of accomplishments for the year 2024, "supporting Palestinian solidarity encampments on college campuses" is prominently listed. Many of these encampments led to arrests.

*Link:*

<https://ca.cair.com/updates/your-impact-in-2024/>

## Exhibit 4

### **CAIR, ACC Announce New Fund to Help Students Targeted for Palestine Advocacy on College Campuses**



① July 12, 2024 ① 12:19 pm

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, and [A Continuous Charity \(ACC\)](#) today announced that they are establishing a new fund to help students targeted for their pro-Palestine advocacy on college campuses.

CAIR and ACC's new Educational Pursuit Fund (EPF) is dedicated to assisting students who have faced adverse consequences for voicing their support for Palestine.

#### How Your Contributions Help:

- 70% of all donations go toward providing interest-free educational loans. These funds will enable students to continue their education without financial strain.
- 30% of contributions are allocated to grants for students who have lost scholarships, housing, or other support because of their advocacy. Each grant is valued at \$1,000, offering vital unrestricted funds that recipients can use as they see fit, helping them navigate through their challenging circumstances.

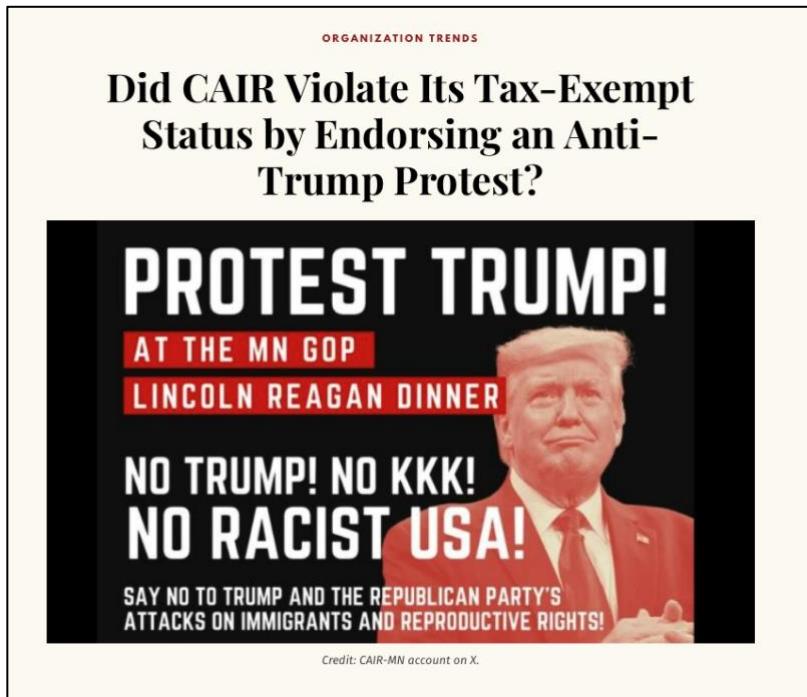
#### *Description:*

- CAIR California established a fund to cut checks to students who were punished by their universities “because of their advocacy.”

#### *Link:*

<https://cair.donorsupport.co/page/ACCStudentScholarship>

## Exhibit 5



*Key Excerpt:*

- “Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501(c)(3) organizations are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office...Violating this prohibition may result in denial or revocation of tax-exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes.”
- In this case, CAIR both directly participated and appeared to intervene in the Presidential campaign when endorsing and sponsoring a “Protest Donald Trump” rally at the annual Minnesota Republican Party Lincoln-Reagan Dinner.
  - This is even more concerning now knowing the amount of potential fraud stemming from the Democratic Administration in Minnesota.<sup>37</sup>
  - It raises questions as to whether CAIR-MN was aware of how much fraud would be uncovered by the Trump Administration and thus actively protested against him.

*Link:*

<https://capitalresearch.org/article/did-cair-violate-its-tax-exempt-status-by-endorsing-an-anti-trump-protest/>

<sup>37</sup> Ernesto Londoño, How Fraud Swamped Minnesota’s Social Services System on Tim Walz’s Watch, THE N.Y. TIMES (updated Nov. 30, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/11/29/us/fraud-minnesota-somali.html>; Press Release, United States Department of Justice, United States Attorney’s Office, District of Minnesota, 78th Defendant Charged in Feeding Our Future Fraud Scheme (Nov. 24, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/usao-mn/pr/78th-defendant-charged-feeding-our-future-fraud-scheme>; Ryan Thorpe & Christopher F. Rufo, “The Largest Funder of Al-Shabaab Is the Minnesota Taxpayer,” CITY J. (Nov. 19, 2025), <https://www.city-journal.org/article/minnesota-welfare-fraud-somalia-al-shabaab>.

## Exhibit 6

 **CAIR National**   
@CAIRNational

“Instead of speaking today, [#Netanyahu] should be delivered to the Hague to give his testimony about his war crimes,” said @NihadAwad, our national executive director. #GazaGenocide #Israel #Gaza



6:10

8:52 PM · Jul 24, 2024 · 4,084 Views

1 reply · 22 retweets · 51 likes · 1 bookmark

*Description:*

- The Executive Director of CAIR, potentially inciting civil disobedience and other activity by advocating for the kidnapping Benjamin Netanyahu at a protest CAIR sponsored which resulted in the burning of American flags and effigies and the arrests of multiple individuals.

*Link:*

<https://x.com/CAIRNational/status/1816275375581765918>

## Exhibit 7

**MEMRI**  **MEMRI**   
@MEMRIReports

**#ICYMI:** At Washington D.C. Protest in Which U.S. Flag Was Burned, CAIR's Nihad Awad Applauded Congress Members Who Boycotted Netanyahu's Speech; Activist Linda Sarsour Said: We Are the Reason Biden Is Not on the Democratic Ticket, VP Kamala Harris Didn't Preside Over the Speech



11:01 AM · Jul 28, 2024 · 3,561 Views

6 12 4

*Description:*

- Several CAIR senior staffers speaking in support of protestors at an event that resulted in the burning of the U.S. flag.

*Link:*

<https://x.com/MEMRIReports/status/1817575993592414581>

## Exhibit 8

# **Governor Abbott Sends Letter To U.S. Secretary Bessent Requesting Suspension of CAIR's Tax-Exempt Status**

December 2, 2025 | Austin, Texas | [Press Release](#)

Governor Greg Abbott today sent a [letter](#) to U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent to request the Treasury Department launch an investigation into the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) and suspend its status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

"Federal investigators and court filings identify CAIR as a direct subsidiary of the Muslim Brotherhood and as a 'front group' for Hamas in the United States," reads the letter. "Accordingly, I respectfully request that you investigate CAIR for suspension of its tax-exempt status. Americans have generous hearts, and federal law wisely creates incentives to donate to nonprofit organizations that promote the public good. But charity must not become a backdoor to sponsor terrorism, endanger Americans, and subvert our democracy."

[Read the Governor's letter to Secretary Bessent.](#)

*Description:*

- Texas Governor Greg Abbott requests investigation into CAIR's tax-exempt status by Treasury Secretary Bessent.
- Key Excerpt: "Federal investigators and court filings identify CAIR as a direct subsidiary of the Muslim Brotherhood and as a 'front group' for Hamas in the United States...Accordingly, I respectfully request that you [U.S. Department of Treasury] investigate CAIR for suspension of its tax-exempt status."

*Link:*

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-sends-letter-to-u.s-secretary-bessent-requesting-suspension-of-cairs-tax-exempt-status>

## Attachment 2 – Exhibits

### Exhibit 9

 **Greg Abbott**   
@GregAbbott\_TX

Today, I designated the Muslim Brotherhood and Council on American-Islamic Relations as foreign terrorist and transnational criminal organizations.

This bans them from buying or acquiring land in Texas and authorizes the Attorney General to sue to shut them down.

WHEREAS, even in the present day, Mohamed Badie, the Eighth Supreme Guide of the Muslim Brotherhood, who is currently serving a life sentence for plotting an armed assault on the Egyptian Parliament, has stated that the organization's primary goal is to establish Islam's "universal state of the world" and a total refus of all domains of life by resurrecting an Islamic state—a of a Caliphate—designed to forcibly impose Shari'a law worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the Muslim Brotherhood provides support to localized branches in countries and territories throughout the world, including groups that conduct terrorism internationally; and

WHEREAS, specific branches of the Muslim Brotherhood, such as HAMM and Libya al-Thawra, have been designated by the United States Department of State as Specifically Designated Global Terrorist Entities; and

WHEREAS, activities of Muslim Brotherhood branches have consistently been linked to the international terrorist network of Al Qaeda, Bolivia, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, in light of the Muslim Brotherhood's engaging in terrorism or attempting to destabilize those countries; and

WHEREAS, Hamas, which was formed in 1987 as the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood and is designated by the United States government as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, kidnaps and murdered American citizens in its terrorist attacks against Israel, Gaza, and Syria;

WHEREAS, Texas Penal Code § 71.05(e) provides that a Foreign Terrorist Organization "means those ... no one person operating as an organization or foray partially outside the United States who engage in criminal activity and threaten the safety of this state or its residents ..."; and

WHEREAS, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 125.005 authorizes suit against a Foreign Terrorist Organization to enjoin its operations and "impose[] other reasonable requirements to prevent the ... organization from engaging in future gang activities"; and

WHEREAS, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 125.006 provides that violation of such an injunctive order is subject to pain of contempt, punishable by monetary fines and imprisonment; and

WHEREAS, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 125.004(b) further authorizes suit against "Jehad persons who intentionally associates with others to engage in gang activity as a member of," or "who owns or is responsible for maintaining a place that is habitually used for engaging in gang activity" by, a Foreign Terrorist Organization, and provides that such a person may be subject to the aforementioned penalties; and

WHEREAS, Texas Property Code § 2.213 prohibits certain foreign entities from purchasing or acquiring an interest in land in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Texas Property Code § 5.25(a) authorizes the Governor to "designate ... a transnational criminal organization or other entity" as evidence of a "9.951% ownership

• Abdulelah Abuhassan, a speaker at a CAIR-sponsored anti-Israel rally in Washington, D.C., in October 2000, who proudly proclaimed himself to be a "supporter of Hamas and its supporters in the Muslim Brotherhood"; and who was later convicted as a terrorist for funding Al Qaeda;

• Randall Todd Royce, a community organizer, civil rights coordinator for CAIR, who was sentenced to 20 years in prison on April 9, 2006, for conspiring to aid Al Qaeda and the Taliban;

• Bassam Khalil, a community relations director for CAIR, who pleaded guilty to federal bank and visa fraud in 2003 after funneling money to terrorist causes and publishing material advocating suicide attacks against the United States;

• Raif Hakkak, a CAIR fundraiser, who was arrested and detained for his work as Executive Director of the Global Relief Foundation, which was closed by the United States Department of Treasury in October 2002 for financing Al Qaeda;

• Muftah al-Namri, a Director for CAIR in Michigan, who was arrested and sentenced to prison in 2011 for violating United States sanctions against Iraq by accepting "two million barrels of Iraqi oil" in exchange for helping Saddam Hussein's government;

• Sami Al-Atrash, a convicted terrorist and Palestinian Islamic Jihad Source, whom CAIR publicly honored with its "Promoting Justice Award" in 2014

Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, and

(2) Designate both the Muslim Brotherhood and its successor organization CAIR as Transnational Criminal Organizations and prescribed entities under Texas Property Code § 5.25(a)(2)(A), and thereby subject those organizations, and their affiliates and members, to Chapter 5 of the Texas Property Code, which prohibits them from purchasing or acquiring land in Texas.

I HEREBY DIRECT that a copy of this proclamation be filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and have officially caused the Seal of State to be affixed at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, this the 18th day of November, 2023.

  
  
Greg Abbott  
Governor

10:12 AM · Nov 18, 2025 · 9.4M Views

9.5K  29K  128K  5.4K 

#### Description:

- Texas Governor Greg Abbott designates CAIR as a foreign terrorist and transnational criminal organization.

#### Link:

[https://x.com/GregAbbott\\_TX/status/1990800292225691720](https://x.com/GregAbbott_TX/status/1990800292225691720)

## Exhibit 10

### Student Gaza Solidarity Encampments Continue to Grow

- Arizona State University
- Auraria Campus
- Brown University
- Bryn Mawr College
- Cal Poly Humboldt
- City University of New York
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dickinson College
- Drexel University
- Emerson College
- Emory University
- Florida International University
- Florida State University
- George Washington University
- Harvard University
- Haverford College
- Indiana University Bloomington
- Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
- Loyola University Chicago
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio State University
- Pitzer College
- Pomona College
- Princeton University
- Rice University
- Sonoma State University
- Stanford University
- Swarthmore College
- Temple University
- Texas A&M University
- The New School
- Tufts University
- University of Arizona
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Connecticut
- University of Delaware
- University of Florida
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- University of Kansas
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- University of New Mexico
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- University of Notre Dame, South Bend
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Puget Sound
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Texas at Dallas
- Vanderbilt University
- Yale University

 CAIR CALIFORNIA

cair\_sfba and 4 others ...

cair\_sfba 83w "Impossible is not a fact. It's an opinion." - Muhammad Ali

Inspired by Ali's wisdom, we salute the now over 60 Gaza solidarity encampments across college and university campuses nationwide. Despite intense administrative attempts at repression and horrific police brutality, each new encampment launch proves that we will not accept "impossible," and that our determination to see a free Palestine is stronger than Zionist hate.

Refaat Alareer's poignant words remind us, "tomorrow there's no school in Gaza; they don't have any children left." Amidst such heartbreakingly real realities, we will work together to ensure our schools are no longer complicit in genocide. Onward until divestment, ceasefire, and

5,932 likes

April 27, 2024

[Log in](#) to like or comment.

*Description:*

- CAIR soliciting donations and gifts-in-kind to support encampments on college and university campuses across the U.S. Many of these encampments resulted in violations of both school policy and arrests.

*Link:*

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C6RsHOAPNmK/>