	Case 3:24-cv-05553-TMC Document 4	1 Filed 02/21/25	Page 1 of 45
1			
$\frac{2}{3}$			
4			
5	UNITED STATES DIS WESTERN DISTRICT C AT TACO	<b>DF WASHINGTON</b>	
6	ALMOG MEIR JAN; SHLOMI ZIV;	NO. 3:24-cv-05553-7	ГLF
7 8	ANDREY KOZLOV, V.	AMENDED COMPI	LAINT
9	PEOPLE MEDIA PROJECT, a Washington		
10	Non-Profit Corporation, d/b/a PALESTINE CHRONICLE; RAMZY BAROUD; JOHN HARVEY; and DOES 1 through 10,		
11 12	Defendants.		
12	I. <u>INTROD</u>	UCTION	
14	1. On October 7, 2023, the terrorist org	ganization Hamas bru	tally murdered, raped,
15	kidnapped, and butchered hundreds of Israeli civili	ians.	
16	2. Plaintiff Almog Meir Jan is an Isr	raeli citizen who wa	s kidnapped and held
17	hostage for 246 days. He was rescued from the	home of Abdallah A	ljamal ("Aljamal"), a
18	Hamas operative and spokesperson, in a daring mi	ssion by the Israel De	efense Forces ("IDF").
19	3. Plaintiff Shlomi Ziv ("Ziv") is an	Israeli citizen who	was a member of the
20	security team at the Nova Music Festival near Kib	butz Re'im in souther	m Israel on October 7,
21	2023, when he was kidnapped. He was subsequent	ly held for 246 days.	During the attack, Ziv
22	stayed to fend off gunmen and evacuate people.	He was rescued from	n the home of Hamas
23	operative Aljamal, in the same mission by the IDF	referenced above.	
	AMENDED COMPLAINT - 1		TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS

4. Plaintiff Andrey Kozlov ("Kozlov") is a Russian-Israeli citizen who was
 working as a security guard at the Nova Music Festival on October 7, 2023, when he was
 kidnapped. He was subsequently held for 246 days. He was rescued from the home of Aljamal,
 in the same mission by the IDF referenced above. Kozlov was subjected to particularly intense,
 severe, and sustained psychological and physical abuse at the hands of Hamas.

6

7

5. All three Plaintiffs were terrorized during the course of their captivity and subjected to arbitrary punishment, physical threats, and physical and psychological abuse.

8 6. Plaintiffs' captor, Hamas Operative Aljamal, was not just a Hamas operative
9 and spokesperson—he was a "journalist" for Defendant People Media Project d/b/a Palestine
10 Chronicle ("Palestine Chronicle"), a U.S.-based, tax-exempt news organization. Upon
11 information and belief, Aljamal's wife, Fatima, who also held Plaintiffs captive in their home,
12 was also on the staff of the Palestine Chronicle.

7. Under the leadership of Defendants Ramzy Baroud and John Harvey,
Defendant Palestine Chronicle employed Hamas Operative Aljamal and offered him its U.S.
platform to write and disseminate Hamas propaganda, ultimately subsidized by U.S. taxpayers
through its status as a tax-exempt charitable organization.

17 8. Following the Hamas terror attacks of October 7, while Hamas Operative 18 Aljamal imprisoned Plaintiffs, Defendants permitted Hamas Operative Aljamal to use their 19 platform to whitewash Hamas's crimes and attract international support for its terrorist cause. 20 9. By compensating Hamas Operative Aljamal for his propaganda, all the while 21 knowing that Aljamal was a Hamas operative involved in Hamas's October 7, 2023 attacks 22 and in the ongoing terrorist war crime of holding Israeli citizens thereafter, Defendants aided, 23 abetted, and materially supported both Hamas Operative Aljamal and Hamas itself in their acts

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 2



of terrorism, including kidnapping and holding Plaintiffs hostage for 246 days, in violation of
 international law.

3 10. Accordingly, Plaintiffs bring this Complaint for damages under the Alien Tort
4 Statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1350, against Defendants People Media Project d/b/a Palestine Chronicle,
5 Ramzy Baroud, John Harvey, and Does 1 through 10.

6

#### II. <u>PARTIES</u>

7 11. Plaintiff Almog Meir Jan is an Israeli citizen who was abducted during Hamas's
8 October 7, 2023, attack on Israel. He was kept as a Hamas prisoner until the IDF rescued him
9 eight months later from the home of Hamas Operative and *Palestine Chronicle* employee
10 Aljamal.<sup>1</sup>

11 12. Plaintiff Shlomi Ziv is an Israeli citizen who was a member of the security team
12 at the Nova Music Festival when he was abducted during Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack on
13 Israel. He was kept as a Hamas prisoner until the IDF rescued him eight months later from the
14 home of Hamas Operative and Palestine Chronicle employee Aljamal.

15 13. Plaintiff Andrey Kozlov is a Russian-Israeli citizen who was working as a
16 security guard at the Nova Music Festival when he was abducted during Hamas's October 7,
17 2023, attack on Israel. He was kept as a Hamas prisoner until the IDF rescued him eight months
18 later from the home of Hamas Operative and Palestine Chronicle employee Aljamal.

- 19
- 20
- 21 22

23

<sup>1</sup> According to media reports, Hamas Operative Aljamal was killed during the rescue mission. *See* Abeer Ayyoub, *The Hostages Next Door: Inside a Notable Gaza Family's Dark Secret*, WALL ST. J. (June 17, 2024), https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/the-hostages-next-door-inside-a-notable-gaza-familys-dark-secret-2896f6aa.

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 3



1 14. Defendant People Media Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation
 2 incorporated in the State of Washington with its principal office address at 1503 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue
 3 SW, in Olympia, Washington 98502-5247.

4 15. People Media Project operates an English language and U.S.-based news outlet,
5 under the d/b/a name, Palestine Chronicle, covering events concerning the Middle East and
6 Palestine.

7 16. Defendant Ramzy Baroud is the Editor-in-Chief of the Palestine Chronicle and
8 a Governor of People Media Project. In those positions, Defendant Baroud is ultimately
9 responsible for editorial, content, and management decisions of the Palestine Chronicle.
10 Defendant Baroud is sued in both his individual capacity and his capacity as a Governor of
11 People Media Project.

12 17. Defendant John Harvey is a Governor of People Media Project and its
13 "Principal Officer" in public IRS filings. He is also listed as "Management" on the Palestine
14 Chronicle's website.<sup>2</sup> In those positions, Defendant Harvey is ultimately responsible for
15 management and financial decisions of the Palestine Chronicle. Defendant Harvey is sued in
16 both his individual capacity and his capacity as a Governor of People Media Project.

17 18. As of the filing of this Complaint, Plaintiffs believe there are likely other
18 individuals or organizations (for profit, non-profit or otherwise) employed by, or collaborating
19 in conjunction with, the named Defendants who committed similar tortious violations against
20 Plaintiffs as the named Defendants. Therefore, Plaintiffs sue these individuals and/or
21 organizations under the fictitious names of Doe Defendants 1 through 10. Following
22 investigation and further discovery, Plaintiffs will seek leave of this Court to amend this

23

<sup>2</sup> About the Palestine Chronicle, PALESTINE CHRONICLE, <u>https://www.palestinechronicle.com/about/</u>.

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 4

P/ 206.621.1871 F/ 206.621.9907

TOMLINSON

Complaint to allege the true names, identities, and capacities of Does 1 through 10, should this
 information be properly ascertained.

3

#### III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4 19. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and
5 1350. This Complaint is brought by a foreign national who was kidnapped and injured because
6 of torts "committed in violation of the law of nations or of a treaty of the United States." 28
7 U.S.C. § 1350.

8 20. Venue in this district is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because the individual
9 Defendants reside in this district and the corporate Defendant maintains its principal place of
10 business within this district.

11

12

#### IV. <u>FACTS</u>

#### A. Hamas is a Designated Foreign Terrorist Organization.

13 21. Founded in 1987, Hamas is a terrorist group committed to destroying the State
14 of Israel and eliminating Jewish people across the globe. Hamas seeks to achieve these
15 objectives through any and all means, including violence and acts of terrorism.

16 22. The U.S. State Department designated Hamas a Foreign Terrorist Organization
17 in October 1997, which it remains to this day.<sup>3</sup>

18 23. For decades, Hamas has used violence, including bombings, shootings,
19 stabbings, and rocket attacks to advance its stated goals of destroying the State of Israel and
20 the Jewish people.<sup>4</sup>

21

22

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 5



TOMLINSON

BOMSZTYK RUSS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> U.S. Dept. of State, *Foreign Terrorist Organizations*, STATE.GOV (last visited July 7, 2024), <u>https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/</u>.

<sup>23 &</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See generally HAMAS, THE COVENANT OF THE ISLAMIC RESISTANCE MOVEMENT (Aug. 18, 1988), https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\_century/hamas.asp.

#### B. Defendants Have Close Ties to Hamas.

2 24. Even though Hamas has been a designated Foreign Terrorist Organization for
3 more than a quarter century, Defendants maintain close ties to Hamas.

4 25. Defendant Baroud, in addition to his roles with the Palestine Chronicle, has
5 served both as a non-resident scholar at the University of California-Santa Barbara's Orfalea
6 Center for Global & International Studies and as a Senior Research Fellow at the Center for
7 Islam and Global Affairs ("CIGA").

8 26. CIGA hosted a conference in 2021 that included sponsorship from Hamas- and
9 Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated groups.<sup>5</sup> CIGA is directed by Sami Al-Arian, who has
10 previously been convicted of terrorism-related crimes and deported from the United States.<sup>6</sup>
11 Al-Arian's spouse was present at pro-Palestine protests on Columbia University's campus on
12 April 25, 2024.<sup>7</sup>

13 27. Moreover, Defendant Baroud's daughter, Zarefah Baroud—who appears to
14 reside with Defendant Baroud—is the Digital Media Associate for American Muslims for
15 Palestine ("AMP"), a U.S.-based nonprofit that is currently the subject of multiple lawsuits, at
16 least one Congressional investigation, and one state attorney general investigation for allegedly
17 providing material support to terrorist organizations, including Hamas.<sup>8</sup>

18

1



 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Lauren Morganbesser, Turkish Uni. to Hold Muslim-Brotherhood, Hamas Affiliated Conference, JERUSALEM
 POST (June 19, 2021), <u>https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/turkish-uni-to-hold-muslim-brotherhood-hamas-affiliated-conference-671344</u>.

<sup>20 &</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Director's Message*, CTR. FOR ISLAM & GLOBAL AFFAIRS, <u>https://www.izu.edu.tr/en/ciga/about-us/director's-message</u>; Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Sami Al-Arian Pleads Guilty to Provide Services to Palestinian Islamic Jihad (Apr. 17, 2006), <u>https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2006/April/06\_crm\_221.html</u>.

 <sup>21 7</sup> Joe Marino, Tina Moore, & Emily Crane, Wife of Convicted Terrorist Sami Al-Arian Was Hanging Out at Columbia Encampment Before Dramatic Raid, N.Y. POST (May 1, 2024), <u>https://nypost.com/2024/05/01/us-</u> news/wife-of-convicted-terrorist-was-at-columbia-encampment-before-raid/.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Complaint, Parizer, et al. v. Nat'l Students for Just. in Palestine, et al., 1:24-cv-724 (E.D.V.A. May 1, 2024); Complaint, Schnaider, et al. v. Am. Muslims for Palestine, et al., 8:24-cv-01067 (M.D. Fla. May 2, 2024); Letter from Rep. James Comer, Chairman, Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, House of Representatives,

28. In December 2020, Defendant Baroud participated in a webinar hosted by AMP
 in which he espoused familiar Hamas propaganda, including accusing Israel of ethnically
 cleansing Palestinians and calling for the defeat of Zionism.<sup>9</sup>

29. Defendant Baroud previously served as the Deputy Managing Editor of *Al Jazeera* online,<sup>10</sup> a news outlet controlled by the Qatari government with close ties to Iran's
Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Hamas. Mr. Baroud has written for *Kayhan International*, an outlet funded by Iran's Supreme Leader.<sup>11</sup> Iran has been designated by the
U.S. State Department as a State Sponsor of Terrorism since 1984.<sup>12</sup>

30. Defendant Harvey likewise has close ties to Hamas. According to news reports,
Defendant Harvey organized a campaign in 2007 to establish the Gaza Strip's Rafah
neighborhood—a Hamas stronghold—as Olympia, Washington's sister city.<sup>13</sup>

12

13

14

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 7



and Rep. Virginia Foxx, Chairwoman, Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, House of Representatives, to Osama Abuirshaid, Executive Director, American Muslims for Palestine, at 1 (May 29, 2024), available at <a href="https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Letter-to-National-SJP-5.29.24.pdf">https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Letter-to-National-SJP-5.29.24.pdf</a>; Letter from Rep. James Comer, Chairman, Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, House of Representatives, and Rep. Virginia Foxx, Chairwoman, Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, House of Representatives, to Janet Yellen,

 <sup>17</sup> Secretary, U.S. Dep't of Treasury, at 1 (May 14, 2024), available at <a href="https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Letter-to-Yellen-051424.pdf">https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Letter-to-Yellen-051424.pdf</a>; Letter from Rep. James Comer, Chairman, Comm. on
 18 Oversight and Accountability, House of Representatives, to Osama Abuirshaid, Executive Director, American

<sup>19</sup> Muslims for Palestine (June 24, 2024), available at <u>https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AMP-Follow-Up-062424.pdf;</u> News Release, Jason Miyares, Attorney General of Virginia, Attorney General's Office Opens Investigation Into American Muslims for Palestine Nonprofit (Oct.

<sup>20 31, 2023), &</sup>lt;u>https://www.oag.state.va.us/media-center/news-releases/2630-october-31-2023-attorney-generals-office-opens-investigation-into-american-muslims-for-palestine-nonprofit.</u>

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> American Muslims for Palestine, 6th Education Webinar | Gaza: The Soul of Palestine, YouTuBE (Dec. 23, 2020), <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-44Wa9eKUs&t=1052s</u>.
 <sup>10</sup> the particular of the partic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> About Dr. Ramzy Baroud, RAMZYBAROUD.NET, <u>https://ramzybaroud.net/about/</u>.

<sup>22 11</sup> Adam Kredo, *Iran's Ties to the 'Palestine Chronicle'*, WASH. FREE BEACON (June 10, 2024), <u>https://freebeacon.com/national-security/irans-ties-to-the-palestine-chronicle/</u>.

<sup>23 &</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> U.S. Dep't of State, *Country Reports on Terrorism 2020: Iran* (last visited July 7, 2024), <u>https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2020/iran/</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Kredo, *supra* note 16.

31. As the Editor-in-Chief, manager, and Governors of the Palestine Chronicle,
 Defendant Baroud and Defendant Harvey aligned the Palestine Chronicle's mission and
 content with Hamas.

C. Defendants Support Hamas by Employing Known Hamas Operatives.

5 32. Defendants knowingly and willfully procured and disseminated Hamas
6 propaganda to the Palestine Chronicle's readers in the United States.

33. According to news reports, at least six Palestine Chronicle writers and
contributors have been affiliated with Iranian propaganda outlets.<sup>14</sup> As discussed above, Iran
is a designated state sponsor of terrorism with known ties to Hamas.

10 34. In May 2019, the Palestine Chronicle began publishing articles written by Gaza11 based Hamas operative and terrorist née "journalist," Abdallah Aljamal.<sup>15</sup>

12 35. However, in addition to his position as a "journalist," Hamas Operative Aljamal
13 also served as an official spokesperson for Hamas's Ministry of Labor.<sup>16</sup>

14 36. Hamas Operative Aljamal's position with Hamas was not a secret. He publicly
15 appeared in Arab media as a spokesperson for the Hamas-run Ministry of Labor. *Exhibit A*.

37. Moreover, Defendant Baroud and Hamas Operative Aljamal knew each other
prior to Hamas Operative Aljamal's relationship with the Palestine Chronicle. In January 2019,
Defendant Baroud and Hamas Operative Aljamal collaborated on an anti-Israel propaganda

19

4

- 20
- 21

22

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 8



P/ 206.621.1871 F/ 206.621.9907

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Kredo, *supra* note 16. <sup>15</sup> See Writer: Abdallah Aljamal – Gaza, PALESTINE CHRONICLE (last visited July 7, 2024), https://www.palestinechronicle.com/writers/abdallah-aljamal/page/4/.

<sup>23 &</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Isabel Vincent, *Gaza Reporter Who Harbored Israeli Hostages at His Home Wrote for US-Based The Palestine Chronicle*, N.Y. POST (June 17, 2024), https://nypost.com/2024/06/17/world-news/gaza-reporter-abdallah-aljamal-worked-for-us-non-profit/.

piece published in the Qatari-government funded *Al Jazeera*.<sup>17</sup> Defendant Baroud and Hamas
 Operative Aljamal are even from the same town in Gaza.<sup>18</sup>

3 38. Defendants knew that Hamas Operative Aljamal was an operative and official
4 spokesperson for Hamas.

39. Aljamal's Facebook page, which Defendant Baroud regularly viewed, included
photographs of Aljamal's son wearing Hamas headbands, as well as a graphic that is the
symbol for Hamas' internal security bureau.<sup>19</sup> Both are reproduced here from the Facebook
page:



<sup>21 &</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ramzy Baroud & Abdallah Aljamal, *Tales of Torture from Israel's Prisons*, AL JAZEERA (Jan. 22, 2019), https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2019/1/22/tales-of-torture-from-israels-prisons.

<sup>19</sup> See European Council on Foreign Relations, *Mapping Palestinian Politics* <u>https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping\_palestinian\_politics/internal\_security\_force/</u> (last accessed Feb. 5, 2025).

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 9

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

```
TOMLINSON
BOMSZTYK
RUSS
```

See Zarefah Baroud, Two Months in the Home Israel Has Denied Me, AL JAZEERA (Nov. 23, 2022), <a href="https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2022/11/23/two-months-in-the-home-israel-has-denied-me">https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2022/11/23/two-months-in-the-home-israel-has-denied-me</a> (explaining that Defendant Baroud grew up in Nuseirat, the same town where Hamas Operative Aljamal held Plaintiffs hostage in his home).
 23 19 See European Council on Foreign Palations Mapping Palastinian Politics



1	41. After October 7, 2023, Aljamal ceased posting to Facebook where Defendant
2	Baroud regularly had interacted with him, because, on information and belief, electronic
3	communications with Aljamal shifted from Facebook to other electronic means of interacting
4	with Aljamal. Defendants and Aljamal used this migration of communication means to avoid
5	providing Israel with any intelligence information as to Aljamal's Hamas activities.
6	42. After October 7, 2023, Aljamal's electronic communications with Defendants
7	increased dramatically as Aljamal began regularly providing material to Palestine Chronicle
8	for publication, including but not limited to both text of stories and digital images.
9	43. Nevertheless, Defendants provided Hamas Operative Aljamal with support and
10	a U.Sbased platform to publish Hamas propaganda under the guise of independent
11	journalism, compensated Hamas Operative Aljamal for his contributions, and increased the
12	volume of such platforming after October 7, 2023.
13	D. On October 7, 2023, Hamas Perpetrates the Deadliest Attack on Israel and Jews Since the Holocaust.
14	44. On October 7, 2023, Hamas led a terrorist attack in southern Israel that killed
15	over 1,200 Israelis, took over 200 hostages, and injured over 6,900 people. <sup>20</sup>
16	45. The attack began with a barrage of over 2,200 rockets directed at Israeli civilian
17	centers. During the rocket attack, armed Hamas terrorists used motorcycles, cars, trucks, and
18	even paragliders to storm into Israel from the Gaza strip. <sup>21</sup>
19	
20	
21	<sup>20</sup> Israel Revises Hamas Attack Death Toll to 'Around 1,200,' REUTERS (Nov. 10, 2023),
22	https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israel-revises-death-toll-oct-7-hamas-attack-around-1200-2023-11- 10/. <sup>21</sup> Ibrahim Dahma et al., <i>Netanyahu Says Israel Is 'At War' After Hamas Launches Surprise Air and Ground</i>
23	Attack From Gaza, CNN (Oct. 7, 2023), https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/07/middleeast/sirens-israel-rocket-attack-gaza-intl-hnk/index.html.
	AMENDED COMPLAINT - 11 TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS



46. Hamas terrorists marched from town to town, house to house, and car to car,
 slaughtering, raping, and brutalizing innocent Israeli civilians at random. Entire families,
 including women, children, infants, and the elderly were slaughtered.

4 47. Hamas also targeted a local music festival, the Nova Music Festival, where
5 thousands of young Israeli civilians were gathered to celebrate peace. The terrorists
6 indiscriminately fired into the crowd, gunning down as many as 260 young civilians.<sup>22</sup> Many
7 victims were shot in the back as they ran from their attackers.

48. Those the Israelis Hamas did not murder, they took hostage. Terrorists abducted
more than 240 civilians and soldiers, imprisoning them in various locations throughout the
Gaza Strip. Many hostages remain in captivity today, more than 500 days since they were
violently ripped away from their families and homes.<sup>23</sup>

12 49. Hamas's brutality did not stop there. During its attacks, Hamas terrorists raped, mutilated, and brutally beat Israeli women. According to the Association of Rape Crisis 13 14 Centers in Israel, "rape was conducted in front of an audience, such as partners, family, or friends, to increase the pain and humiliation for all present."<sup>24</sup> Independent news organizations, 15 like The New York Times and BBC, have verified, through tapes and first-hand accounts, that 16 Hamas committed these heinous acts of sexual and other violence.<sup>25</sup> The U.N. Special 17 Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict likewise confirmed, "there are reasonable 18 19 grounds to believe that conflict-related sexual violence occurred during the 7 October attacks

20

TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS

1000 Second Avenue, Suite 3660, Seattle, Washington 98104-1046 P/ 206.621.1871 F/ 206.621.9907

<sup>21</sup> David Browne, Nancy Dillon, & Kory Grow, '*They Wanted to Dance in Peace. And They Got Slaughtered*,' 21 ROLLING STONE (Oct. 15, 2023), <u>https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-features/hamas-israel-nova-music-festival-massacre-1234854306/</u>.

<sup>22 &</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> What Is Known About Israeli Hostages Taken by Hamas, AM. JEWISH COMM. (Feb. 26, 2024), <u>https://www.ajc.org/news/what-is-known-about-israeli-hostages-taken-by-hamas</u>.

 <sup>23 24</sup> David Gritten, Israeli Report Says Hamas Sexual Violence 'Systematic and Intentional', BBC (Feb. 21, 2024), <u>https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-68365284</u>.
 25 Id.

in multiple locations across Gaza periphery, including rape and gang rape, in at least three
 locations."<sup>26</sup>

3 50. Aljamal was enthralled by the actions of October 7, 2023, and posted on his
4 Facebook page, which Defendants regularly viewed and interacted with, the following of
5 which Defendants are aware:

6		Abdallah's Post	×
7	Abdallah Aljamal		
8	October 7, 2023 · 😋	مبارکا	الحمد لله حمدا كثيرا طيبا
9			اللهم سدد اللهم سدد اللهم سدد
10	Praise be to God, thank you very n		اللهم نصرك الذي وعدت
11	Oh God, pay back Oh God, pay back Oh God, pay back		
12	Oh God, your promised victory. Oh Allah, accept it, accept it. Your victory oh God 🍑		
12	* · Hide Translation · Rate this translatio	on	
13	0000056	15	comments 14 shares
14	للله Like	🕓 Send	
15 16	51. Hamas's October 7 atta terms of fatalities per capita, October	ack is the third-deadliest terror 7 is far above the deadliest	
17	with 1.19 fatalities per capita compare	ed to 0.46 for the second dead	dliest. <sup>28</sup> October 7 is by far
18			
19			
20	<sup>26</sup> U.N. Office of the Special Represent	TATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENI	eral on Sexual Violence in
21	CONFLICT, Mission Report: Official Visit of th 29 January – 14 February	he Office of the SRSG-SVC to Isra 2024 ¶ 12 (Mar. 4)	el and the Occupied West Bank, 4, 2024), available at
22	https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/work-office-of-the-srsg-svc-to-israel-and-the- Israel-oWB-CRSV-report.pdf.		÷
23	<sup>27</sup> Daniel Byman et al., <i>Hamas's October 7 A</i> (Dec. 19, 2023), <u>https://www.csis.org/analysis</u> <sup>28</sup> <i>Id.</i>		
	AMENDED COMPLAINT - 13		TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS

Seattle, Washington 98104-1046 P/ 206.621.1871 F/ 206.621.9907 the deadliest terrorist attack in Israeli history, with 1,200 fatalities compared to just 38 for the
 second deadliest.<sup>29</sup>

3 52. Moreover, October 7 was "the deadliest day for the Jewish people since the
4 Holocaust."<sup>30</sup>

#### E. Plaintiffs are Kidnapped, Taken to Gaza, and Abused for Eight Months by Hamas Operative and Palestine Chronicle "Journalist" Abdallah Aljamal.

53. Plaintiffs were among the Israelis kidnapped by Hamas terrorists from the Nova

Music Festival on October 7.

54. For an excruciating 246 days, Hamas held Plaintiffs hostage in the Gaza Strip.

55. Plaintiffs ultimately wound up as prisoners of Hamas Operative and Palestine

Chronicle "journalist" Aljamal, who, along with his family, abused and mistreated Plaintiffs

while holding Plaintiffs as hostages in their home in Nuseirat.

F. Defendants Are at All Pertinent Times Aware that Their Compensated Employee Aljamal is a Hamas Operative Participating in the October 7, 2023 Attacks and Subsequent International Crimes.

56. Defendants knew that before, during, and after October 7, 2023, Hamas was

committing numerous international crimes, including, but not limited to, kidnapping, holding

hostages for ransom, and mentally, emotionally, and physically torturing them.

57. On October 7, 2023, at 5:43 a.m. local time, Abdallah Aljamal posted on his

public TikTok the following message:

20

5

6

7

8

9

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

- 21
- 22  $\int_{29}^{29} Id.$

<sup>22</sup> <sup>30</sup> Press Release, The White House, Remarks by President Biden on the October 7th Terrorist Attacks and the Resilience of the State of Israel and its People (Oct. 18, 2023), <u>https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2023/10/18/remarks-by-president-biden-on-the-october-7th-terrorist-attacks-and-the-resilience-of-the-state-of-israel-and-its-people-tel-aviv-israel/.
</u>

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 14



Case 3:24-cv-05553-TMC Document 41 Filed 02/21/25 Page 15 of 45 Abdallah Aljamal
2023-10-07 05:43 환 한 한 56 ⓒ 14 []
#100004016797479 الجر سند
, الجر

6 The translation is as follows: "Praise be to God, abundant, good and blessed praise.. O God,
7 guide us.. O God, guide us.. O God, guide us.. O God, grant us the victory that you promised..
8 O God, acceptance, acceptance, acceptance.. Your victory, O God ♥"

9 58. During that time, and to the present day, Ramzy Baroud has maintained an
10 active presence on TikTok. On information and belief, Baroud saw Aljamal's post asking for
11 a blessing over the terrorist attack.

12 59. After October 7, Hamas operative Aljamal's propaganda in the Palestine
13 Chronicle increased exponentially, often publishing two to three pieces per day, even as Hamas
14 operative Aljamal held Plaintiffs hostage in violation of international law. In order to receive
15 and publish Aljamal's post-October 7, 2023 Hamas propaganda, Defendants were in
16 consistent, direct, and substantial contact with Aljamal, using electronic and internet means.

17 60. Defendants knew that Aljamal's post-October 7, 2023 propaganda could only
18 be made with direct and substantial contacts with other Hamas terrorists providing him
19 information to publish, power for his electronic devices, and Internet access for transmission
20 of materials and communications.

21 22

1

2

3

4

5

اللهم القبول القبول القبول

Comment (15)

🥣 نصر ك يا اللَّ

61. Defendants' electronic communications with Aljamal shifted from Facebook to other electronic means of interacting with Aljamal.

23

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 15



Defendants knew, as part of their employment and compensation of Aljamal
 before, during, and after October 7, 2023, that Aljamal was a Hamas operative and
 spokesperson before, during, and in the months after the October 7, 2023 attacks, and
 Defendants knew, through their close employment relationship and personal connections with
 Aljamal, that Aljamal was a terrorist participating with Hamas in Hamas's terrorist activities,
 when it was common knowledge that Hamas was kidnapping, holding, hiding, and concealing
 Israeli hostages.

8 63. While compensating him as a "journalist," Defendants knew that Aljamal was
9 holding Israeli citizens, victims of October 7, hostage.

64. While compensating him as a "journalist," Defendants knew that Aljamal, as a
Hamas operative, participated in acts of terrorism as part of his duties as such, including those
terrorist acts commonly known to be committed by Hamas operatives during and after the
October 7 attacks, such as kidnapping and holding Israeli civilians hostage, taking substantial
actions to conceal the locations of hostages and Hamas operatives, using Palestinian civilians
as human shields, and that their continued and increasing cumulative compensation of Aljamal
would have a substantial effect in aiding these acts of terrorism and violations of criminal law.

17 65. Defendants knew that Aljamal was a terrorist participating in kidnapping and
18 hostage-taking through their close employment relationship and their personal connections,
19 *e.g.*, Aljamal and Defendant Baroud are from the same hometown in Gaza.

20

21

22

66. Apart from Defendants' personal, specific knowledge about Aljamal's participation in the October 7 terror attacks and his housing of hostages, Aljamal's terrorist activities, including his participation in the October 7, 2023 attacks, kidnapping, hostage

23

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 16



imprisonment, and other international crimes, were public common knowledge in Gaza and
 among the shared personal connections of Baroud and Aljamal.

3 67. On information and belief, Defendants used electronic and internet means,
4 including, but not limited to, WhatsApp and Skype, to communicate with Hamas Operative
5 Aljamal following October 7, 2023, to coordinate Defendants' publishing of Hamas
6 propaganda, including the publishing of justifications for Aljamal's imprisonment of Israeli
7 citizens.

8 68. On information and belief, during that time between October 7, 2023, and the
9 rescue of Plaintiffs, Defendants were informed by Aljamal and others that Aljamal was holding
10 Israelis hostage and participating in other activities of Hamas, including concealing hostages
11 and using civilians as human shields to protect Hamas.

69. For the more than eight months Hamas held Plaintiffs hostage and during the
time Hamas Operative Aljamal imprisoned Plaintiffs in his home, Defendants permitted
Hamas Operative Aljamal to use their platform—and paid him to do so—to whitewash
Hamas's crimes and attract international support for its terrorist cause.

16 70. According to Plaintiff, Shlomi Ziv, Hamas Operative Aljamal repeatedly
17 expressed his hatred for the State of Israel and the United States of America and informed the
18 Plaintiffs that Hamas was in contact and actively coordinating with its affiliates in the media
19 and on college campuses.

20

71. Ziv further overheard several discussions in which Aljamal mentioned the name of a journalist named "Nura." Upon information and belief, "Nura" refers to "Nurah Tape"

22

21

23

TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS

1000 Second Avenue, Suite 3660, Seattle, Washington 98104-1046 P/ 206.621.1871 F/ 206.621.9907

a/k/a "Nura Tape-Sallie," an editor at the Palestine Chronicle who posts footage glorifying
 armed Hamas militants on her Twitter/X page.<sup>31</sup>

3

4

5

6

7

72. Tape-Sallie, who is based in South Africa, uses her platform to extensively promote entities calling for the isolation, sanctioning, and boycotting of Israel, while also calling for the blocking of Israel's shipping routes and expelling it from international sporting, cultural, and academic organizations.<sup>32</sup> Post-October 7, 2023, she has also reiterated and echoed third-party opinions calling for physical resistance against Israel.<sup>33</sup>

8 73. One guard informed Plaintiff Kozlov that the State of Israel wanted Plaintiffs
9 dead as their existence was a problem for Israel.

Throughout their captivity, Plaintiffs were aware of Aljamal's communicating
via laptop and phone with terrorist entities, recording footage, and writing about the Plaintiffs.

12 75. Upon information and belief, such recordings and writings were for the purpose
13 of publication via media, including media controlled and operated by Defendants such as the
14 Palestine Chronicle itself.

76. Aljamal further informed Plaintiffs that Hamas was going to ensure that the
United States, as well as Jews and Israelis, are hated everywhere, and that Hamas in Gaza was
coordinating with its allies, including its allies in the media and on college campuses, to foment
hatred against Israel and Jews.

- 19
- 20

21 <sup>31</sup> See X Profile of Nurah Tape-Sallie at https://x.com/nurahts.

CHRONICLE (May 11, 2024), <u>https://www.palestinechronicle.com/were-on-ti-resistance-is-backbone-of-struggle/</u> (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).



 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Nurah Tape, *Roadmap to Solidarity – Johannesburg Declaration Vows to Dismantle Israel's Settler-Colonialism*, PALESTINE CHRONICLE (May 13, 2024), https://www.palestinechronicle.com/roadmap-to-solidarity-johannesburg-declaration-vows-to-dismantle-israels-settler-colonialism/(last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).
 <sup>33</sup> Nurah Tape, "*Turning Point in History*" – *Hamas Official Says Resistance is Backbone of Struggle*, PALESTINE CHRONICLE (May 11, 2024), https://www.palestinechronicle.com/were-on-the-right-path-hamas-official-says-

- 77. Contemporaneous publications by the Palestine Chronicle bear out the nexus
   between the Palestine Chronicle, Hamas in Gaza, and antisemitic campus protests.
- 3 78. In a June 17, 2024 article, the Palestine Chronicle reported on multiple incidents at universities where students ripped up their diplomas or left graduation ceremonies to protest 4 5 Israel with the Stanford Against Apartheid in Palestine (SAAP) and Students for Justice in 6 Palestine, a successor group to entities that have been civilly litigated and criminally 7 prosecuted out of existence for providing material support to Hamas. The Palestine Chronicle 8 Staff ("PCS") stated, "Stanford continues to be complicit in the ongoing genocide of the 9 Palestinian people through their investments in corporations that fuel Israeli apartheid and war crimes."34 10
  - 79. Subsequent to Plaintiffs' rescue, in an August 29, 2024 article authored by the
    PCS, the Palestine Chronicle provided a platform to senior Hamas official, Khaled Meshaal,
    former Chairman of the Hamas political bureau and currently head of Hamas' diaspora
    office—effectively responsible for Hamas' official presence outside of the Gaza Strip and the
    West Bank. Meshaal is based principally in Qatar.<sup>35</sup>
  - 16 80. In the article, Meshaal urged university students across the world to resume
    17 their protests against Israel's ongoing war on Gaza as the new academic year begins. He further
  - 19

18

20

TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS

1000 Second Avenue, Suite 3660, Seattle, Washington 98104-1046 P/ 206.621.1871 F/ 206.621.9907

<sup>21 &</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Palestine Chronicle Staff, "*No Grads in Gaza*" – *Stanford University Students Walk Out of Grad Ceremony in Support of Palestine* (June 17, 2024), <u>https://www.palestinechronicle.com/no-grads-in-gaza-stanford-university-students-walk-out-of-grad-ceremony-in-support-of-palestine/</u> (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Palestine Chronicle Staff, "Stop this Criminal Aggression" – Meshaal Urges Students to Resume Campus Protests (Aug. 29, 2024), <u>https://www.palestinechronicle.com/stop-this-criminal-aggression-meshaal-urges-</u> students-to-resume-campus-protests/ (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025); Justice Department Announces Terrorism Charges Against Senior Leaders of Hamas, DOJ (Sept. 3, 2024), <u>https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/justice-</u> department-announces-terrorism-charges-against-senior-leaders-hamas (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).

announced, "[t]oday, in the West Bank, within the 1948 borders, and in the diaspora, the
 escalation of this conflict is required ... We want to go back to the martyrdom operations...".<sup>36</sup>

81. On September 3, 2024, less than a week after the Palestine Chronicle article
was published, the U.S. Department of Justice announced criminal charges against Meshaal
for allegedly orchestrating the October 7 attack on Israel, along with other senior Hamas
officials. The charges, which were filed under seal in February 2024, include conspiracy to
provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization and conspiracy to murder U.S.
nationals.<sup>37</sup>

9 82. Most disturbingly, because of the Palestine Chronicle's tax-exempt status,
10 Hamas Operative Aljamal's propaganda, as well as his hostage-taking, was actually subsidized
11 by U.S. taxpayers.

# G. Plaintiffs are Rescued, and Defendants Attempt to Distance Themselves from Hamas Operative Aljamal.

83. On June 8, 2024, after 246 days in Hamas's captivity, Plaintiffs were rescued from Hamas Operative Aljamal's home in a daring commando-style mission conducted by the IDF in conjunction with several international intelligence agencies.<sup>38</sup>

84. Hamas Operative Aljamal was killed when he and his family attempted to violently resist IDF forces to prevent Plaintiffs' rescue.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

- <sup>36</sup> Palestine Chronicle Staff, "Stop this Criminal Aggression" Meshaal Urges Students to Resume Campus Protests (Aug. 29, 2024), <u>https://www.palestinechronicle.com/stop-this-criminal-aggression-meshaal-urges-students-to-resume-campus-protests/</u> (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).
- <sup>37</sup> Justice Department Announces Terrorism Charges Against Senior Leaders of Hamas, DOJ (Sept. 3, 2024), <u>https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-terrorism-charges-against-senior-leaders-hamas (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).</u>
- 23 <sup>38</sup> Staff, *After 8 Months of Captivity, Almog Meir Jan Rescued by IDF From Central Gaza*, TIMES OF ISRAEL (June 8, 2024), <u>https://www.timesofisrael.com/taken-captive-almog-meir-jan-21-cared-for-his-grandfather-before-the-rave/</u>.



<sup>19</sup> 

- 85. Once Hamas Operative Aljamal's name and identity appeared in the news,
   Defendants attempted to minimize their connection to Plaintiffs' captor.
- 86. For instance, at 6:45 a.m. on June 9, 2024, the Palestine Chronicle listed Hamas
  Operative Aljamal as a "correspondent for The Palestine Chronicle." *Exhibit B*. Within hours,
  Defendants changed Hamas Operative Aljamal's position to "contributor." *Exhibit C*.

6 87. Defendants then released a statement referring to Hamas Operative Aljamal as
7 a "freelance contributor" who wrote for the Palestine Chronicle "on a voluntary basis." *Exhibit*8 *D*.

88. However, this statement fails to explain why, when Hamas Operative Aljamal
interviewed sources for his propaganda pieces, Defendants took credit for his work, stating, *"The Palestine Chronicle* spoke to Palestinians on the ground."<sup>39</sup>

12 89. Regardless of his employment status, it is indisputable that Defendants
13 provided Hamas Operative Aljamal, whose connections to Hamas were publicly known, with
14 a U.S.-based and taxpayer subsidized platform to publish Hamas propaganda and to pass the
15 material off as independent journalism.

90. Moreover, the compensation Defendants paid Hamas Operative Aljamal for his
propaganda directly enabled him to imprison Plaintiffs in his home.

91. During Plaintiffs' captivity at the hands of the Aljamal couple, Fatima Aljamal was a member of the Palestine Chronicle staff. In a May 17, 2024, article by Aljamal, his wife

20

18

19

21 22

23

<sup>39</sup> E.g., Aljamal, *supra* note 36 (emphasis added).





"Fatima Aljamal" was described by her husband as Palestine Chronicle's "initiative
 coordinator" in Gaza for an alleged charitable initiative in Gaza.<sup>40</sup>

3 92. As a result of Defendants' aiding, abetting, and materially supporting a known
4 Hamas operative and propagandist, Plaintiffs suffered physical injuries, severe mental anguish,
5 and extreme emotional pain and suffering.

#### V. <u>FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u>: VIOLATION OF THE ALIEN TORT STATUTE, 28 U.S.C. § 1350 – AIDING AND ABETTING KIDNAPPING AND IMPRISONING CIVILIAN HOSTAGES IN VIOLATION OF THE "LAW OF NATIONS" – <u>Against All Defendants</u>

93. Plaintiffs reallege and reincorporate paragraphs 1–92 as if restated fully.

10 94. The Alien Tort Statute states, "[t]he district courts shall have original
11 jurisdiction of any civil action by an alien for a tort only, committed in violation of the law of
12 nations or a treaty of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 1350.

13 95. Plaintiffs are Israeli citizens and are therefore aliens under the Alien Tort
14 Statute.

15 96. International law universally prohibits kidnapping and imprisoning civilian
16 hostages. Article 34 of the Fourth Geneva Convention prohibits the taking of hostages.<sup>41</sup>
17 Additionally, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court ("Rome Statute"), an
18 international treaty adopted in 1998 and signed by 123 countries, states that the taking of
19 hostages is a war crime.<sup>42</sup>

20

6

7

8

9



 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> See Abdallah Aljamal, Palestine Chronicle Staff in Gaza Organize Free Haircuts for Displaced Children – PHOTOS & VIDEO, PALESTINE CHRONICLE (May 17, 2024), https://www.palestinechronicle.com/palestine-chronicle-staff-in-gaza-organized-free-haircuts-for-displaced-children-photos-video/ (last accessed Feb. 20, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> IV Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War art. 34 (Aug. 12, 1949), available at <u>https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33\_GC-IV-EN.pdf</u>.

<sup>23 &</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court art. 8(2)(a)(viii) (July 17, 1998), available at <u>https://www.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/2024-05/Rome-Statute-eng.pdf</u>.

	Case 3:24-cv-05553-TMC Document 41 Filed 02/21/25 Page 23 of 45					
1	97. Defendant's activities also violated Article 2.1(b) of the International					
2	Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism which provides:					
3	Any person commits an offence within the meaning of this Convention					
4	if that person by any means, directly or indirectly, unlawfully and willfully, provides or collects funds with the intention that they should be used or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, in					
5	order to carry out:					
6 7	An act which constitutes an offence within the scope of and as defined in one of the treaties listed in the annex; or					
	Any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a					
8	civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in the hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its					
9	nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from					
10	doing any act.					
11	98. Moreover, "aiding and abetting liability is a norm of customary international					
12	law with sufficient definition and universality to establish liability under the" Alien Tort					
13	Statute. Doe v. Cisco Sys., 73 F.4th 700, 717 (9th Cir. 2023).					
14	99. Defendants knew that Hamas Operative Aljamal was a Hamas operative and					
15	spokesperson.					
16	100. Defendants, while compensating Aljamal as a "journalist" before, during, and					
17	after October 7, 2023, knew that Aljamal was a Hamas operative who, before, during, and after					
18	October 7, 2023, until his death, participated in acts of terrorism, including kidnapping and					
19	holding Israeli citizens hostage in Gaza.					
20	101. Yet, Defendants employed Hamas Operative Aljamal as a "journalist,"					
21	provided him with a U.Sbased and taxpayer subsidized platform to publish Hamas's					
22	propaganda to a vast U.Sbased audience, and compensated Hamas Operative Aljamal for his					
23	propaganda.					
	AMENDED COMPLAINT - 23					

1 102. Furthermore, Defendants knowingly provided Hamas Operative Aljamal with
 2 a "legitimate" title, thereby giving him cover to commit heinous acts.

3 103. By providing this support to Hamas Operative Aljamal, including compensating
4 Hamas Operative Aljamal for his propaganda, Defendants aided and abetted Hamas Operative
5 Aljamal in cooperating in the kidnapping of Plaintiffs and imprisoning Plaintiffs as hostages
6 in his home, in violation of international law.

7 104. As a result of Defendants' aiding and abetting a known Hamas operative,
8 Plaintiffs suffered physical injuries, severe mental anguish, and extreme emotional pain and
9 suffering.

#### VI. <u>SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u>: VIOLATION OF THE ALIEN TORT STATUTE, 28 U.S.C. § 1350 – AIDING AND ABETTING TERRORISM IN VIOLATION OF THE "LAW OF NATIONS" – Against All Defendants

13 105. Plaintiffs reallege and reincorporate paragraphs 1–104 as if restated fully.
14 106. The Alien Tort Statute states, "[t]he district courts shall have original
15 jurisdiction of any civil action by an alien for a tort only, committed in violation of the law of
16 nations or a treaty of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 1350.

17 107. Plaintiffs are Israeli citizens and are therefore aliens under the Alien Tort18 Statute.

19 108. International law universally prohibits acts of terrorism such as those Hamas
20 perpetrated on October 7. For example, since the Nuremberg trials and the aftermath of World
21 War II, it has been universally recognized that it is unacceptable to murder, rape, torture,

22

10

11

12

23

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 24



imprison, deport, enslave, or exterminate a civilian population.<sup>43</sup> The Nuremberg trials also 1 2 recognized that persecution based on political, racial or religious reasons violated international law.44 3

109. Additionally, the Rome Statute prohibits certain crimes against humanity that 4 5 are committed against a civilian population in a systematic way, including murder, 6 extermination, enslavement, deportation or forcible transfer of population, torture, rape, and 7 persecution against an identifiable group.<sup>45</sup>

8 International law likewise universally prohibits the material support of 110. 9 terrorism. Article 2.1(b) of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing 10of Terrorism prohibits any person from "by any means, directly or indirectly, unlawfully and 11 willfully, provid[ing] or collect[ing] funds with the intention that they should be used or in the 12 knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, in order to carry out" any "act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian . . . when the purpose of such act, by its 13 14 nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international 15 organization to do or to abstain from doing any act."<sup>46</sup> Over 130 countries, including the United States, have signed this Convention. 16

17 111. Moreover, "aiding and abetting liability is a norm of customary international 18 law with sufficient definition and universality to establish liability under the" Alien Tort 19 Statute. Doe, 73 F.4th at 717.

20



<sup>21</sup> 43 10, Nuremberg Control Council Law No. II, § 1(b)-(d), available art. at https://avalon.law.yale.edu/imt/imt10.asp. <sup>44</sup> *Id.* § 1(c).

<sup>22</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Rome Statute, *supra* note 48, at art. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism art. 2.1(b), Dec. 9, 1999, 2178 23 U.N.T.S. 197, available at https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\_no=XVIII-11&chapter=18&clang= en.

1 112. Defendants knew that Hamas Operative Aljamal was a Hamas operative and
 2 spokesperson.

3 113. Defendants, while compensating Aljamal as a "journalist" before, during, and
4 after October 7, 2023, knew that Aljamal was a Hamas operative who, before, during, and after
5 October 7, 2023, until his death, participated in acts of terrorism, including kidnapping and
6 holding Israeli citizens hostage in Gaza.

7 114. Yet, Defendants employed Hamas Operative Aljamal as a "journalist,"
8 provided him with a U.S.-based and taxpayer subsidized platform to publish Hamas's
9 propaganda to a vast U.S.-based audience, and compensated Hamas Operative Aljamal for his
10 propaganda.

11 115. Furthermore, Defendants knowingly provided Hamas Operative Aljamal with
12 a "legitimate" title, thereby giving him cover to commit heinous acts.

13 116. By providing this support to Hamas Operative Aljamal, including compensating
14 Hamas Operative Aljamal for his propaganda, Defendants aided and abetted Hamas's acts of
15 terrorism on October 7 and after, in violation of international law.

16 117. Additionally, by providing this support to Hamas Operative Aljamal, including
17 compensating Hamas Operative Aljamal for his propaganda, Defendants materially supported
18 Hamas, a designated foreign terrorist organization, in violation of international law.

19 118. As a result of Defendants' aiding, abetting, and materially supporting a known
20 Hamas operative and propagandist, Plaintiffs suffered physical injuries, severe mental anguish,
21 and extreme emotional pain and suffering.

23

22

AMENDED COMPLAINT - 26



1	PRAYER FOR RELIEF								
2	Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully ask this Court to:								
3	A. Find that the acts and omissions herein stated existed;								
4	В.	Declare Defendants violated the	ne Alien Tort Statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1350 as set						
5	forth in the F	First & Second Claims for Relief,	supra;						
6	C.	Enter judgment against Defend	ants and in favor of Plaintiffs for compensatory						
7	damages in a	mounts to be determined at trial;							
8	D.	Award Plaintiffs punitive d	amages in an amount sufficient to punish						
9	Defendants a	and to deter similar conduct in the	future;						
10	E. For pre- and post-judgment interest where applicable in favor of Plaintiffs;								
11	F. For an award of all of Plaintiffs' costs, expenses, and attorneys' fees as								
12	permitted by any agreement, statute, or grounded in equity; and								
13	G. Grant such other and further relief as justice and equity requires.								
14	DAT	ED this 21 <sup>st</sup> day of February 2023	5.						
15	Respectfully	submitted,							
16 17	TOMLINSO	N BOMSZTYK RUSS	NATIONAL JEWISH ADVOCACY CENTER, INC. THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FORUM						
17		Kon	Mark Goldfeder ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) 1718 General George Patton Drive						
19		1	Brentwood, TN 37027 Phone: (800) 269-9895						
20	By: Aric S. Bomsztyk, WSBA #38020		mark@jewishadvocacycenter.org ben@jewishadvocacycenter.org						
21	1000 Second	ss, WSBA #40374 I Avenue, Suite 3660 hington 98104	anat@jewishadvocacycenter.org						
22	Telephone: (	206) 621-1871 206) 621-9907							
23	asb@tbr-law bmr@tbr-lav	v.com							
	AMENDED (	COMPLAINT - 27	TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS 1000 Second Avenue, Suite 3660,						

	Case 3:24-cv-05553-TMC	Document 41	Filed 02/21/25	Page 28 of 45
1				
2				
3	LAW OFFICES OF DAVID SCHOR		TZMAN VOGEL BA CHINSKY & JOSEF	
4	David Schoen ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) 2800 Zelda Road, Suite 100-6		n Torchinsky ( <i>pro ha</i>	
5	Montgomery, Alabama 36106 Phone: (334) 395-6611	Phill	le Davidson ( <i>pro hac</i> ip M. Gordon ( <i>pro ha</i>	ic vice)
6	schoenlawfirm@gmail.com	2300	J. Cycon <i>(pro hac vie</i> ) N Street, NW, Suite hington, DC 20037	643A
7		jtorc	hinsky@holtzmanvog idson@holtzmanvog	gel.com el.com
8		pgor	don@hotlzmanvogel.co	com
9			ne: (202) 737-8808	
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
	AMENDED COMPLAINT - 28			TOMLINSON BOMSZTYK RUSS

# **Exhibit** A

Exhibit A is being produced in native format.

# **Exhibit B**





Sunday, June 09, 2024 Last Update: 12:28 AM GMT

HOME PAGE	ARTICLES	NEWS	BLOG	VIDEOS	REVIEWS	ABOUT	SUPPORT U
NEWS TICKER >	What are	Hamas' Optio	ons after Gaza	a Massacre, Fre	eing of Four Capt	tives? – Analysis	s [June 8,

HOME > Writers > Abdallah Aljamal - Gaza

## Writer: Abdallah Aljamal - Gaza



– Abdallah Aljamal is a Gaza-based journalist. He is a correspondent for The Palestine Chronicle in the Gaza Strip. His email is abdallahaljamal1987@gmail.com

# **Exhibit** C





Sunday, June 09, 2024 Last Update: 10:37 AM GMT

HOME PAGE	ARTICLES	NEWS	BLOG	VIDEOS	REVIEWS	ABOUT	SUPPORT US
NEWS TICKER >	Fake Aid T	ruck Used to	Carry Out Re	escue Operatior	n – US 'Special Ce	ll' Participated i	in Nuseirat

HOME > Writers > Abdallah Aljamal - Gaza

## Writer: Abdallah Aljamal - Gaza

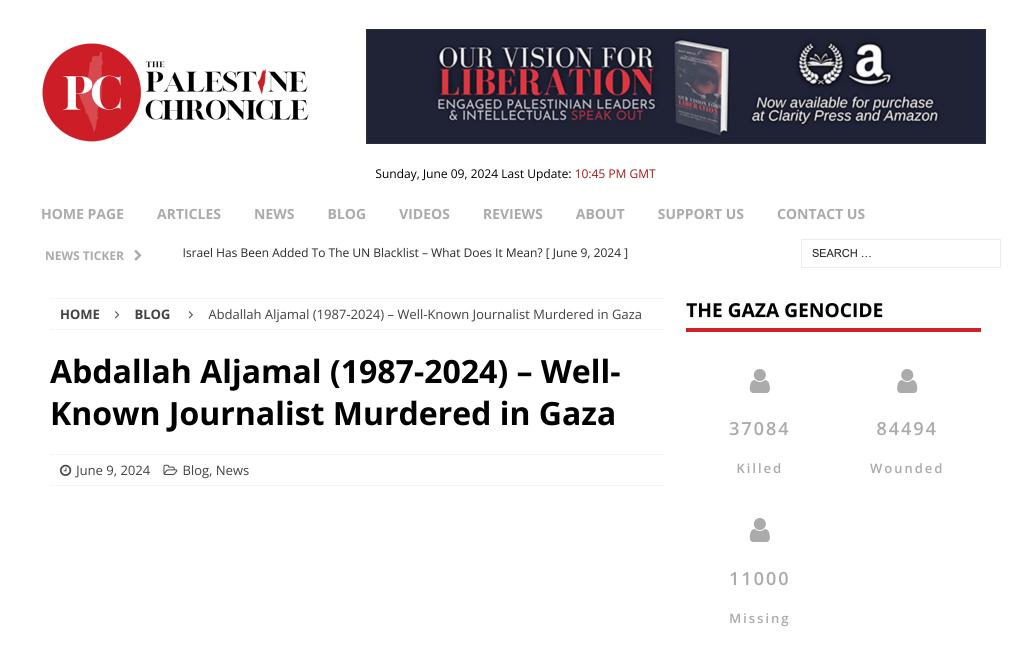


– Abdallah Aljamal is a Gaza-based journalist. He is a contributor for The Palestine Chronicle from the Gaza Strip. His email is abdallahaljamal1987@gmail.com

# **Exhibit D**

ENGLISH FRANÇAIS ITALIANO





#### Case 3:24-cv-05556Bh Alana (19872024) Wat Khown Joine SO Alar Bar Bar Confront De



Palestinian journalist Abdallah Aljamal. (Photo: supplied)

Share	Tweet		Pin	Email
		Share		

## By Palestine Chronicle Staff 🛛 💥

The Palestine Chronicle is saddened to learn that Abdallah Aljamal, one of its contributors in the Gaza Strip, has been killed in the latest Israeli massacre in the Nuseirat refugee camp.

### LATEST NEWS & MORE

	Join our mailing list	
Email Ade	dress	
	Subscribe	

### We Stand for Gaza & Freedom

We don't beseech mainstream media to tell the truth about Palestine. We tell it ourselves. **Support Us**.

Palestine Chronicle Needs You



### LATEST POSTS



'Fatal Strategic Decisions' – Gantz, Eisenkot Resign from Israeli War Cabinet

#### 6/9/24, 7:24 PM

#### Case 3:24-cv-055558hTA)doal (198702024)71 Wat Anbwn JFuileads ORulaeted 5 Gaz - Rales 68 Cofrod 6le

Particularly tragic is that Aljamal's last contribution to the Palestine Chronicle covered a previous massacre, which killed over 40 Palestinian civilians in an UNRWA school in the refugee camp.

Israeli media is linking Aljamal's family to the Israeli captives, claiming that Abdallah's father, Dr. Ahmed, and other members of the family, were executed in the process of the bloody rescue mission.

Those claims have been refuted by respected commentators and journalists online, who pointed in the inconsistencies in the official Israeli narrative.

"The building where Abdallah lived was one of 7 homes reportedly raided by the IDF on June 8. Hostages were held in only 2 of these buildings, not yet clear which," Gazan writer and analyst Muhammad Shehada wrote on X.



Abdallah Aljamal (1987-2024) – Well-Known Journalist Murdered in Gaza



Israel Has Been Added To The UN Blacklist – What Does It Mean?



'Lost Moral Credibility' – UN Official Slams Bias of Countries Over Gaza Genocide



Israeli Soldier Commits Suicide after Receiving Orders to Return to Gaza



Israeli Forces Detain 22 Palestinians, Youth Dies of Injuries – West Bank Update



Details Emerge – Inside the Three-Stage Plan for Ceasefire Agreement



GAZA LIVE BLOG: Nuseirat Massacre Death Toll Grows | Israel's War Council

#### Case 3:24-cv-05555BhTA)ahGal (19B7c2024)) evel-Khbwn JEineds Okladel de Gaza-argiestike confront for

Muhammad Shehada 🤣 @muhammadshehad2 · Follow

an Israeli hostage in his home:

between him & the hostage.

homes... Show more

 $\mathbb{X}$ 

Collapsing | Blinken to Meet 247



What are Hamas' Options after Gaza Massacre, Freeing of Four Captives? – Analysis



The Battle of Nuseirat – Resistance Roundup – Day 246

in

2

12:12 PM · Jun 9, 2024	(
💙 3.4K 🥏 Reply 🏠 Share	
Read 268 replies	

Bebunking the false claim that Abdallah Aljamal kept

1- Abdallah lived in an apartment in a multi-storey

2- The building where Abdallah lived was one of 7

building. No connection was ever provided by the IDF



#### 6/9/24, 7:24 PM

#### Case 3:24-CV-05555Bh Alahaa (19872024)) evel-khbwn JEinen SOL / 2016 Gaze - 2016 Confront De

The tragic news of Aljamal's family execution was conveyed through EuroMed Monitor, a Geneva-based rights organization.

"In a preliminary investigation into the field executions by the Israeli army at the Nusseirat refugee camp yesterday, @EuroMedHR stated that soldiers used a ladder to break through the residence of Dr. Ahmed Al-Jamal," the statement said.

"Upon encountering 36-year-old Fatima Al-Jamal on the staircase, they immediately shot her dead. The troops then stormed the house and executed her husband, 36-year-old journalist Abdullah Al-Jamal, and his father, 74-year-old Dr. Ahmed Al-Jamal, in front of his grandchildren. Additionally, their 27-year-old daughter, Zainab, was shot and seriously injured," it added.

 $\mathbb{X}$ 

Ramy Abdu| رامي عبده (@RamAbdu · Follow

This article from Yedioth Ahronoth @YediotAhronot exemplifies the Israeli media saturated with lies.

-The article used my tweet, which talks about executions in the al-Jamal house, and distorted it to claim that the hostage Argamani was there, despite me never mentioning such a... Show more

6/9/24,	7:24 PM	Case 3:24-cv-085568hAllahal (198762024))) @ @	l-Anbwn Jouina	ostORulated 5 Gaza-argies the control 5 Gaza-argies the control 5
	3:51 PM · Jun 9, 2024		$(\mathbf{i})$	
	🤎 353 🔍 Reply	<b>介</b> Share		
		Read 19 replies		

The Israeli mission, which according to Axios and other news outlets, involved direct and indirect US and British support, resulted in the killing of 274 Palestinians and the wounding of hundreds more.

"Abdallah Aljamal's reports have focused entirely on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, especially in the central part of the Strip, starting shortly after the war," The Palestine Chronicle said in a statement.

"His contributions became frequent when Israel deliberately began killing journalists, making it nearly impossible for the Palestinian voice to break away from the Gaza siege," it added.

Muhammad Shehada 📀 · Jun 9, 2024  $\mathbb{X}$ @muhammadshehad2 · Follow Replying to @muhammadshehad2 Source: ynet.co.il "החיילים התחפשו לעקורים - וטענו ששכרו דירה בבניין שבו הוחזקה נועה ארגמני" Muhammad Shehada 🤣 @muhammadshehad2 · Follow The IDF now claims it was NOT Noa Argamani in the building where Abdallah lived but the 3 male hostages. This raises the likelihood that he didn't know, b/c he lived on the 1st floor & the hostages were kept on the 3rd in an apartment building.

Calling him a "Hamas operative"... Show more

1:08 PM · Jun 9, 2024	(;)
1.00 1 1 5 10 1 5, 2024	$\bigcirc$
♥ 987	<u> </u>

Aljamal's relationship with the Palestine Chronicle was that of a freelance contributor. He was neither a staff writer nor a contractor. Aljamal has contributed his services to the Palestine Chronicle on a voluntary basis.

However, the value of his work was very important as one of the few journalists who kept the focus entirely on displaced Palestinian refugees, families of victims of the Israeli genocide, and other stories that were not being told by other journalists or media outlets.

Abdallah's daily reports were originally written and published in Arabic. The Palestine Chronicle translated and republished a selected number of these reports throughout the war.

The Palestine Chronicle conveys its condolences to the people of Nuseirat and all the families of journalists murdered in Gaza throughout this genocidal war.

#### Case 3:24-cv-055556h Alan (19872024) Wel-4h bwn JEinen Walade Cv-05556h Alan (19872024) Wel-4h bwn JEinen State

For more information about Abdallah Aljama's translated and republished articles, click here.

(The Palestine Chronicle)

f 🖌 🖌



### SUPPORT THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE

"In the midst of an institutional media bias against telling the searing truth about Palestine, the Palestine Chronicle is a beacon. History, witness, analysis and ways forward are here, written with authority and humanity. Long may it publish." - JOHN PILGER

#### Donate NOW Learn More Watch Video

(The Palestine Chronicle is a registered 501(c)3 organization, thus, all donations are tax deductible.)

ABDALLAH ALJAMAL GAZA ISRAEL PALESTINE

**PALESTINIAN JOURNALISTS**