

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT  
OF THE TRIAL COURT  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-4637-F

THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF BOSTON,  
THE TRUSTEES OF THE ISLAMIC  
SOCIETY OF BOSTON TRUST, DR.  
YUSEF ABOU-ALLABAN and DR.  
OSAMA KANDIL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BOSTON HERALD, INC., JONATHAN  
WELLS, JACK MEYERS, THOMAS  
MASHBERG, MAGGIE MULVIHILL,  
KEVIN WISNIEWSKI, FOX TELEVISION  
STATIONS, INC. d/b/a WFXT-TV,  
MICHAEL BEAUDET,  
THE INVESTIGATIVE PROJECT, INC.,  
STEVEN EMERSON, WILLIAM R. SAPERS,  
THE DAVID PROJECT, INC., ANNA  
KOLODNER, THE CITIZENS FOR PEACE  
AND TOLERANCE, INC., STEVEN A.  
COHEN, and DENNIS HALE,  
Defendants.

**AFFIDAVIT OF DENNIS HALE**

I, Dennis Hale, do hereby state as follows:

1. I am a Lay Eucharistic Minister and former Vestryman at Grace Episcopal Church in Medford, Massachusetts and, as such, am concerned about issues that threaten peace, tolerance and understanding among people of different faiths and religions.

2. I am also an Associate Professor of Political Science at Boston College, and was the Department Chairman from 1989-1997. I received a Ph.D. in Political Science from the City

University of New York Graduate Center and a Masters of Arts in Political Science from Brooklyn College.

3. I have written, taught, and lectured on how citizens shape American democracy through political, judicial, and governmental bodies. I have both a professional and personal interest in the need for an active informed citizenry to help give meaning and value to democracy and the Constitution. For example, I have addressed this issue in the following articles:

- “Worrying About the Jury System,” *Society* 42 (July-August, 2005), pp. 69-76;
- “The Constitutional Convention and the Founding Principles” (with Wilson C. McWilliams), *Principles of the Constitutional Order: The Ratification Debates*, pp. 11-23, edited by Robert L. Utley, The Tocqueville Forum/University Press of America, Lanhan, Md. 1989;
- “Where Nobody Knows Your Name: American Citizenship and the Spirit of Place,” *Boston College Magazine*, Summer 1993, pp. 28-29;
- “All Rise” (an essay on the jury system), *Boston College Magazine*, Summer 2005: 26-33; and
- “The Natural History of Citizenship,” in *Friends and Citizens: Essays in Honor of Wilson Carey McWilliams*, pp. 151-170, edited by Dennis Bathory and Nancy Schwartz, Roman & Littlefield, 2000.

4. As a teacher of American politics, I have also been driven by recent global political events, such as the first Gulf War and the more recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, to learn more about the politics of the Middle East and the Muslim world, so that I can help my students understand the foreign policy challenges facing the United States.

5. I am one of the founders and directors for The Citizens for Peace and Tolerance (“Citizens”), which is a Massachusetts non-profit corporation dedicated to preventing community deterioration by educating the public about the consequences of hatred and bigotry among diverse religious and ethnic communities. Citizens is a group of concerned citizens, academics and community activists who are Muslims, Christians, and Jews who are focused on the need to

promote a climate of tolerance in the Boston community. Specifically, it was formed in 2004 by Dr. Ahmed Mansour, Steven Cohen and me to publicly raise concerns that we had, and continue to have, about the Islamic Society of Boston (“ISB”) and its proposed mosque and cultural center in Roxbury, Massachusetts, (the “BRA-ISB Project”) so that governmental bodies, such as the Mayor’s office, the City Council, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (“BRA”) and Roxbury Community College, would review the BRA-ISB Project to determine whether the current ISB leaders would promote an agenda of hatred, intolerance, or anti-semitism.

1. **I am Alerted to Possible Issues About the BRA-ISB Project**

6. In late 2003, I was informed about the BRA-ISB Project and how the media was reporting that the ISB’s leaders may have questionable connections to terrorism and/or radical Wahhabism, which is known for supporting an intolerant and anti-Semitic ideology. I was concerned about the substance of the teaching and messages that might be conveyed in the new mosque by the ISB leadership.

2. **Information That I learned About the BRA-ISB Project and the ISB**

7. Beginning in the late summer of 2004, I learned that the BRA-ISB Project is part of an ongoing urban renewal development project that the ISB entered into with the BRA as well as Roxbury Community College. Under the provisions of a Term Sheet Agreement entered into by the ISB and BRA, the ISB was named the developer of an area of land in Roxbury. A copy of that Term Sheet Agreement is attached as **Exhibit A**. As part of that agreement, the BRA agreed to sell the ISB close to two acres of public land valued at \$401,187.50 for only \$175,000 in exchange for the ISB providing certain “public benefits” to Roxbury Community College, including but not limited to:

- Agreeing to enter into an agreement with Roxbury Community College to offer continuing series of lectures on various aspects of Islam.

- Collaborating with Roxbury Community College on the development of a research library on Islamic Law and the history of Islam; and
- Assisting the Roxbury Community College Foundation in its ongoing fund-raising campaign. The value of this collaborative fundraising could not be less than \$77,065.

See Exhibit A.

8. I also learned information about the ISB, its affiliations, and its current and former leaders, which included, but is not limited to the following:

### The ISB

- The ISB's tax exempt status as a 501(3)(c) organization was under a group exemption to the Islamic Society of North America ("ISNA"), which was one of the non-profit entities that the U.S. Senate Finance Committee began investigating in May 2003 as being a possible conduit for financing terrorist organizations.
- Scholars testified to Congress that ISNA "is an influential front for the promotion of the Wahhabi political, ideological, and theological infrastructure in the United States and Canada." See Statement of Michael Waller, Annenberg Professor of International Communication, Institute of World Politics, before the Senate Judiciary Committee, dated October 14, 2003, attached hereto as Exhibit B (emphasis added).
- Congress was also informed that "adherents of Wahhabism, the most extreme, separatist, and violent form of Islam, and the official sect in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have come to dominate Islam in the U.S. ... The main organizations that have carried out this campaign are the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) ... Both ISNA and CAIR, in particular, maintain open and close relationships with the Saudi government." See Testimony of Stephen Schwartz, Director of the Islam and Democracy Program, Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, before U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism, dated June 26, 2003, attached hereto as Exhibit C (emphasis added).
- The ISB was founded by Abdurrahman Alamoudi in 1982. In 2002, Alamoudi appeared in a videotaped rally in Washington, D.C. where he publicly supported Hamas and Hezbollah, which the U.S. designated as terrorist organizations in the mid-1990s.
- In 2003 and 2004, Alamoudi was indicted and pled guilty to a series of terrorist-related charges arising from a fraudulent scheme to assist Libya in raising money to assassinate Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.

- According to ISB Trust documents, none of the ISB Trustees reside in Boston and a significant number of them reside in Saudi Arabia or other Middle Eastern countries.
- According to its own literature and statements to the media, a majority of the funds for the BRA-ISB Project were being raised from overseas sources, primarily from source in Saudi Arabia. For example, in an October 15, 2004 Boston Globe article, attached as **Exhibit D**, ISB board members told the newspaper that “the society has raised about half of the \$14 million it needs to complete the project. The bulk of the money has been raised from individuals in foreign countries, especially Saudi Arabia.”

### **Abdurrahman Alamoudi**

- According to the ISB’s Articles of Incorporation, Alamoudi founded the ISB in 1982 and served as its first president.
- Alamoudi was indicted in 2003 by a federal grand jury on 18 counts of: false statements, writings and schemes; prohibited financial transactions with the Libyan government (a state sponsor of terror); money laundering; money structuring; misuse of a passport; unlawful procurement of naturalization; and failure to report foreign bank accounts - - all for the purpose of a scheme to assassinate Crown prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.
- Alamoudi pled guilty in July 2004 to illegal financial transactions with Libyan dictator Muammar al-Quaddafi’s regime and admitted to omitting his connections to numerous radical organizations on his US citizenship application. **Exhibit E** (Plea Agreement) and **Exhibit F** (Plea Transcript).

### **Yusef al-Qaradawi**

- The ISB’s 1993 Declaration of Trust appointed Yusef al-Qaradawi as an “additional trustee” who, under the terms of the trust, could become a trustee at any time by recording an Acceptance of Appointment of Trustee in the Registry of Deeds. **Exhibit G** (Declaration of Trust, dated November 30, 1993).
- The ISB declared under oath to the U.S. Government in tax returns for 1998, 1999, and 2000 under Section V of those forms requesting the identity of “Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees” that al-Qaradawi was a “member” of the ISB during those years and devoted approximately 52 hours per year to his position at the ISB. **Exhibits H, I & J** (Form 990 tax returns).
- al-Qaradawi was banned from Egypt in 1962 and barred from entering the US in 1999 for his alleged ties to Hamas, which designated by the U.S. in 1995 as a Specialty Designated Terrorist Organization.

- al-Qaradawi openly advocates suicide bombings, Hamas, the killing of Jews, and the abduction of American citizens in Iraq.
- In 2002, the ISB arranged for a videotape message of support from al-Qaradawi to be played at an ISB fundraiser for the BRA-ISB Project.
- In 2003, al-Qaradawi's endorsement of the BRA-ISB Project appeared prominently in an Arabic-language brochure published by the ISB. This same endorsement is omitted in the English-language brochure.
- The ISB's website publicly listed al-Qaradawi as its trustee as late as March 2003.

### **Osama Kandil**

- ISB documents listed Kandil as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and had been a leader of the ISB for more than a decade.
- Kandil is one of nine founding directors of the Muslim Arab Youth Association (MAYA), a Muslim organization known for its anti-Western teachings and for providing platforms for Islamic extremists. In 2003, the U.S. Senate Finance Committee began an investigation into MAYA.
- Kandil is listed as director of another SAFA group entity, Taibeh International, which is listed by the U.S. Treasury as a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist."

### **Walid Fitaihi**

- Fitaihi is a current trustee of the ISB.
- Fitaihi has made anti-Semitic remarks in various published articles.

9. The documented body of evidence concerning the ISB, its leadership, their affiliations and views came from various sources. First, Steve Cohen gathered many facts from publicly available documents, which are set forth in his accompanying affidavit and upon which I and Citizens rely.

10. Second, we were introduced to Steve Emerson, who is a former CNN journalist and has dedicated years to the study of terrorism and the operation of extremist Islamic fundamentalist groups in the United States. Since 1994, various Congressional Committees of the United States

Senate and the United States House of Representatives have asked Emerson to testify concerning terrorism on twenty-three occasions. He has also won numerous awards based on his investigative journalism.

11. Emerson spoke with Citizens and provided us with source material and other information, which is set forth in the Affidavit of Steven Emerson and upon which I and the Citizens rely.

12. Third, we received source material and other public documents from the David Project, which is set forth in the Affidavit of Anna Kolodner upon which I and Citizens rely.

13. The final source of our information on the ISB came from Dr. Ahmed Mansour, who is an Islamic Scholar granted political asylum in the United States after speaking and writing in Egypt against followers of radical Wahhabi Islam. In particular, he provided us with direct, personal information about his experiences at the ISB mosque, which are set forth in the Affidavit of Ahmed Mansour and upon which I and the Citizens rely. Specifically, Dr. Mansour informed us that he had visited the ISB's mosque in Cambridge when he was a visiting fellow at Harvard Law School from June 2003 to May 2004. During his visit to the mosque, his wife attended a religious lesson inside the mosque that he listened to. He also reviewed some Arabic newsletters in the mosque. He informed us that both the religious lesson and the Arabic newsletters inside the mosque were full of hateful references against the West and Jews.

14. The Arabic flyer that Dr. Mansour reviewed in 2003 stated that the ISB was proud to have on their side Dr. Sheikh Yousef al-Qaradawi, whom the United States had barred from entering this country in 1999 due to his alleged ties to Hamas. Less than five months ago, U.S. Congressman Brad Sherman urged his colleagues in the House of Representatives to join him in calling on Great Britain to keep al-Qaradawi out of England:

Congressman Brad Sherman on Thursday urged House colleagues to join him on calling on Great Britain to keep out of England a radical sheik who has advocated terrorism. Sheik Yussuf al-Qaradawi, a Qatari-based cleric, has hailed those who commit suicide bombing, the murder of Jews, and advocated the use of children in terrorist attacks. In an interview about Palestinian suicide operations against Israelis, he told the BBC in 2004 that he “considers this type of martyrdom operation as an evidence of God’s justice.”

See Press Release of Congressman Sherman, dated July 21, 2005, attached hereto as **Exhibit K**.

15. Dr. Mansour also reviewed the ISB’s library list of books and articles off of the ISB’s website. He informed us that in the ISB library are well-known books written by Sayyed Qutb, an infamous scholar and leader of the extremist Muslim Brotherhood in the 1950’s and 1960’s. Dr. Mansour explained that one of the representative books in the ISB library is *Fiqh Al Sunna* written by Sheikh Sayyed Sabik. In *Fiqh Al Sunna*, Sheikh Sayyed Sabiq states that any Muslim who argues with the Muslim Brotherhood’s interpretation of Islam should be killed without any judicial process. Dr. Mansour further explained that if the ISB were truly moderate, they would have chosen other books written by the famous moderate Muslim scholars like: Mohammed Abdu, Mahmoud Shaltout, Ahmed Ameen, Taha Hussayn, Abbas Al Akkad, Mohammed Hassan Haikal, and others.

3. **As A Result of Information That I Learned, I Had Serious Questions Deserving of Governmental Attention**

16. Based on the fact that the BRA and Roxbury Community College, as public entities, were providing, as part of the BRA-ISB Project, numerous forums through which the ISB would convey messages to the greater community, I had questions and concerns on whether the ISB would be conveying messages of hatred, intolerance, or violence given the information on Abdurrahman Alamoudi, Yousef Al-Qaradawi, Osama Kandil, and Walid Fitaihi.

17. These concerns raised serious questions in my mind deserving of governmental attention, including:

- Did the City of Boston, BRA, and Roxbury Community College perform any form of investigation into the ISB's past and present leaders before agreeing to the BRA- ISB Project?
- Did the BRA-ISB Project violate the First Amendment's mandate for separation of church and state?
- Where was the bulk of the money for this project coming from -- local sources or Saudi Arabia?
- Based on the ISB's contemplated role in fundraising for Roxbury Community College, lecturing students about Islam, and providing the college with books for an Islamic library, did governmental bodies or anyone else determine what messages were going to be conveyed by the ISB or the books that the ISB would promote?
- Based on the allegations concerning Kandil, Fitaihi, al-Qaradawi, and Alamoudi, was this mosque going to be a peaceful, moderate influence in our community or would it be preaching views that would be anti-Semitic, hateful or violent?

18. In order to get answers to these questions, Dr. Ahmed Mansour, Steven Cohen and I formed Citizens in September 2004 to raise public awareness to prompt governmental review of the BRA's and Roxbury Community College's decisions regarding the BRA-ISB Project.

4. **We Form The Citizens For Peace And Tolerance To Obtain Governmental Review And Action On Our Concerns Over The BRA-ISB Project**

19. In the late Summer of 2004, Mr. Jacobs introduced me to Steven Cohen, who was a real estate developer who was also concerned about the BRA-ISB Project because he felt that the City and/or the BRA was essentially subsidizing a religious organization by conveying public land for less than fair market value in exchange for the ISB providing fundraising, lectures, and an Islamic library to the publicly-funded Roxbury Community College. Mr. Cohen's concerns were heightened by the public allegations about the ISB's former and current leaders.

20. We felt that the terms of the BRA-ISB Project amounted to a government subsidy of public land and wanted to know whether the BRA or Roxbury Community College was aware of the nature of the ISB's leaders when it made the agreement with the ISB. By way of analogy, we

felt that if an organization established by David Duke came to Boston to establish a church and was receiving public land to do it, then the community and government officials would have a right and a duty to question his ideology and affiliations with individuals who espoused hate as well as questioning the wisdom of government officials in conveying public property to such an individual.

21. On October 5, 2004, Citizens for Peace and Tolerance held a press conference and issued a press release concerning the BRA-ISB Project and the ideology of the ISB leaders, which were issues that were before the public bodies of the BRA and Roxbury Community College. Moreover, the press conference and press release were undertaken for the purpose of both directly encouraging other governmental bodies, such as the City Council and the Mayor's office to undertake a review of the BRA-ISB Project and ISB leadership as well as enlisting public participation and discussion in an effort to obtain additional governmental review. A copy of this press release is attached as Exhibit L and is also attached to the plaintiff's Complaint at Exhibit 25. At our press conference and in our press release, we made it very clear that we wanted the Boston political establishment to become involved in reviewing the ISB's leadership, the ideology behind the BRA-ISB Project, and to demand honest answers from the ISB about its well-documented radical roots. For example, in our press release we stated:

- "CPT spokespersons are also very concerned over the reluctance of the Boston political establishment and many in the media to discuss these matters."
- "We are in a rhetorical trap of political correctness that does not know how to be ethnically sensitive and honest at the same time... There's a knee-jerk reaction by most of our civic leaders to refrain from any criticism of a perceived vulnerable minority."

Exhibit L (emphasis added).

22. On October 13, 2004, the Citizens for Peace and Tolerance issued another press release, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit M. Again, this press release directly related to the BRA-ISB Project and the ideology of the ISB leaders, which were issues that were before the

public bodies of the BRA and Roxbury Community College. Moreover, the press release was undertaken for the purpose of both directly encouraging other governmental bodies, such as the City Council and Mayor's Office to undertake a review of the BRA-ISB Project and ISB leadership as well as enlisting public participation and discussion in an effort to obtain additional governmental review. In our press release, the Citizens for Peace and Tolerance raised several concerns on the BRA-ISB Project. Specifically, the Citizens publicly asked the ISB to answer serious questions and take decisive action to honestly demonstrate that it had renounced the radical ideology of its founders and leaders, including, but not limited to:

- Condemning Fitaihi's anti-Semitic writings and dismissing him from the ISB Board;
- Providing full disclosure of the source of funding for the BRA-ISB Project and related conditions associated with funding;
- Developing the Mosque Library to be a model for teaching and preaching moderate, tolerant Islam;
- Disavowing the Muslim Brotherhood and Wahhabism ideology;
- Condemning the teaching and ideology of Alamoudi and Qaradawi;
- Condemning all suicide bombing as being un-Islamic and stating suicide bombing , any where, against anyone, for any reason is un-Islamic; and
- Making the mosque a model of transparency and openness and making its texts, sermons, teaching, in both English and Arabic available to the public.

**Exhibit M.**

23. The ISB never provided any direct response to this press release or publicly addressed these requests. Rather, on October 15, 2004, an editorial appeared in the Boston Globe in defense of the ISB, entitled "A Moderating Mosque," a copy of which is attached hereto as

**Exhibit N.**

24. We felt that the ISB had mislead the *Boston Globe* into believing that it had taken steps to make itself a more moderate mosque, and had failed to address the underlying questions about the radical ideology of some of its founders and trustees. As a result, we drafted a response to the *Boston Globe*, a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit O** and is also attached to the plaintiffs' Complaint at Exhibit 27. Again, this public response was undertaken for the purpose of both directly encouraging other governmental bodies, such as the City Council and Mayor's Office to undertake a review of the BRA-ISB Project and ISB leadership, as well as enlisting public participation and discussion in an effort to obtain additional governmental review of the BRA-ISB Project and ISB leadership. In that response, we provided factual cites and references to show that many key questions remained unanswered. Specifically, we pointed out that:

- While the ISB Board of Directors may have changed, there has been no change of leadership on the ISB Trust, which owns and controls the mosques and property. The ISB Trust has been controlled by the same group of trustees since 1993 with many of them residing in Saudi Arabia or Qatar;
- While the ISB removed Fitaihi as treasurer, it did not remove him from the ISB Trust, which is the entity that controls the ISB;
- While the ISB claimed that it received no donations from the North American Islamic Trust ("NAIT"), it failed to acknowledge that it was an affiliate of ISNA. NAIT is the real estate arm of ISNA, which was also under investigation by the U.S. Senate Finance Committee; and
- The ISB never rejected the anti-Semitic, anti-Western and violent rhetoric of al-Qaradawi. Rather, it posted a webpage dated March 14, 2004 rejecting the characterization that al-Qaradawi was "anti-Western" and accepting him as "a voice of moderation." We felt that the ISB's view of al-Qaradawi as a "voice of moderation" spoke volumes, showing that the ISB had not really rejected the radical ideology and views of its founders and some of its past leaders.

#### **Exhibit O**

25. All of these public press conferences, press releases, and statements concerned issues that were before the BRA and Roxbury Community College. Moreover, they were

undertaken for the purpose of both directly encouraging other governmental bodies, such as the City Council and the Mayor's office to undertake a review of the BRA-ISB Project and ISB leadership as well as enlisting public participation and discussion in an effort to obtain additional governmental review of the BRA-ISB Project and an examination of the ideology and affiliations of the ISB - - especially since the terms of the BRA-ISB Project provided that the ISB would fundraise and provide lectures for Roxbury Community College. Our public call for concern over the BRA-ISB Project did, in fact, result in governmental action by Boston City Councilors.

5. **Immediately After The CPT Press Conference, City Councilor McDermott Orders An Investigation into the BRA-ISB Project**

26. On October 6, 2004 -- only one day after the Citizens Press Conference - - City Councilor Jerry P. McDermott issued an Order recognizing that the City of Boston sold the parcel in Roxbury to the ISB for less than fair market value in exchange for a series of in-kind benefits to Roxbury Community College, including the ISB agreeing to assist the publicly-funded college in ongoing fundraising, establishing a continuing lecture series at the college on Islam, and establishing an Islamic library at the public college. A copy of this Order is attached hereto as **Exhibit P**. Councilor McDermott ordered that the Boston City Council hold a public hearing on the BRA-ISB Project.

27. On October 7, 2004, the *Boston Herald* reported in an article entitled "City will look closer at mosque terror link" that:

Mayor Thomas M. Menino said yesterday he has asked his staff to take another look at the society's questionable associations, which have been the subject of multiple Herald articles.

A copy of this article is attached as **Exhibit Q** (emphasis added).

28. Within days of our press conference, City Councilor James Kelly called me to invite Citizens for Peace and Tolerance to meet with him to discuss our concerns and share information

about the BRA-ISB Project because he also had significant concerns that warranted public hearings on various aspects of the project. On October 8, 2004, I spoke with City Councilor James Kelly again and informed him that we were happy to hear that hearings would be held and that we would appreciate the opportunity to meet with him. As discussed below, Steven Cohen and I did meet with Councilors Kelly and McDermott at City Hall to discuss our concerns over the BRA-ISB Project.

6. **ISB Writes Mayor Menino Conceding Fitaihi's Anti-Semitic Statements And ISB's Reluctance To Answer Questions**

29. On October 12, 2004, after initially denying Mr. Fitaihi's published statements were anti-Semitic, the ISB wrote a letter to Mayor Menino recognizing that it had not answered public questions about its ideology and leadership stating: "we must more proactively address the questions raised about us." A copy of that letter is attached as **Exhibit R**. In that letter, the ISB also conceded that Fitaihi's anti-Semitic statements were "hurtful" and that it had not acted promptly in condemning them:

We regret that previous responses by the ISB with regard to the contentious statements of Dr. Walid Fitaihi have been ambivalent during this transition period. Dr. Fitaihi has always advised Muslims to show the utmost respect towards Jews and Christians, and in this case, he has insisted that his intent was not to incite hatred. Despite this, we recognize that some of Dr. Fitaihi's writings have been extremely hurtful to our Jewish friends and neighbors. We wish to be as clear as possible in stating that we in no way condone Dr. Fitaihi's words as quoted in recent news reports.

**Exhibit R**. (emphasis added).

7. **Boston City Councilors Meet With Citizens for Peace and Tolerance To Discuss Concerns Over BRA-ISB Project**

30. On October 21, 2004, Steven Cohen and I met with Boston City Councilors James Kelly and Jerry McDermott at Boston City Hall. At the meeting, we expressed our view that the BRA conveyance of public land to the ISB at less than fair market value in exchange for the ISB

providing fundraising, lecturers, and a library for Roxbury Community College was a breach of the duty to serve the public interest. We felt that the government should not be subsidizing any religious organization. Moreover, the decision to subsidize a mosque whose leaders had expressed respect for radical ideologues raised questions about the BRA and Roxbury Community College's role in the BRA-ISB Project, as well as whether the ISB would be advocating the same radical and intolerant beliefs as Alamoudi, al-Qaradawi, Fitaihi and Kandil.

31. Councilors Kelly and McDermott also expressed their concerns on whether the BRA had acted appropriately in selling the land to the ISB for less than fair market value, especially where there were issues about the ISB's ideology and its leadership.

32. Both Boston City Councilors agreed that there should be a Post Audit and Oversight Committee hearing to investigate the subsidy to the ISB by the BRA and the ideology and affiliations of the ISB's leaders. They informed us that they would work on scheduling such a hearing.

33. In April 2005, City Councilor McDermott invited us to meet with him again. As a result, on April 5, 2005, Steven Cohen and I met with City Councilor McDermott along with his aides to discuss the BRA-ISB Project. At this meeting, we discussed a hearing that Councilor McDermott had scheduled for April 15, 2005, to investigate the BRA-ISB Project.

34. Shortly after this meeting, one of Councilor McDermott's aides called to inform me that the hearing had been postponed because the BRA had refused to appear. Later, I learned that the ISB had also refused to appear for the hearing scheduled for April 15, 2005, when its counsel sent a letter to Councilor McDermott informing him that his clients would not appear for any hearing:

“[M]y clients do not concede, whether or not the litigation [Policastro case] were pending, that your committee has jurisdiction to request or summons them to appear and give any testimony.”

Letter from Albert L. Farrah, Jr., dated April 8, 2005, attached hereto as **Exhibit S**.

Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury this 19 December, 2005.

  
Dennis Hale