



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Attorney General
Montclair State University
Student Center Annex Rm 104Q
Montclair, NJ 07043
Attorneygeneral.sgamsu@gmail.com

LETTER OF SANCTION

September 25, 2014

Mister President of Montclair Students for Justice in Palestine and Executive Board:

My name is Demi Washington and I am your current Attorney General for Student Government Association. On September 24, 2014, I received a complaint from Montclair State University students and faculty regarding a recent pamphlet that was distributed in the Student Center from your organization that contained offensive and political wording in regards to the Israeli-Palestinian War. In addition, this pamphlet did not include the proper stamping. Must I remind you, you are a cultural organization and not a political one.

As your organizations charterment packet states your purpose is to “educate the MSU and local NJ communities of the ongoing plight of the Palestinian people as well as their history and cultural heritage”. In addition, your organization benefits the community because “the campus’ diversity is beneficial to the mission of SJP, which will help us benefit the community by uniting all members, regardless of religion, ethnicity or social class, for the Palestinian cause”. Montclair State is a university that unites students regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, nationality, gender or sexual preference. We do not take positions in political issues.

The Student Government Association is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit organization. We have strict rules from the government on how to run the organization while remaining in non-profit status. If we were to lose that status our organization would be taxed on all revenues which will bankrupt the organization. Part of the list of things we cannot be associated with is any political or lobbyist organization.

Because you violated these governing rules I am rendering the following sanctions:

- 1. Your organization MUST cease and desist and political propaganda including the pamphlet called in question**
- 2. Your organization will be fined 5% of the total of your Fall Semester Budget.**

Demi M. Washington
Office of the Attorney General

- ❖ Failure to comply with these sanctions or if this matter is revisited again your organization WILL be dechartered.

When reading your organizations charterment packet there were so many great events that I look forward to attending like “Teach Me To Dabke”. Just as a reminder “SJP prides itself on peace, tolerance, equality, and justice for all members of the community and just as MSJP condemns the racism and discrimination underlying the policies and laws of the Israeli government, MSJP rejects any form of hatred or discrimination against any person based on religion, nationality, age, race, ethnicity disability, or sexual orientation”.

Please focus your events on the Palestinian culture, host events with other organizations and review the Montclair State University SGA posting policies.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please don't hesitate to contact me at:
attorneygeneral.sgamsu@gmail.com

I take no grand pleasure in imposing these sanctions. However, these sanctions will better develop your organization.

It is so ordered by,

Demi M. Washington
Attorney General of the SGA

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Executive Branch

Judicial Branch

Legislative Branch

Dean of Students, Rose Mary Howell

Assistant Dean for Student Life, Fatima DeCarvalho