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Tim,

7/22/99

Due to our disturbing meeting today with the Associate SAC, I am respectfully requesting to be reassigned off of the VB case.

I am responsible for the FBI's first and foremost criminal HAMAS fund raising case and the first seizure of HAMAS terrorist funds and assets in the U.S. For more than three years I have been aggressively pursuing this RICO Enterprise with minimal resources and absolutely no guidance or support from FBIHQ. Just when things started to become organized this Summer - after overcoming all of the problems with the U.S. Attorney's Office earlier this year - the squad was split in two, and I lost half of the agents who were vital to the success of this investigation.

Due to the numerous obstacles I have faced with this investigation in the past four years, and particularly these past seven months, I added my name to the Indianapolis transfer list on July 6th. As I expressed to you prior to your meeting with Milwaukee, I was willing to remove my name from the Indianapolis transfer list and commit myself to remaining in Chicago for at least one more year. I was led to believe the meeting with Milwaukee was to consolidate these two investigations into one, so we would be free from the ridiculous duplication of investigative efforts re: Jamil Sarsour. To date, this investigation has not parceled-out any of the other nine major subjects or five organizations targeted for indictment.

We agreed at two Bureau-wide VB conferences last year (1/98 & 10/98) to keep the entire investigation together, and Chicago would be the office of origin of the HAMAS criminal investigation into international terrorism activity. This was not done to benefit Chicago but rather the entire FBI. Now, I am told for the first time this case is being moved to Kenosha, Wisconsin, and you are being removed as the supervisor. I am also supposed to make a three hour commute to work? And the best part is we are relinquishing control to FBIHQ. That's the last thing this case and I need. You know as well as I, no one there truly understands the fabric of what we are delving through here. SSA Resnick is a great guy and was wonderful on my last trip to Israel. He seems to understand and is supportive, but I am not convinced this will move the investigation forward.

I have intentionally prevented any interviews of subjects and potential subjects from taking place for the past year in anticipation Sharif Alwan would be held in "Contempt." I did this for the reasons I discussed with you. The plan is coming together. Things are finally working. The AUSA's are working together as a team and keep asking for more information. Things

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couldn't be better with the United States Attorney's Office. This is why I told you I would commit myself to this case for at least one more year if things were fixed between Chicago and Milwaukee. You know I have enjoyed an excellent working relationship with forty-two other divisions during this case. We both know where the problem lies in Milwaukee.

This investigation has been incredible! I look back now and wonder how we accomplished the things we did with what little support and resources we were provided. The funny thing is, I always believed if I ever walked away from this case, it would be because of the AUSA's or DOJ. I never thought it would be because of my own agency. As you are aware, I have been dedicated to this case above and beyond the call of duty, but no agent should have to endure the difficulties and the lack of support I have endured during this case.

The whole situation has become too difficult to handle - on top of all the pressures from the case itself. Since I have developed a working relationship with members of the Israeli Government, I would appreciate the opportunity to work a subject matter related to the State of Israel. In addition, should a briefing of the VB case be needed, I would be willing to provide the briefing, which is likely to aid the FBI.

Thank you for your understanding,

Special Agent Bob Wright

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