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Class Action Suit Filed Against Jimmy Carter for Deliberate Misrepresentations in Anti-Israel Book



February 12, 2011: Perhaps no individual more than former American President Jimmy Carter has sought every possible opportunity to defame the Jewish State and endeavored to challenge its right to exist. Accordingly, an historic class action suit has been filed against the former President and the Simon & Schuster publishing company alleging that Carter's book, *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*, contained numerous false and knowingly misleading statements intended to promote the author's agenda of anti-Israel propaganda and to deceive the reading public instead of presenting accurate information as advertised. The suit, captioned *Unterberg et al. v. Jimmy Carter et.al* (11 cv 0720), filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, seeks compensatory and punitive damages against the defendants.

The plaintiffs, who hope to have the case certified as a class action, are members of the reading public who purchased Carter's book expecting that they were buying an accurate and factual record of historic events concerning Israel and the Palestinian Arabs. The lawsuit contends that Carter, who holds himself out as a Middle-East expert, and his publisher, intentionally presented untrue and inaccurate information and sought to capitalize on the author's status as a former President to mislead unsuspecting members of the public. The complaint alleges that the defendants' misrepresentations, all highly critical of Israel, violate New York consumer protection laws, specifically New York General Business Law § 349, which makes it unlawful to engage in deceptive acts in the course of conducting business. While acknowledging Carter's right to publish his personal views, the plaintiffs assert that the defendants violated the law and, thus, harmed those who purchased the book.

The suit is the first time a former President and a publishing house have been sued for violating consumer protection laws by knowingly publishing inaccurate information while promoting a book as factual.

I am honored to represent the plaintiffs in the case along with attorney David Schoen, Esq. of Montgomery, Alabama .

The complaint notes that after the book's publication some of Carter's closest aides, including distinguished public officials and scholars personally involved in the events described, condemned the book as untruthful. Despite being presented with irrefutable proof that many of representations in the book are false, the defendants have refused to make any corrections

We are hopeful that the lawsuit will expose all the falsehoods and misrepresentations in Carter's book and prove that his hatred of Israel has led him to commit this fraud on the public. He is, obviously, entitled to his personal opinions but deceptions and lies have no place in works of history.

As David Schoen stated: "It is, indeed, a sad day for all of us as Americans, when a former President demeans the dignity of his office by intentionally misstating critically important facts concerning events of great historic significance and public interest, simply to advance a personal anti-Israel animus and to foster the agenda of the enemies of Israel who pump so much money into the Center which bears his name."

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