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***Via Email***

May 22, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Bondi, Esq.  
United States Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
*Email: askdoj@usdoj.gov*

Re: Request for Investigation of the Metropolitan Police Department in Connection with  
the Murder of Sarah Milgrim and Yaron Lischinsky

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

I write on behalf of Rabbi Shmuel Herzfeld to request that the Department of Justice open an investigation into the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”), regarding whether the MPD has been instructed, or has given instruction to any of its officers, not to enforce D.C. law against anti-Israel protesters in the district. As described in greater detail below, Rabbi Herzfeld believes that the MPD has either been given such instructions or has itself instructed certain officers not to enforce D.C. law against anti-Israel protestors. There is a high degree of urgency to the opening of this investigation, given Wednesday night’s brutal murders of Sarah Milgrim and Yaron Lischinsky, two staffers of the Israeli Embassy, by an anti-Israel terrorist.

Rabbi Shmuel Herzfeld is the Rosh Yeshiva (religious leader) of Yeshivas Elimelech in Washington DC. Yeshivas Elimelech is a Jewish religious institution for serious students of all backgrounds to develop skills for Torah study as a curriculum for life—adding meaning to their own lives and positively impacting those around them. Rabbi Herzfeld was previously the Senior Rabbi of Ohev Sholom - The National Synagogue, which is located at 1600 Jonquil Street in the District of Columbia.

G. Franklin Rothwell  
(1928-2011)  
Harry F. Manbeck, Jr.  
(1926-2025)

E. Anthony Figg  
George R. Repper  
Steven Lieberman  
Joseph A. Hynds  
Martin M. Zoltick  
R. Danny Huntington  
Joo Mee Kim  
Brian S. Rosenbloom  
Jennifer P. Nock  
Brett A. Postal  
Aydin H. Harston, Ph.D.  
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Leo M. Loughlin  
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Michael H. Jones  
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Daniel L. Shores  
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Jess M. Collen  
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Kristen J. Logan  
Sheena X. Wang  
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James T. Pawlowski  
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Melissa C. Santos, Ph.D.  
Andrew C. Stewart  
Adam M. Nicolais  
Gregory S. DeLassus  
Michael P. Ellenberger  
Mary L. Mullins\*  
Michael A. Saunders  
Stephanie E. Waltersdorff  
Rolando F. Rengifo, Ph.D.\*

\*Not a member of the D.C.  
Bar. Practice limited to patent,  
trademark and copyright matters  
and cases in federal courts.

Of Counsel  
Jane F. Collen  
James R. Hastings\*  
Mitchell E. Radin\*

Rabbi Herzfeld has a specific basis to believe that for more than a year, MPD officers have been under instruction to avoid enforcing certain D.C. laws against anti-Israel protesters in the District. Specifically, on March 21, 2024, Rabbi Herzfeld and a number of other individuals, went to the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C. to say prayers on behalf of the Israeli hostages being held by Hamas. At that time, he was assaulted by Palestinian protesters, who had been encamped outside the Israeli Embassy for months, with a sound attack (the blaring of sirens at 95-100 decibels from just a few feet away). Based on that assault, Rabbi Herzfeld filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, asserting claims for, *inter alia*, assault and battery, against the leaders of the anti-Israel protesters. Shortly thereafter, those individuals, in retaliation for Rabbi Herzfeld's lawsuit, filed petitions in the D.C. Superior Court, accusing Rabbi Herzfeld's of "stalking" by his appearances at or near the Israeli Embassy. On Feb. 18, 2025, the D.C. Superior Court issued an order concluding that the petitions seeking anti-stalking orders against Herzfeld were "frivolous" and had been filed in "bad faith" because "the filing and maintaining of the petitions in these two cases was brought for 'coercive purposes' — to interfere with [Herzfeld's] constitutionally protected right to go to the site of protests at the Israeli Embassy." The D.C. Superior Court Judge also awarded Rabbi Herzfeld \$182,000 in attorney's fees, the sanctions against the leaders of the Palestinian protesters for their frivolous use of the D.C. legal system in an effort to intimidate Rabbi Herzfeld.

But back to the point. Immediately after the March 21, 2024 sound attack on him, Rabbi Herzfeld approached officers of the MPD who were stationed about a block away from the Israeli Embassy and who had a full view of the events that had just occurred. Rabbi Herzfeld asked the officers why they were not enforcing against the Palestinian protesters D.C.'s noise ordinances. Those officers told Rabbi Herzfeld that they had been instructed not to enforce the noise ordinances against Palestinian protesters who protested outside the Israel Embassy.

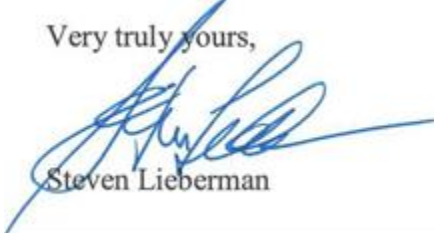
Rabbi Herzfeld requests that as part of its investigation of the MPD, the DOJ seeks from the MPD all electronic communications reflecting or concerning instructions to avoid enforcing D.C. law against anti-Israel protestors.

In addition, Rabbi Herzfeld has concerns about why the D.C. government allowed the anti-Israel protestors to protest for many months directly in front of the Embassy and thereby threaten and intimidate visitors to the Embassy. For years it has always been the policy that protestors in front of the Embassy be required at a much greater distance so as not to harass visitors.

Finally, we note that it has been reported that George Washington University asked the Mayor for help in clearing an antisemitic encampment and that the Mayor declined to send police. This is very concerning as that encampment endangered the safety of many Jewish students.

We believe this is a disturbing pattern which requires a Federal investigation. We ask for a meeting or conference call with you or your team to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,



Steven Lieberman

cc: Chad Mizelle (Chad.Mizelle@usdoj.gov)