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April 27, 2018

BY E-MAIL

Radhika Sainath, Esq. Senior Staff Attorney Palestine Legal

Maria C. LaHood, Esq. Deputy Legal Director Center for Constitutional Rights

Dear Ms. Sainath and Ms. LaHood,

I write in response to your April 25, 2018 letter to James B. Milliken, Chancellor of the City University of New York (CUNY); Vincent Boudreau, President of The City College of New York (City College); and Loretta P. Martinez, General Counsel of CUNY, concerning a proposed event at City College requested by Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), a student club, involving Israeli-American author Miko Peled.

From what we have been able to determine since receiving your letter, it appears that the scheduling of SJP's proposed May 3, 2018 event has been subject to some degree of miscommunication and administrative missteps. The City College administration did not cancel the proposed SJP event because of Mr. Peled's viewpoint.

To the extent that any staff members in the office of Student Affairs may have suggested that the event proposed to be held on May 3, 2018 could not go forward at that time due to Mr. Peled's views, such a position was inconsistent with City College's unwavering commitment to academic freedom and free speech.

President Boudreau has directed City College's Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Wendy Thornton, to ensure that the proposed SJP event be permitted to be held as proposed on May 3, 2018, subject to the College's procedures, including the requirement that appropriate faculty or staff moderators be involved in the presentation of the event.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Occhiogrosso

Executive Counsel to the President

cc: Chancellor James B. Milliken
Vice Chancellor Loretta P. Martinez
President Vincent Boudreau

