



Dear Mr. Sami Sarsour,

MUSAWA – The Palestinian Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession would like to thank you for your trust in us, expressed by coming to MUSAWA and asking MUSAWA or its Legal and Technical Adviser to represent you in your contestation for the High Court of Justice to appeal the Presidential Decree stating the acceptance of your resignation, which was submitted prior to taking office as Head of the High Judicial Council, according to your written proposition regarding the contestation and the reasons behind it.

We understand your current situation and the reasons that drove you to turn to us, considering that legal aid falls under MUSAWA's goals and objectives; represented in access to justice, equality before the law and the judiciary, and fair trial guarantees.

After looking into your request with an independent and professional legal eye, and carefully studying the facts of your case, we would like to point out that, on one hand, we do see the illegality of the measures taken concerning your appointment as the Head of the High Judicial Council from the point office became vacant until the acceptance of your resignation was announced. On the other hand, due to the absence of a substantial conflict in the positions of the two litigants, which we believe are illegal, MUSAWA cannot meet your request as it does not fit MUSAWA's policies, values and goals which revolve around defending the victims of violations related to human rights or good governance principles, including equality before the law and the judiciary, the right to access to justice and fair trial guarantees. Taking that the positions of the litigants do not conform to the provisions of the law and that they do not fall under the set of values MUSAWA deals with, MUSAWA excuses itself from fulfilling your demand.

This is what needs to be stated in this regard.

With all due respect,

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Lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi

As lawyer and as MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser

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