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State of Israel

Ministry of Justice

Deputy State Attorney (legislation)

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Dan Yakir, Attorney

Chief Legal Counsel, The Association for Civil Rights in Israel

Re: Cancellation of the screening of the film "Shivering in Gaza" in Beer Sheva

Your letter to me and to the Deputy State Attorney (legal advice) of 10.8.2015

On August 10th you approached us concerning the demand of the Be'er Sheva Municipality legal adviser to cancel the screening of the film "Shivering in Gaza" by Negev Coexistence Forum (NCF) in the shelter granted by the municipality to NCF for its activities.

Already prior to your approach we approached the Be'er Sheva Municipality which had sent us the same letter it sent to the Directors Association, also attached to your letter.

We have clarified, together with the Ministry of Interior, that in order to avoid, beyond necessary, violation of the freedom of expression, it is necessary to interpret carefully and sparingly the term "political activity" mentioned in the circular of the General Manager of the Ministry of Interior. Under the heading "procedure for allocating lands and buildings for no value or for a token" it is stated, amongst others, that a body using the land "shall not use the land for political or political party activities".

Thus, the term "political activity" in the circular should be read as activity related directly or indirectly to partisan activity.

Therefore, according to the Ministry of Interior's circular, the film "Shivering in Gaza" does not fall into the category of forbidden political activity. We can also add that it was

clarified to the legal adviser of the Beer Sheva Municipality that the other arguments in his letter to the Directors Association have no merit to justify his demand to cancel the screening of the film.

Sincerely,

Orit Koren

Deputy State Attorney to the Government (legislation)

Dina Zilber

Deputy State Attorney to the Government (legal advice)

Cc: State Attorney

Deputy State Attorney (civil)

Attorney General Ministry of Interior

Attorney General Beer Sheva Municipality