

Coalition for Justice in Hawaiian Gardens & Jerusalem

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Hawaiian Gardens members not included because they fear retaliation

www.stopmoskowitz.org

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November 2, 2000

The Hon. Bill Clinton
President
United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

We, the Coalition for Justice in Hawaiian Gardens and Jerusalem, a group of Jews and Latinos, write to you today to ask for your help in an effort that can greatly contribute to a just peace in the Middle East. We request that you inform California Attorney General Bill Lockyer that it will impede the Middle East peace process - and harm the US national interest- to give Dr. Irving Moskowitz a casino license.

Moskowitz is a leading funder of militant Jewish settler groups and buys them sensitive Jerusalem real estate, which they use to sabotage the peace process. Your administration has, more than once, termed his activities in Jerusalem not helpful.

Moskowitz gets millions of the dollars he spends fighting against peace from a large "charitable" bingo game he runs in the tiny Los Angeles County city of Hawaiian Gardens. The casino he wants licensed is also in Hawaiian Gardens. It will give him dozens of millions of dollars more to fight against the peace process.

We know you're aware of the dangerous provocations Moskowitz underwrites – most notably such Moskowitz-funded provocations as the 1996 opening of the tunnel to the Temple Mount, which cost over 70 lives. But you may not be aware of an Internet "game" encouraging players to blow up and "eliminate" Israel's leading proponents of

peace, notably Prime Minister Barak and former Prime Minister Peres, which was registered by Moskowitz's wife Cherna Moskowitz, a co-applicant with him for the casino license.

You can see this game on our Web site (www.stopmoskowitz.org), along with other information about Moskowitz's activities and about our own campaign against the casino license.

You'll note we have the support of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the world's largest rabbinic organization, as well as many other important leaders. The California State Senate Majority Leader Richard Polanco has been an early and strong supporter of our efforts.

Attorney General Bill Lockyer has complete authority to grant or deny casino licenses. We understand that he plans to make a decision by the end of the year and that he's likely to grant Moskowitz the license. But we are confident that, once he hears from you, he'll defer to your judgement and deny the license.

There is already a great deal of evidence that Moskowitz does not meet the good-character requirements of the state's gambling license statute. As we—and a legislative probe and news reports—detail on our www.stopmoskowitz.org Web site, Moskowitz abused the good will of an unsophisticated city to get millions of public dollars (three or four times the city's annual budget) to develop the casino. There are serious questions about whether Moskowitz's actions caused the city's redevelopment agency to act in violation of a law barring the use of redevelopment funds for a gambling enterprise.

The California Joint Legislative Audit Committee investigated Moskowitz's dealings with the City of Hawaiian Gardens, which found abuses serious enough to call for criminal investigation. The report "The Gateway Redevelopment Project in the City of Hawaiian Gardens: A Study in Redevelopment Abuse" details how the Moskowitz organization corrupted the democratic process to get funds and permits from the Hawaiian Gardens government.

The corruption was so thorough and intimidating that the residents have gone politically mute. A poll commissioned by our coalition showed a fair number were actually too frightened to publicly oppose Moskowitz.

Residents of Hawaiian Gardens, a very small, poor, primarily immigrant community starved for money, sees those dollars leaving for Israel in the form of Moskowitz's profits and proceeds from Moskowitz's "charitable" bingo game. Respondents to our poll almost unanimously condemned that export of cash as unfair.

Please honor us by requesting more information and then by calling on Attorney General Lockyer to deny Moskowitz's application for a casino license—and end the days when

**to President Clinton
from the Coalition for Justice
in Hawaiian Gardens and Jerusalem**

Nov. 2, 2000

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Moskowitz runs Hawaiian Gardens like it is his own personal fiefdom and significantly contributes to keeping the Middle East from achieving a just peace.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Mina K. Meyer
Coalition Co-Chair