

From: FBIHQ Ombudsman
To: ROBERT WRIGHT
Date: Mon, Jan 13, 2003 8:14 AM
Subject: Re: Conflict of Interest

Bob,
Is this something I should go back to the drawing board on? Any suggestions? If you'd like to talk it over, give me a call on
Thanks,

>>> ROBERT WRIGHT 01/09 2:23 PM >>>

[] Unbelievable!!! I assure you every bit of it is true. I do not remember [] being present at the time of the telephone conference call with the Muslim Agent. Thanks for the response. Bob

>>> [] 01/09 9:03 AM >>>

[] referred my inquiry to [] She advised me that the information in the article and the allegations against the agent are not true. She was not at liberty to tell me any more information.

>>> [] 12/27 4:11 PM >>>
Dear []

I am a 12+ year veteran of the FBI and a case agent assigned to the Houston field office. I am currently working Counterterrorism matters. A recent edition of the SIOC Sentinel, dated 12/20/02, contained a story on Page 44, titled " Called Off The Trail? FBI Agents Probing Terror Links Say They Were Told, 'Let Sleeping Dogs Lie' "

While I am by far, no fan of the media, this article identifies an active duty FBI Agent, SA Gamal Abdel-Hafiz, who allegedly refused to actively assist in an ongoing Counterterrorism investigation by specifically refusing to consensually monitor a conversation he was going to be having with one of the subjects in the case.

The article goes on to claim that, "Abdel-Hafiz was promoted to one of the FBI's most important anti-terrorism posts, the American Embassy in Saudi Arabia, to handle investigations for the FBI in that Muslim country."

If these facts are indeed true, I would like to make the following inquiries:

- o Why is the FBI continuing to permit an individual who, has a self-declared conflict of interest, to wit, a previously stated refusal to record potentially incriminating conversations with Muslim subjects, continued access to sensitive case information and intelligence data? Why wasn't his security clearance pulled?
- o Why wasn't this agent charged with insubordination and referred to OPR?
- o This situation would be analogous to, say a Catholic FBI Agent refusing to act against a Catholic priest who is allegedly involved in kiddie porn. If I were an American-Indian Special Agent, can I refuse to work investigations involving "Crime on Indian Reservation" cases? Would the Bureau also tolerate these situations?
- o What kind of dangerous precedent is the Bureau establishing by the way in which they handled this situation? An Agent refuses to assist in an investigation and he is promoted and sent to one of the most

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