

December 19 , 2002

**FBI Statement:**

- Assistant Legal Attache and Special Agent Gamal Abdel-Hafiz has served in Riyadh since February 2001. ALAT Abdel-Hafiz has met all FBI performance and security standards. He handles liaison with the authorities of Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf States regarding all violations handled by the FBI. ALAT Abdel-Hafiz continues to contribute positively to the FBI effort in Gulf region.
- While unable to comment specifically on current investigations, ALAT Abdel-Hafiz has contributed significantly to several FBI investigations, all the while adhering to established legal guidelines. He was instrumental in the success of the case of the United States v. Sheikh Omar Abdul-Rahman, where, as a Language Specialist in the New York Division, he translated all audio and video material which was introduced into evidence in the trial. He also testified more than nineteen times during the trial. During the trial, an FBI source advised the New York office that members of a Brooklyn mosque were discussing a plan to assassinate SA Abdel-Hafiz because of his involvement in the prosecution of Sheikh Abdul-Rahman. The United States Attorney's office in New York advised SA Abdel-Hafiz of the threat against his life and advised that he could withdraw from the case, which he refused to do.
- In regard to the alleged refusal to wear a recording device in Chicago, SA Abdel-Hafiz, while assisting in an international terrorism investigation, was requested to meet with a subject of the investigation. Based upon his knowledge of the subject's background and the case, as well the location, SA Abdel-Hafiz recommended against, while suggesting an alternative plan. Ultimately, the decision was made by management of the Dallas office and Chicago agreed to abide by that decision. The Dallas Special Agent in Charge and other supervisors concurred with SA Abdel-Hafiz's request not to conduct the consensual monitoring. SA Abdel-Hafiz proposed to meet with the individual and testify in court to contents of the meeting, but the Chicago Division decided not to exercise that option. The SAC advised that had the consensual monitoring been requested for any location other than a mosque, SA Abdel-Hafiz would have supported the proposal.

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