

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 28, 2007

The Honorable Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Gonzales:

The *Washington Times* reported yesterday that the Department of Justice has announced its intention to act as a cosponsor with the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) for its upcoming annual convention in Illinois, slated for August 31-September 4, 2007.

In light of the threat that our nation, and the world in general, is currently facing from radical Jihadists, and because of the President's commitment to fighting the War on Terror on all fronts, we believe it is a grave mistake to provide legitimacy to an organization with extremist origins, leadership and a radical agenda. Establishing a partnership with ISNA is exactly the wrong approach at this critical juncture in history, setting a precedent that radical Jihadists should be the conduit between the U.S. government and the American Muslim population, and we urge you to reconsider your decision to establish an official relationship with ISNA.

Ironically, outrage over ISNA's radical ties forced the Justice Department to cancel an earlier event at the Department scheduled for June 27 that was to feature a senior ISNA official. Your agency reportedly cancelled the event because of action Justice Department officials took in May 2007 officially labeling ISNA as a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood in the United States and an un-indicted co-conspirator in the ongoing case of *U.S. v. Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, et. al.*

As you know, the Muslim Brotherhood is a secretive worldwide movement that aims to reestablish the Caliphate (the historic Islamic Empire) across the Middle East, North Africa, Southern Europe and South Asia. Almost every single Sunni terrorist organization, including Al Qaeda and Hamas, is derived from the Muslim Brotherhood.

The evidence naming ISNA as a leading branch of the American Muslim Brotherhood is overwhelming and its links to U.S. fundraising efforts on behalf of Hamas are equally strong. Your agency's decision last June to not use Justice Department facilities and funding to promote ISNA was the right decision. Justice should not be reversing this decision to offer even greater support to the ISNA. The Department of Justice's sponsorship of the upcoming ISNA conference would legitimize a radical organization, which ill serves not only the U.S. public and government, but also the American Muslim community as a whole. We urge you to reconsider the decision to cosponsor the upcoming ISNA convention and reaffirm this government's commitment to fighting radical Islam on all fronts.

Sincerely,



Pete Hoekstra
Member of Congress



Sue Myrick
Member of Congress