Portraits of Injustice
A Campaign for Justice from the National Coalition to Protect Civil Freedoms
tariksfriends.faithweb.com

Tarik Shah
Jazz musician and martial arts instructor

Entrapped by an FBI provocateur posing as a friend.

How is innocent activity evidence of terrorism?

Tarik is a famous jazz bassist who played at President Bill Clinton’s inauguration, and was also a martial arts instructor. The FBI deployed two agent provocateurs to entrap him. The first one was unsuccessful in getting Tarik to do anything illegal. The second one paid Tarik for music lessons and eventually moved into his home, pretending to be his friend while secretly recording their conversations. After months of recordings, the provocateur then introduced Tarik to a supposed Al-Qaeda recruiter (who was actually an undercover FBI agent), who offered to pay Tarik to train jihadists in martial arts. Tarik agreed to train anyone, although he did not accept any money and no martial arts training took place. The government fastened on an innocent activity—Tarik’s expertise in martial arts—and said it was evidence of terrorism. But any such activity was suggested and facilitated by the FBI provocateurs and agents, not Tarik. He is serving a sentence of fifteen years.

How can you help?

Write to Attorney General Eric Holder, U.S. Dept. of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, call 202-514-2000, or e-mail AskDOJ@usdoj.gov.

Tell the Attorney General to review the case and to stop entrapping people.

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