

Press Release

Carter-Ruck

15 September 2010

9/11 CLAIM AGAINST PROMINENT SAUDI BUSINESSMAN AND PHILANTHROPIST SHEIKH YASSIN ABDULLAH KADI IS DISMISSED

Carter-Ruck Solicitors

6 St Andrew Street
London EC4A 3AE

T 020 7353 5005

F 020 7353 5553

DX 333 Chancery Lane

www.carter-ruck.com

Sheikh Yassin Abdullah Kadi has succeeded in having dismissed in their entirety the civil claims brought against him in the United States on behalf of the families of the 9/11 victims.

District Judge Daniels so ordered on 13 September 2010 in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Mr Kadi is among numerous individuals, companies and governments in the Muslim world named as defendants in multiple civil proceedings brought in the US District Courts by the families of those killed in the 9/11 attacks. It had been alleged that the named defendants were associated with Al-Qaeda and were therefore responsible, directly or indirectly, for the events of 9/11. The proceedings have been generally referred to as the “three billion dollar claim”, reflecting the sum that the Plaintiffs’ attorneys seek in damages.

However, the Court ruled that the claim against Mr Kadi must be dismissed on the ground that the allegations made in the complaint were insufficient to state a claim that was even plausible on its face. The Court further ruled that it lacked any personal jurisdiction over Mr Kadi.

Mr Kadi said today:

“I am an innocent man. Whenever I have been given a fair opportunity to state my case I have been able to show that the allegations against me are untrue.”

Partners

Andrew Stephenson

Alasdair Pepper

Guy Martin

Nigel Tait

Ruth Collard

Cameron Doley

Claire Gill

Adam Tudor

Hanna Basha

Magnus Boyd

Partnership Secretary

Helen Burrluck

Regulated by the
Solicitors Regulation
Authority

SRA No. 44769

I reiterate what I have said from the outset: that in all my individual, business and charitable activities I have never supported, nor have I ever intended to support in any manner whatsoever, Osama bin Laden or Al Qaeda.

I, and others in the same position as me, are victims of a financial Guantanamo that shows no sign of ending as what was supposed to be a temporary measure becomes permanent.

I condemn the actions of Al Qaeda – both on 11 September 2001 and since – without hesitation and I share the belief of both the American and the Saudi peoples that the terrorism represented by Al Qaeda must be confronted. However, the struggle against terrorism will never be won if basic human rights are ignored, if people are denied the opportunity to demonstrate their innocence and if innocent people like me are wrongly targeted with no form of redress."

Mr Kadi's successful defence of the civil proceedings in the US District Courts was conducted by David Geneson (of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, Washington DC) and Guy Martin, Cameron Doley and Maitre Saad Djebbar (of Carter-Ruck Solicitors, London).

All enquiries should initially be directed to Guy Martin on 020 7353 5005 and at guy.martin@carter-ruck.com.

Notes for Editors:

In October 2001, one week after Mr Kadi's "designation" (i.e. the freezing of his assets) by President Bush, the US administration procured his designation worldwide by the United Nations. Since then, Mr Kadi's assets have remained frozen across the globe and all attempts to reverse his designation have been blocked by the US Government. However, notwithstanding that his assets have been frozen for nearly 9 years, neither the United States nor any other country in the world has brought criminal charges of any kind against Mr Kadi.

Further, independent investigations into Mr Kadi following his appearance on the 'Bush List' by the prosecuting authorities in Switzerland, Turkey and Albania have each been discontinued on grounds that they found no evidence to support any of the allegations made against him.

Mr Kadi himself has been able to demonstrate that all and any claims concerning him that have been advanced by the United States are wholly unfounded and based on poorly vetted human source reporting, press articles and unsubstantiated gossip that no responsible government should have relied on.

In September 2008 the 14 judges of the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Justice condemned the system of designation, ruling that Mr Kadi's listing by the European Union further to his designation by the UN was unlawful and infringed his fundamental human rights to property, to a fair hearing and to effective judicial review.

Three months later in December 2008, the UK Treasury removed Mr Kadi from its UK list (a "delisting") of persons following a comprehensive review by the UK Treasury of the case against Mr Kadi. Notwithstanding this revocation Mr Kadi remained designated in the UK on a second list pursuant to separate domestic legislation. However, following a separate challenge, this second listing was annulled as a result of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (the highest appellate court in the UK for civil cases) on January 27, 2010 [*Her Majesty's Treasury (Respondent) v Ahmed and Others [2010] UKSC 2*].

Thus, Mr Kadi's removal from this second list was done as the result of the finding by the highest appellate court for civil cases in the UK, that any such designation (as was done in Mr Kadi's case in contravention of his fundamental rights) was illegal.