

Date: 6 October 2020

Jewish Chronicle, Stephen Pollard and Lee Harpin apologise and pay substantial libel damages to Nada al-Sanjari

Carter-Ruck Solicitors

The Bureau
90 Fetter Lane
London EC4A 1EN

T +44 (0) 20 7353 5005
F +44 (0) 20 7353 5553
DX 333 Chancery Lane
www.carter-ruck.com

The Jewish Chronicle, its editor Stephen Pollard and journalist Lee Harpin have [apologised](#) to Nada al-Sanjari, a school teacher and local councillor over a number of articles they published last year. They have also agreed to pay her a substantial sum in libel damages, as well as her legal costs.

The articles made a number of false allegations concerning Ms al-Sanjari, including that she was one of a number of Momentum activists responsible for inviting an activist who the Jewish Chronicle characterised as anti-Semitic to a Labour Party event and that she turned a blind eye to anti-Semitic statements published by a fellow activist. The articles also alleged that she had launched a vicious protest against Luciana Berger MP in terms suggestive of anti-Semitism, and that she tried improperly to interfere with a democratic vote at a regional Labour Party meeting.

As the Jewish Chronicle, Messrs Pollard and Harpin have now accepted, these allegations were utterly untrue. In fact, Ms Al-Sanjari does not know and has never spoken to the two activists referred to in the articles (and, as it happens, she has never even been a member of Momentum). There was also absolutely no basis for suggesting that she “launched” or “orchestrated” any campaign (or attended any protest whatsoever) against Ms Berger. Further, the Jewish Chronicle has accepted that Ms al-Sanjari’s attendance and conduct at the Labour Party meeting was entirely proper.

Accordingly, the Jewish Chronicle has now published a full apology, as well as agreed to pay Ms al-Sanjari substantial damages and her legal costs.

Speaking today Ms al-Sanjari said:

“I am very pleased that the Jewish Chronicle has apologised for what it accepts are completely unfounded allegations. I am glad that the published apology notes my strong opposition to all forms of racism, including anti-Semitism, while actively and peacefully campaigning on these issues of equality and fairness.”

While it was disappointing that it took legal action to achieve this just outcome and for the truth to be known, including the removal of the false allegations, I am grateful to the dedicated support and professionalism of the talented team at Carter-Ruck who brought about this important and heartening result.”

For further information, please contact Adam Tudor (adam.tudor@carter-ruck.com) or Helena Shipman (helena.shipman@carter-ruck.com).

Partners

Alasdair Pepper
Guy Martin
Nigel Tait
Cameron Doley
Claire Gill
Adam Tudor
Antonia Foster
Miranda Rushton
Rebecca Toman

Partnership Secretary

Alison Phillips

Authorised and regulated
by the Solicitors Regulation
Authority

SRA No. 44769