

## Plaintiffs' Attorneys Organize National Effort to Analyze Civil Liability for Universities

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, U.S.A., April 24, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Starting this Friday, April 26, 2024, Levin Papantonio Rafferty (LPR), one of largest and most recognized plaintiffs' law firms in America, will host a series of webinars exploring civil liability for universities that lack antisemitism policies and/or have facilitated campus-based antisemitism in other ways. Attorneys will meet to discuss legal paths for holding university presidents, professors, and administrations accountable for instances of antisemitism and racism Jewish students face on campus.



A tenured professor at Columbia University has faced criticism for praising the massacre of innocent Israeli citizens on October 7, 2023.

LPR will present the national webinar series, inviting top U.S. plaintiffs' attorneys to join the discussion. MTMP, organizers of a bi-annual seminar for mass torts and class action lawyers, will host the event.



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MIKE PAPANTONIO, SENIOR PARTNER, LEVIN PAPANTONIO RAFFERTY

LPR Senior Partner <u>Mike Papantonio</u> said attorneys in attendance will talk about multiple aspects of the law, including constitutional, statutory, Civil Rights Act of 1983, and even harassment.

Papantonio offered the example of Columbia University's tenured professor Joseph Massad. One day after the October 7, 2023, Hamas massacres of Israeli citizens, Massad posted on <a href="The Electronic Intifada">The Electronic Intifada</a> about "the stunning victory of the Palestinian resistance," calling the attacks "awesome." The message prompted multiple <a href="petitions">petitions</a> to Columbia University to immediately terminate

the employment of Joseph Massad, stating, "Freedom of Speech cannot be abused. And when

one is in a position of authority and power, they must be held responsible for that speech."

"Despite his rampant abuse of this country's freedom of speech laws, this professor has not been punished and remains in good standing with Columbia University," Papantonio said. "It's just one way the universities to which we entrust the safety and wellbeing of our children have violated this trust and nurtured a hostile environment for Jewish students."

The April issue of MTMP Magazine featured an article ("If Not Us, Then Who?") by Attorney Benjamin Schenk, of Fell Law, and Dr. Mark Goldfeder, Director of the National Jewish Advocacy Center, wherein the authors state, "Americans of all stripes are now



Mike Papantonio, senior partner, Levin Papantonio Rafferty

asking the question: If college administrators are unwilling, unable, or unequipped to effectively respond, what role, if any, can civil attorneys play in upholding the rule of law and combating an ideology seemingly hell bent on destroying it? We believe that trial lawyers represent one of our societies' last hopes to do so."

Schenk will participate in Friday's webinar.

Sara Stephens
Levin Papantonio Rafferty
+1 281-744-6560
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