Tile ordinary Islam Center

## **Steve Weber**

From:

Dr. Yousef Abou-Allaban [yousefmba@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Monday, July 18, 2005 9:45 PM

To:

Steve Weber; Salma Kazmi; Attorney Albert L. Farrah

Cc:

yousefmba@yahoo.com; Walid Fitaihi; Samer Abu-Ghazaleh; Ossama Kandeel

Subject: Oct letter

Sorry Steve; AL drafted the letter today but I was out of the office most of the day and could not check the internet.

Here is the letter drafted by AL. If you have any concern please let me or AL know

Dear Steve and Tom,

> I understand that there was a very productive meeting at the job site on July 14, 2005. I have spoken to both Yousef and Salma about that meeting and I have reviewed Steve's e-mail to Salma setting forth JMA's position going forward. Although I wasn't there, I believe that Yousef and Salma expressed the strong desire that the building be in suitable shape by October 4, 2005 so that a temporary permit of occupancy can issue for use of the main prayer area for evening prayers (approximately 2 hours per night) during Ramadan. To me, that means at a minimum, ISB would need the main prayer area, the entrance ways and exits from the main prayer area and two bathrooms, along with exterior landscaping, finished by that time.

> I recognize that such work involves all electrical, plumbing, HVAC, fire protection, drywall and finish carpentry and that, according to Steve's e-mail, the cost of those trades to complete their work at the building (excluding finish carpentry), totals about \$3 million. Fundraising has been robust, and ISB has \$2 million in cash toward that amount, and is exploring various other ways to complete the project, including selling a commercial building it owns in Cambridge and approaching Islamic and non Islamic banks.

> ISB recognizes that completing all building electrical, plumbing, HVAC, fire protection, and drywall by October 4 is ambitious; we would like JMA to try to do so. In addition, to the extent that work to finish needs to be prioritized, we would like JMA to place highest on its list, and estimate, the costs of completing first the work described above, so that the temporary occupancy permit may issue by October 4, 2005.

> Being able to use the Cultural Center during the upcoming Ramadan is of enormous significance and consequence to ISB and ISB is once again asking all of you at JMA, who have been terrific, to help us accomplish what we believe is a most realistic and achievable goal.

> Please get back to me as soon as you comfortably can with your comments.

> Sincerely,

> Albert L. Farrah, Jr.

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