

Facebook sued for \$1 billion over Intifada page

April 2 2011



Facebook and co-founder Mark Zuckerberg, pictured here in 2010, have been hit with a lawsuit seeking more than \$1 billion in damages over a page on the social network which called for a "Third Intifada" against Israel.

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Facebook this week shut down the "Third Intifada" page, which had almost 500,000 fans, but the lawsuit filed in a court here claims that the social network showed "negligence" by not quickly responding to appeals to remove the page.

Besides awarding damages, the complaint calls on the court to bar Facebook "from allowing the Facebook page titled 'Third Palestinian



Intifada,' and other related and similar sites, which advocate violence and death to Jews."

The suit, a copy of which was obtained by technology blog TechCrunch, was filed in DC Superior Court by Larry Klayman, who describes himself in the complaint as "an American citizen of Jewish origin" who is "active in matters concerning the security of Israel and all people."

Klayman also identifies himself as the founder of Freedom Watch, whose website describes it as a political advocacy group dedicated to protecting privacy, <u>free speech</u> and other rights and "our national sovereignty against the incompetent, terrorist state-controlled United Nations."

Facebook dismissed the case as "without merit" and said it would fight.

"While we haven't been served with a complaint, we believe the case is without merit and we will fight it vigorously," a Facebook spokesman said.

Facebook shut down the page on Tuesday, several days after Israeli Public Diplomacy Minister Yuli Edelstein sent a letter to Zuckerberg urging him to remove it.

<u>Facebook</u> said the page was initially tolerated because it "began as a call for peaceful protest" but direct calls for violence began appearing and the page was removed for violating Facebook's policies.

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Citation: Facebook sued for \$1 billion over Intifada page (2011, April 2) retrieved 3 July 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2011-04-facebook-sued-billion-intifada-page.html



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