

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Hale, et al. v. City of Northampton, et al.***

**National Jewish Advocacy Center Files Lawsuit to Block Northampton’s Unlawful Anti-Israel Divestment Resolution**

**Northampton, MA** — The National Jewish Advocacy Center (NJAC), together with the Gevura Fund and Libby Hoopes Brooks & Mulvey, P.C., today filed a lawsuit in Massachusetts Superior Court on behalf of Northampton taxpayers challenging the legality of a City Council resolution directing City officials to make investment decisions based on improper ideological criteria.

The Resolution directs the Northampton City Treasurer and City Retirement Board to divest from and refuse future investment in companies deemed to have “substantial, ongoing, and intentional complicity” in alleged human rights violations in Israel. It further prohibits investment in Israel Bonds and requires full divestment within two years. The Resolution provides no objective definitions for its key terms, including “complicity” or “human rights violations,” leaving enforcement entirely to subjective political judgment.

“No city council has the power to transform municipal pension funds and public treasuries into instruments of foreign policy. This Resolution is an unlawful abuse of power that puts taxpayer dollars at risk and singles out the Jewish state in a way that stigmatizes Jewish residents.” said Mark Goldfeder, CEO of the National Jewish Advocacy Center.

This is the second municipal anti-Israel measure NJAC has challenged in recent weeks. The first, filed in federal court in Massachusetts, seeks to enjoin a similar ordinance passed by the town of Medford.

Tina Snider, president of the Gevura Fund, explained that, “Across Massachusetts and America, we have seen the steady spread of a campaign to pass boycott, divestment and sanction resolutions. The Gevura Fund is proud to continue to push back against these illegal and discriminatory resolutions. We will not back down from this fight.”

The complaint argues that the Resolution is invalid on multiple grounds, including federal and state preemption, and breach of fiduciary duty. It asks the Court to declare the Resolution invalid and unenforceable and to enjoin City officials from implementing it.

Doug Brooks, local counsel for plaintiffs, stated, “Libby Hoopes Brooks & Mulvey is proud to partner with NJAC in confronting local government overreach.”

#### [About the Gevura Fund](#)

The Gevura Fund is a nonprofit organization focused on supporting research, legal advocacy, and educational initiatives that address antisemitism and promote accountability in public institutions. It works to equip parents, educators, and community leaders with resources and partnerships needed to ensure transparency, fair representation, and safe learning environments.

#### [About the National Jewish Advocacy Center \(NJAC\)](#)

The National Jewish Advocacy Center is a nonprofit organization that harnesses the power of the legal system to advocate for and protect Jewish civil rights using creative, innovative strategies.

#### [About Libby Hoopes Brooks & Mulvey. P.C.](#)

Libby Hoopes Brooks & Mulvey is a boutique firm of experienced, aggressive and versatile advocates specializing in white collar criminal defense, internal corporate investigations, and complex civil and administrative litigation. Their clients include corporations, executives, and professionals in the financial services, legal, health care and other regulated industries.

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For media inquiries or a copy of the complaint, contact [press@njaclaw.org](mailto:press@njaclaw.org) or (332) 278-1100.