

WisGOP: U.S. Sen. Baldwin's CAIR-Hamas problem

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MADISON, Wis. - Tammy Baldwin has a Hamas problem.

Yesterday, a [video surfaced](#) of Nihad Awad, co-founder and executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), speaking at a recent November 24th event. In his remarks, Awad praised the October 7th terror attacks against Israeli citizens by Hamas, calling the tragedy an “inspiration.”

Awad went on to say he was “happy to see” the terror and brutality that resulted in the [deadliest day for Jews](#) since the Holocaust.



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CAIR Executive Director Nihad Awad at AMP Convention: I Was Happy to See the People of Gaza Break the Siege on October 7; They Were Victorious; the People of Gaza Have the Right to Self-Defense - Israel Does Not [# Hamas](#) [# Gaza](#) [# Palestinians](#) @CAIRNational @NihadAwad



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So, how does Tammy Baldwin tie into this?

In the fall of 2018, Senator Baldwin [published a letter](#) praising CAIR for its work to “promote mutual understanding by countering Islamophobia.” Her letter went on to promise the organization that if she could “be of assistance to your important mission, please do not hesitate to reach out.”

What makes Baldwin's letter to CAIR particularly damning is it was signed and released [five years after the Department of Justice](#) had issued a report directly linking CAIR to Hamas.

The 2013 [executive summary](#) of the FBI's review of the 2007 federal trial of the Holy Land Foundation stated, "The evidence at trial linked CAIR leaders to Hamas, a specially designated terrorist organization, and CAIR was named as an unindicted co-conspirator in the case."

Background

In 2008, the FBI developed a policy on its interactions with CAIR based in part on evidence presented during the 2007 trial of the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development.¹ The evidence at trial linked CAIR leaders to Hamas, a specially designated terrorist organization, and CAIR was named as an unindicted co-conspirator in the case. The policy was intended to significantly restrict the FBI's non-investigative interactions with CAIR and to prevent CAIR from publicly exploiting such contacts with the FBI.

Despite the FBI warning about the link between CAIR and Hamas, Baldwin paid no mind to their relationship when she effusively praised the organization for "24 years of excellence" in her letter.

It should come as no surprise then that CAIR gave Baldwin's voting record a perfect [100%](#) rating for the 117th Congress.

"Wisconsinites deserve a senator who can tell the difference between an enemy and a friend. Tammy Baldwin's incriminating record of support for CAIR, an organization with high-level connections to Hamas, underscores her poor judgment and reckless disregard for national security." —WisGOP Chairman Brian Schimming