



## NJ FEDERAL COURT SUSTAINS MUSLIM TEACHER'S DISCRIMINATION ALLEGATIONS AGAINST HUNDERTON CENTRAL REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

OTMLAW is pleased to announce that Ms. Hashem was handed the first victory in her lawsuit against Hunterdon Central Regional High School. Ms. Hashem filed her complaint last spring. In response to the Defendants' motion to dismiss, the District Court sustained Sireen Hashem's claims alleging employment discrimination, disparate treatment, retaliation (which included a false report to the FBI) and discriminatory discharge based on her race, religion and nation origin. *Hashem v. Hunterdon*, 2016 WL 5539590 (D.N.J. 9- 29-2016).

The Court agreed with Ms. Hashem's claims that she could not teach the same subjects as her fellow social studies teachers because of her heritage and religion. The Court ruled that she was disciplined and treated differently from other teachers based on her race, religion and national origin. The Court deemed the Superintendent Christina Steffner's statement discriminatory when she told Ms. Hashem that being a Muslim and Palestinian have caused nothing but trouble since the day she was hired.

This victory allows Ms. Hashem to continue to seek remedies for the outrageous discrimination against her. Please see Ms. Hashem's [interview](#) regarding her treatment while teaching at the school and other media coverage on the case.

[Sireen Hashem: Was her Firing Discriminatory?](#)

[New Jersey Teacher Says She Was Fired After Showing A Video Of Malala](#)  
[Muslim Teacher Fired After Showing Malala Video](#)



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