Twitter Thread by Patrick Poole



Patrick Poole
@pspoole

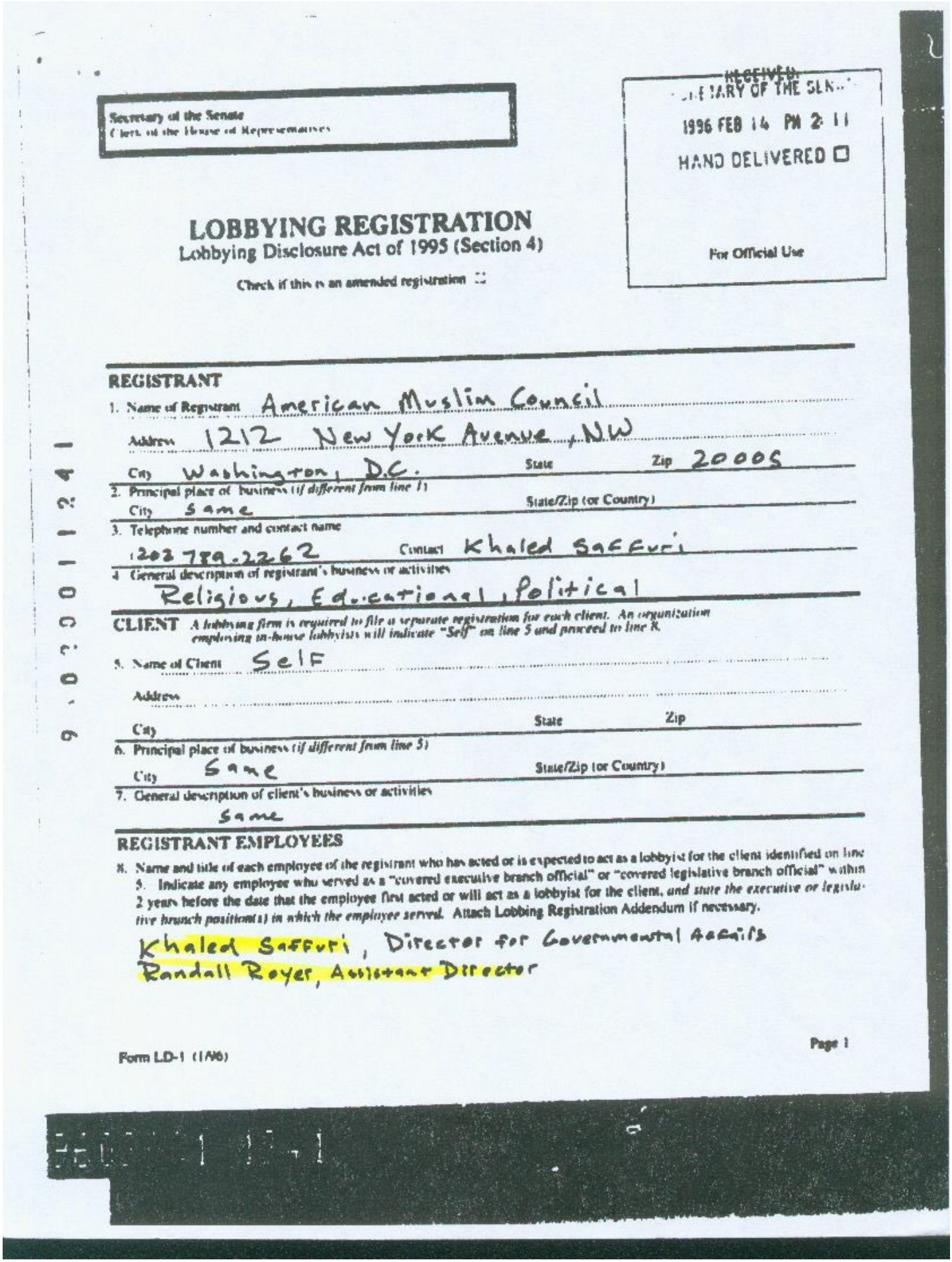
Holy $&#%! **Khaled Saffuri is the source for these Jamal Khashoggi stories? Khaled Saffuri, longtime aide to US al-Qaeda fundraiser Abdurahman Alamoudi (currently in federal prison) and friend of convicted/deported Palestinian Islamic Jihad leader Sami al-Arian?? ■■■**



Just a reminder that Khaled Saffuri's former boss, Alamoudi, was convicted for being the bagman in an al-Qaeda/Libyan plot to assassinate the Saudi Crown Prince. Yeah, totally unbiased observer! https://t.co/NEQH6aR85C

> Holy $&#%! **Khaled Saffuri** is the source for these Jamal Khashoggi stories? Khaled Saffuri, longtime aide to US al-Qaeda fundraiser Abdurahman Alamoudi (currently in federal prison) and friend of convicted/deported Palestinian Islamic Jihad leader Sami al-Arian?? \U0001f633\U0001f633\U0001f633 pic.twitter.com/BJcklTtFIe
>
> — Patrick Poole (@pspoole) October 12, 2018

As @paulsperry_ discovered, Khaled Saffuri was the registered lobbyist for Alamoudi's American Muslim Council front https://t.co/poLkDe5TwH



Secretary of the Senate
Clerk of the House of Representatives

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LOBBYING REGISTRATION
Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 4)

Check if this is an amended registration ☐

REGISTRANT

1. Name of Registrant: American Muslim Council
   Address: 1212 New York Avenue, NW
   City: Washington, D.C. State: Zip: 20005
2. Principal place of business (if different from line 1)
   City: same State/Zip (or Country)
3. Telephone number and contact name
   (202) 789-2262 Contact: Khaled Saffuri
4. General description of registrant's business or activities
   Religious, Educational, Political

CLIENT *A lobbying firm is required to file a separate registration for each client. An organization employing in-house lobbyists will indicate "Self" on line 5 and proceed to line 8.*

5. Name of Client: Self
   Address
   City State Zip
6. Principal place of business (if different from line 5)
   City: same State/Zip (or Country)
7. General description of client's business or activities
   same

REGISTRANT EMPLOYEES

8. Name and title of each employee of the registrant who has acted or is expected to act as a lobbyist for the client identified on line 5. Indicate any employee who served as a "covered executive branch official" or "covered legislative branch official" within 2 years before the date that the employee first acted or will act as a lobbyist for the client, *and state the executive or legislative branch position(s) in which the employee served.* Attach Lobbing Registration Addendum if necessary.

Khaled Saffuri, Director for Governmental Affairs
Randall Royer, Assistant Director

Form LD-1 (1/96) Page 1

And as Franklin Foer at the New Republic revealed, when Khaled Saffuri opened up shop as the Islamic Free Market Institute, his first event was funded by Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs https://t.co/0v3LlAC92B

AND NORQUIST HASN'T only developed close ties to American groups that apologize for terror. He has also flacked for at least one Middle Eastern autocracy: Qatar. Eager to improve relations with the United States, Qatar worked with Norquist and Saffuri to help portray itself as a liberal outpost in the Islamic world. In April, Saffuri sponsored the "First Annual Conference on Free Trade and Democracy" in the Qatari capital of Doha, for which the Islamic Institute received over $150,000 in payments from the Qatar Embassy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Account. (Saffuri says these were reimbursements for the travel expenses of congressional delegates.) A lobbyist at Norquist's firm, Janus-Merritt, has solicited pro-Qatari op-eds from at least one conservative pundit. When the emir of Qatar came to Washington, Saffuri hosted a Capitol Hill luncheon in his honor. And just three weeks after September 11, Norquist wrote an op-ed in *The Washington Times* in which he claimed that "Qatar has taken great strides to enshrine values of universal suffrage, a free press, and human rights." He continued, "[S]he really means it on being a reliable ally."

And as I reported back in 2016, one of the prime promoters of Alamoudi and Khaled Saffuri, his deputy at the time, was none other than then-First Lady Hillary Clinton. Alamoudi and Saffuri arranged the first White House Iftar for the Clintons. https://t.co/yL7cU4FmUK

Who brought his former boss, al-Qaeda fundraiser Abdurahman Alamoudi, to meet with then GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush and Karl Rove in 2000? That's right, Khaled Saffuri, the source of the media's recent Jamal Khashoggi scoops. Here they both are with Bush ■■



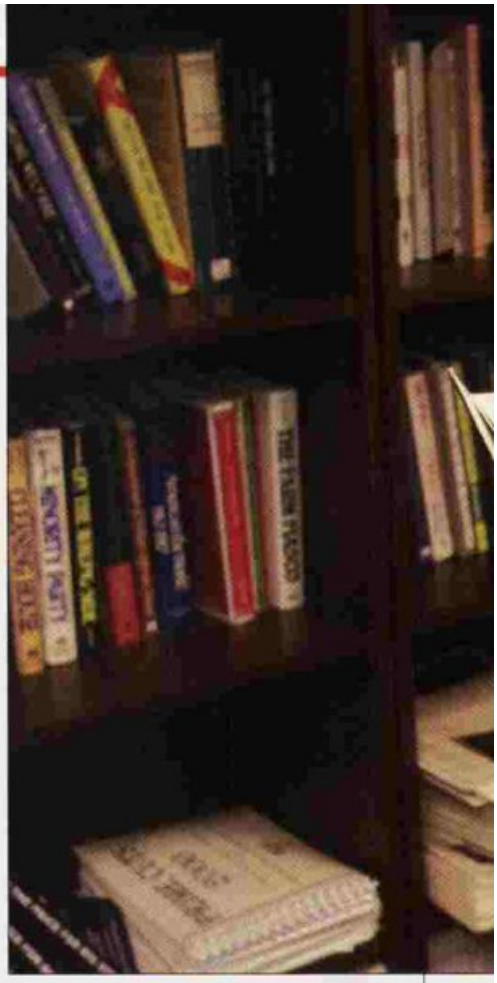
After Khaled Saffuri's former boss, al-Qaeda fundraiser Abdurahman Alamoudi, was convicted for playing bagman in the Libyan intel plot to assassinate the Saudi Crown Prince, Ken Timmerman wrote about Saffuri's extensive terror ties. N.B. for when you see media citing Saffuri.

SPECIAL REPORT

Saffuri's Ties to Terror Suspects

BY KENNETH R. TIMMERMAN

Is Khaled Saffuri, a prominent Palestinian activist with connections to terror suspects, exerting undue influence on the Bush administration, or is he getting a bad rap?



The rise of Khaled Saffuri to political prominence within the U.S. Muslim community has all the ingredients of a Horatio Alger success story. Brought up as a stateless exile in Kuwait, Saffuri came to America as a student in 1982, went to college in San Diego, and soon gravitated into the world of Muslim activism.

A talented fund-raiser and behind-the-scenes power broker, Saffuri built bridges to politicians in both parties by generously contributing to their election campaigns, from California libertarian Rep. Dana Rohrabacher in the GOP to Rep. Cynthia McKinney, the hard-left Georgia Democrat. He has worked to get President Bill Clinton to intervene in Bosnia. He has taken members of Congress on trips to Arab countries. He has lobbied hard but quietly against pro-Israel legislation. In 1998, along with Republican activist Grover Norquist, Saffuri established the Islamic Institute in Washington with the stated purpose of promoting free-market ideals in the Muslim world and of bringing American Muslims into the Republican Party.

Recognition of his role came with a thunderclap during the 2000 presidential campaign, when Karl Rove named him the Bush campaign's point man for Muslim outreach. With George W. Bush in the White House, Khaled Saffuri had arrived.

By all accounts, Saffuri put his new prominence to use, promoting the friends who had helped him achieve his newfound status and advocating for the issues about which they cared. One by one, he introduced them to President Bush and his entourage. With Saffuri frequently smiling in the background, they proudly posed for campaign photographs and, later, attended White House events.

Now, however, some of the very people Saffuri introduced to Bush and Rove are in federal prison on terrorism-related charges. Others have been expelled from the country. Still other former colleagues and donors have become subjects of a massive federal probe into U.S. funding of terrorist organizations that is code-named Operation Greenquest.

In a series of interviews with *INSIGHT* over the course of more than two years, Saffuri and his supporters claim he has been given a bum rap by critics who point to the alleged terrorist ties as a reason why the White House should distance itself from Saffuri and his friends.

Norquist, the conservative fund-raiser and antipork president of Americans for Tax Reform, insists that any attempt to tie Saffuri to terrorist supporters is "guilt by association." Those who make such accusations, Norquist tells reporters, are "racists and bigots."

But Saffuri's ties to radical Islamists and apologists for terror are neither superficial nor coincidental. An *INSIGHT* investigation has uncovered a consistent pattern of fund-raising and influence operations in which Saffuri played a prominent role side by side with Abdurahman Alamoudi, a well-known Muslim activist who was Saffuri's employer at the American Muslim Council (AMC). Alamoudi was arrested last September on charges of illegally taking cash payments from the government of Libya in exchange for lobbying the Bush administration to lift sanctions against the Qaddafi regime.

Alamoudi also was one of the leaders of a vast network of Hamas supporters operating across the United States under the guise of American Muslim activist groups.

At a rally in front of the White House on Oct. 28, 2000, Alamoudi told the audience that reports he was a supporter of Hamas were accurate. "Anybody support this Hamas here? Anybody's [sic] is a supporter of Hamas here? Anybody's [sic] is a supporter of Hamas here? Hear that Bill Clinton? We are all supporters of Hamas! *Allah akbar* [God is great]! I wish to add here I am also a supporter of Hezbollah!"

On June 2, 2000, the U.S.-based *al-Zaitounah* newspaper interviewed Alamoudi in English on his pro-Hamas activities at the AMC. "Our position with regard to the peace process is well-known," he said. "We are the ones who went to the White House and defended what is called Hamas." According to the *Jerusalem Post*, Alamoudi attended a leadership conference in Beirut in January 2001 along with top leaders of Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad and al-Qaeda. These and other Alamoudi actions and statements were cited by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Brett Gentrup in a September 2003 affidavit in support of Alamoudi's arrest.

Here's the WAPO reporting from when Khaled Saffuri's mentor and former boss, al-Qaeda fundraiser Abdurahman Almoudi, was arrested and later plead guilty as the bagman in the Libyan intel/Al-Qaeda plot to assassinate the Saudi Crown Prince.

The Washington Post

Government Links Activist To Al Qaeda Fundraising

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By Mary Beth Sheridan
Washington Post Staff Writer
Saturday, July 16, 2005

U.S. authorities have alleged for the first time that Abdurahman Alamoudi, a local activist who represented Muslims at the highest levels of the U.S. government, raised money for al Qaeda in the United States.

The assertion, in a Treasury Department statement, gave no details. Alamoudi's lawyer strongly denied the allegation and noted that his client had never been charged in court with supporting al Qaeda. Alamoudi, 53, an Eritrean immigrant who lived in Falls Church, was convicted last year of illegally accepting nearly $1 million from Libya.

If accurate, the new allegation would mark a stunning revelation about a man who for years served as a liaison between American Muslims and the U.S. government. Alamoudi, a founder of the American Muslim Council, played a key role in developing the Pentagon's Muslim chaplain program, traveled abroad as a speaker on behalf of the State Department and attended meetings at the White House.

The local Muslim community was shocked when Alamoudi was arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in September 2003 on charges of accepting money from Libya, regarded by the U.S. government as a sponsor of terrorism. Alamoudi later admitted using the funds to recruit Saudi dissidents in London to arrange the assassination of Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah, at the request of Libyan leader Moammar Gaddafi.

Alamoudi was sentenced in October to 23 years in prison, but the sentence could be reduced because of his ongoing cooperation with the U.S. government.

The new allegation about Alamoudi appeared in a communique in which the Treasury Department announced an addition to its list of terror supporters: the Movement for Islamic Reform in Arabia. The London-based group is headed by Saad Faqih, one of the Saudi dissidents whom Alamoudi has acknowledged contacting for the assassination plot, which was never carried out. The Treasury statement accused Faqih's group of providing support to al Qaeda. The Saudi has denied the charge.

The Treasury release added that "according to information available to the U.S. government, the September 2003 arrest of Alamoudi was a severe blow to al Qaida, as Alamoudi had a close relationship with al Qaida and raised money for al Qaida in the United States."

Alamoudi's attorney, Stanley Cohen, rejected the statement.

"There is no claim by prosecutors anywhere during the whole mess that's gone on for several years that Alamoudi systematically, intentionally, in any way, shape or form did anything to further the aims of al Qaeda anywhere," he said.

Treasury officials declined to provide details on when, where or how Alamoudi allegedly interacted with al Qaeda, saying the information was classified. But one U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter, said the allegation was based on new information that went beyond what was disclosed during Alamoudi's trial in U.S. District Court in Alexandria.

During that trial, the prosecution had alleged that Alamoudi had served as an officer of charities that became involved with foreign groups suspected of terrorist ties. Cohen said in court papers that the foreign groups were not on the U.S. terrorist list at the time.

Alamoudi had for many years encouraged Muslims to become more involved in U.S. politics and society and had strongly denounced the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Staff writer Susan Schmidt contributed to this report.

Another @paulsperry_ discovery was that al-Qaeda fundraiser Alamoudi provided the start-up funds for Khaled Saffuri's Islamic Free Market Institute

ABDURAHMAN M. ALAMOUDI
1212 NEW YORK AVENUE NW. 202-789-2362
SUITE 400
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

1100

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Ten thousand ---------- DOLLARS

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Ten thousand ---------- DOLLARS

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