

April 27th, 2022

The Students for Justice in Palestine at Rutgers - New Brunswick
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Students for Justice in Palestine Statement Regarding Allegations from April 22, 2022

We, the Students for Justice in Palestine at Rutgers - New Brunswick, have learned, along with the rest of the New Jersey and Rutgers community, of actions that took place outside the AEPI fraternity on Friday, April 22nd involving several individuals driving in a vehicle outside AEPI. We join the myriad voices in unequivocal opposition to antisemitism and all forms of racism and violence. For this reason, we have conducted our own inquiries into the actions that took place and can confirm that none of the individuals involved are students at Rutgers - New Brunswick. The actions conducted were lone acts by individuals that have no formal or informal affiliation to our organization.

Unlike publicized reports have claimed, our inquiries led to the acquisition of video footage which suggests that it was members of AEPI who approached the individuals who attended our rally with slurs, Islamophobic rhetoric, and attempts to provoke physical altercation. The individuals involved passed through Sicard Street due to its close proximity to our rally at Brower Commons, the Rutgers-designated "free speech zone" on the College Avenue campus.

Our fight for Palestinian liberation is inextricable from efforts for the liberation of all oppressed groups, including the American Jewish community. Individuals who plan to engage in antisemitic or otherwise hateful behavior are not welcome into our organization or at any of our events, rallies and/or protests.

Any claims that our organization somehow played a malicious role in these acts, leading to RUPD's intervention, are entirely false and baseless. Efforts to conflate actions of lone individuals with an entire community and organization are only meant to further antagonize anti-Palestinian racism and Islamophobia and restrict free speech in University settings.

We have submitted all videos and acquired evidence to RUPD and will continue to cooperate with their investigation upon their request. Due to our concerns with RUPD and the University's treatment of this situation thus far, we will be consulting with experts at Palestine Legal and CAIR New Jersey to navigate steps moving forward

In solidarity,

The Students for Justice in Palestine at Rutgers - New Brunswick