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Denver, Colorado
Press Release:

CFJ—Colorado Calls on US State Department to Investigate Killing of Ahed Akhil.

The West Bank town of Beit Ummar is in its third day of mourning following the January 5th shooting of twenty-five year old Ahed Akhil by Israeli security guard Eli Azar.

According to interviews with local residents, Israel's security detail left Akhil bleeding at the scene for five hours without medical intervention.

Azar's allegation that Akhil had brandished a knife when he attacked an Israeli at the heavily guarded Lev's Market has drawn suspicion from Palestinians, who point out that numerous killings by Israelis are justified by false claims the deceased were armed and dangerous. Akhil had no history of violence or political involvement.

Following Akhil's death, Israeli occupation forces interrogated his relatives and notified his father that the family home would be demolished. When Palestinians peacefully protested this injustice, Israeli forces responded by invading Beit Ummar and causing multiple injuries.

At the time of this report, Israeli officials refuse to return Akhil's body for burial.

The Center for Freedom and Justice—Colorado questions the official Israeli explanation for Akhil's death. We call on the US State Department to investigate what appears to be an unauthorized use of force culminating in the needless death of an innocent person.

We urge friends to contact their local members of Congress to protest this most recent Israeli transgression of Palestinian rights. Use these links to look up your congresspeople.

house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

For more information, contact **CFJColorado@gmail.com**

