1 BENJAMIN C. MIZER Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General 2 ANTHONY J. COPPOLINO 3 Deputy Director Federal Programs Branch 4 JASON LEE (CA Bar No. 298140) 5 Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice 6 Federal Programs Branch 20 Massachusetts Ave., NW 7 Washington, DC 20001 Telephone: (202) 514-3367 8 Facsimile: (202) 616-8470 Email: Jason.Lee3@usdoj.gov 9 Attorneys for the United States of America 10 11 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 12 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA WESTERN DIVISION 13 14 AMHET DOĞAN, individually and on behalf of his deceased son, FURKAN No. 2:15-CV-08130-ODW (GJSx) 15 DOĞAN; and HIMET DOĞAN, individually and on behalf of her Assigned to the Honorable Otis D. Wright II 16 deceased son, FURKAN DOĞAN, NOTICE BY THE UNITED STATES OF 17 Plaintiffs, POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION 18 V. 19 EHUD BARAK, 20 Defendant. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Notice by the United States of Potential Participation

Case No. 2:15-cv-08130-ODW (GJSx)

The United States of America respectfully notifies the Court that the United States is considering whether to participate in this litigation, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 517. That statute authorizes the Attorney General of the United States to send any officer of the Department of Justice to "attend to the interests of the United States in a suit pending in a court of the United States, or in a court of a State, or to attend to any other interest of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 517.

Plaintiffs bring this action against former Israeli Minister of Defense Ehud Barak for compensatory and punitive damages based on claims related to the death of Furkan Doğan in a May 2010 action by the Israeli Defense Forces. The United States has been made aware of this litigation and understands that defendant's motion to dismiss is fully briefed and scheduled to be heard on May 23, 2016. The State of Israel has formally requested that the Government file a Suggestion of Immunity on behalf of the defendant. See Decl. of Christopher M. Egleson in Supp. of Def.'s Mot. to Dismiss Ex. H, ECF No. 26. The Department of State has conferred with counsel for the plaintiffs concerning whether the defendant is immune in this action. The process for deciding whether to file a Suggestion of Immunity has been ongoing and involves coordination among government agencies and the approval of the U.S. Department of Justice through the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division, and is not yet complete. The United States expects to complete its deliberations by no later than June 10, 2016, and on or before that date, will advise the Court of its determination and file any Suggestion of Immunity pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 517. The United States appreciates the Court's consideration of its potential interest in this matter.

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DATED: May 17, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN C. MIZER Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

ANTHONY J. COPPOLINO

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| 1 | Deputy Director Federal Programs Branch |
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| 2 | |
| 3 | /s/ Jason Lee JASON LEE (CA Bar No. 298140) |
| 4 | Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW |
| 5 | 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW Washington, DC 20001 |
| 6 | (202) 514-3367 |
| 7 | (202) 616-8470 (fax) Jason.Lee3@usdoj.gov |
| 8 | Attorneys for the United States of America |
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