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**OFFICERS OF THE
NATIONAL COMMISSION**
BARRY CURTISS-LUSHER
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August 20, 2015

The Honorable Sid Miller
Agriculture Commissioner
State of Texas
Stephen F. Austin Building
1700 N. Congress
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Commissioner Miller:

We write to express our disappointment in the image shared on your Facebook page earlier this week. The rhetoric promoted by the picture is inflammatory and portrays an unfair and misguided accusation against members of the Muslim community.

The Anti-Defamation League is a strongly pro-religion, national human relations and civil rights organization. For over 100 years, we have been an ardent advocate for religious freedom for all Americans – whether in the majority or minority. Anti-Muslim rhetoric or symbolism is neither an American nor a Texan value.

Members of Texas' executive branch have an essential role to play in raising legitimate concerns about threats to our security from international terrorist groups. Those efforts should not be tainted by the kind of stereotyping and prejudice that the image on your Facebook wall suggested. We urge you to publically renounce the picture and the repugnant message it conveyed.

Sincerely,

Cheryl R. Drazin
Jean & Jerry Moore Southwest Area Civil Rights Counsel
On behalf of the three Texas offices located in Austin, Dallas and Houston