

# LA Jews for Peace Policy Statement

Los Angeles, CA.

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## **Honor Federal Officials Who Resigned in Protest of U.S. Gaza Policy**

**LA Jews for Peace** supports the officials in U.S. federal agencies who resigned their positions in protest of U.S. complicity in Israeli's genocide in Palestine, noting in addition that America's full-throated support for Israeli's war is not making Israel safe and is putting world Jewry at risk of increased anti-Semitism. There are at least eight mid-level officials, one is Jewish, who resigned since Hamas' October 7 attack. Reuters' list is below<sup>1</sup>.

**LA Jews for Peace** honors these brave Americans for putting their careers and their personal lives at risk as they stand for their principles of humanity and human rights for all peoples. These resignations will not coerce the Biden Administration to stop supporting Israel's genocide, but they are a significant blow to the current American policy.

The pace of resignations is increasing with three in Oct.-Jan., one each in March and April, then three in May. They come as the U.S. lashes out against the International Court of Justice's provisional measures to Israel to abide by the Genocide Convention and against the International Criminal Court's application for arrest warrants against Israeli ministers Netanyahu and Gallant. The U.S. is undermining the major international legal bodies that attempt to hold rights violators accountable.

The resignations come in spite of a widening of the apparent split between the U.S. and Israel, perhaps suggesting that these Americans hope their resignations may push the Biden Administration to finally stop shipping arms to Israel that enables Israel's genocide.

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<sup>1</sup> Reuters, May 31, 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-officials-who-have-resigned-protest-bidens-gaza-policy-2024-05-31> List of U.S. officials who resigned since Hamas' Oct. 7 attack:

**Josh Paul** (resigned in October), was director of the State Department's bureau of political military affairs, the first publicly known resignation, citing what he described as Washington's "blind support" for Israel.

**Harrison Mann** (resigned in November), a U.S. Army major and Defense Intelligence Agency official, resigned in over Gaza policy and [went public with his reasons](#) in May.

**Tariq Habash** (resigned in January), a Palestinian American, was special assistant in the Education Department's office of planning, said the Biden administration was turning a "blind eye" to atrocities in Gaza.

**Annelle Sheline** (resigned in March), was in the State Department's human rights bureau, wrote in a CNN article that she was unable to serve a government that "enables such atrocities."

**Hala Rharrit** (resigned in April), was an Arabic language spokesperson for the State Department, wrote on her LinkedIn page her "opposition to the United States' Gaza policy."

**Lily Greenberg Call** (resigned in May), the first Jewish political appointee to resign, was a special assistant to the chief of staff in the Interior Department. She wrote in the [Guardian](#) that she resigned because "as a Jew I cannot endorse the Gaza catastrophe."

**Alexander Smith** (resigned in May), a contractor for USAID, alleged censorship after the U.S. foreign aid agency canceled publication of his presentation on maternal and child mortality among Palestinians. The agency said it had not gone through proper review and approval.

**Stacy Gilbert** (resigned in May), served in the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, said she resigned over an administration report to Congress that she said falsely stated Israel was not blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza.