

EXHIBIT 1

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6 Attorney for Defendant
JOHN DENNIS APEL
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8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
10

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

14 JOHN DENNIS APEL
15
16

) Case No.: X0510141

) DECLARATION OF
DEFENDANT JOHN DENNIS APEL
17

18 I, John Dennis Apel, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 19 1. I am the defendant in the above-entitled action.
- 20 2. I am the co-founder and present community member of Beatitude House, located in
21 Guadalupe, California. Beatitude House is one of many Catholic Worker Houses
22 located in the United States and around the world. Beatitude House, like many
23 Catholic Worker Houses, is independently run by the community members that live
24 and/or work at the house.
- 25 3. At Beatitude House, we distribute food and clothing to all those who come to us in
26 need. We offer short-term housing to those in need of shelter as well as running a
27 free weekly medical clinic, staffed entirely by volunteer doctors and nurses. During
28 the summer, we run a summer school for the children of migrant farm workers.

- 1 4. In 1998, I traveled to Iraq in order to bring medicine and school supplies to children
2 in that country. During my travel there, I learned that there was a disproportionate
3 number of children who suffered from cancer. In talking to the medical staff at
4 hospitals in that country, I learned that experts there felt that this was as a result of the
5 use of depleted uranium during the first Persian Gulf War.
- 6 5. Furthermore, as a result of the economic sanctions imposed against this country,
7 hospitals and medical clinics were in desperate need of medication to treat these
8 children, as well as medicine to treat more common ailments and infections, such as
9 diarrhea, which, if left untreated led to death. At the time I traveled to Iraq, there
10 was a high mortality rate for children, particularly children under the age of five.
- 11 6. I was treated with kindness and hospitality by all Iraqis I encountered.
- 12 7. As a result of this trip, I have felt particular grief at the continued war in Iraq and the
13 death and suffering that has been brought to the people there.
- 14 8. On May 19, 2007, in response to the continued war in Iraq, I attempted to talk to
15 military personnel about the illegality of the war in Iraq and of the illegality of the
16 actions taken against the people of Iraq.
- 17 9. In so doing, my intent was to persuade personnel to not put their lives and health at
18 risk in this war, widely considered to be illegal under international law; to prevent
19 personnel from committing war crimes and placing themselves in jeopardy of future
20 prosecution; and to protect persons in Iraq who may be harmed by the actions of
21 military personnel.

22
23 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters
24 stated on my information and belief, and as to those, I believe them to be true.

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26 Date: August 11, 2008

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28 JOHN DENNIS APEL

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