

*******MEDIA ALERT*******

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ojai Ceasefire Now

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Ojai Ceasefire Now group will hold its 16-mile Prayer Run/Walk in solidarity with the global movement calling for Ceasefire in Gaza

OJAI, CA– February 16, 2024

Members of the Ojai Ceasefire Now group will assemble at San Antonio Creek and Ojai Avenue to commence “The River to the Sea Prayer Run/Walk for Palestine” at 10 am on Saturday, February 17th. The Group will then walk to Libbey Park for a send off ceremony between 10:30 - 11:00 am taking the 16-mile course relay-style with some 16 - 20 participants through downtown Ojai and Highway 33 and gathering at the Vons parking lot on East Main Street. There they will gather for another observance to finish the event with the group walking through Downtown Ventura, ending at the Ventura Pier near the site of Chumash village of Shisholop at the end of California Street (sometime between 3-4pm).

The group has been lobbying for the Ojai City Council to pass a Ceasefire Resolution on the Agenda since November with various actions and speeches during the public comments section of the meetings They hope to raise awareness to the Ojai Valley and Venturans to the ongoing genocide that has killed more than 28,000 Palestinians in Gaza in the last four months with the U.S. government’s backing,

including dozens of billions of dollars of tax-payer funded weapons and armaments going to Israel as so-called “military aid” packages.

At the February 13th Ojai City Council meeting, one of the organizers who is an Iraq War Veteran and also a member of Veterans for Peace said, “Sometimes we are sitting here in our cozy town and we don’t get to understand what is happening in the world. There are children's limbs hanging from fences and buildings in Gaza because of bombs dropped by the people who are funding those bombs in this town. It is insulting to hear anyone say that this is not Ojai City Council Business.” A number of speakers at the February 13th meeting made reference to the Crown Family being the owners of the Ojai Valley Inn and lead shareholders of General Dynamics, the 6th largest weapons manufacturer in the world. The Mk 80 series general-purpose bombs, which are manufactured by General Dynamics, are one of the primary weapon types being used by Israel to bomb Gaza.

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