

October 9, 2020

RE: <u>People v. Rachid Serkhane</u> Docket Number CR-001136-20NY

To Whom It May Concern,

I am Rachid Serkhane's United States based attorney. On October 2, 2020, all criminal charges in the above-referenced matter were dismissed and sealed as Mr. Serkhane was completely innocent and his actions to protect another person were deemed justified under New York State law. (*See* N.Y.P.L § 35 "Defense of Justification").

During the incident that led to Mr. Serkhane's arrest, he and several others raised their voices, which caused a gathering of individuals and thereby briefly impeded the flow of pedestrian traffic on a New York City subway platform. Mr. Serkhane pled guilty to a non-criminal violation of N.Y.P.L § 240.20 for "Disorderly Conduct." This violation is not a crime and did not result in a criminal record of any kind. Mr. Serkhane paid a \$120 surcharge and received a sentence of time served. The matter is now closed and has not impacted his lawful permanent resident status in the United States in anyway.

I have advised Mr. Serkhane that although New York State has dismissed and sealed all criminal charges, the United States Government may still be aware of the arrest itself and it should be disclosed to the United States Government when asked.

Attached, please find an official New York State Certificate of Disposition confirming that the above criminal matter was in fact dismissed and sealed and that the only charge sustained against Mr. Serkhane was a non-criminal Disorderly Conduct violation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Andrew M. J. Bernstein, Esq.

Partner

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