



## **Shebaab al-Mujahideen: "Reply to the Greeting and Advice of Sheikh Anwar al-Awlaki"**

**December 27, 2008**

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*[This document is the transcript of a communiqué obtained by NEFA investigators and provided on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. On February 29, 2008, the U.S. State Department designated Shabaab al-Mujahideen (a.k.a. the Mujahideen Youth Movement (MYM) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization and as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist. According to the U.S. State Department, the Shabaab movement includes "a number of individuals affiliated with al-Qaida. Many of its senior leaders are believed to have trained and fought with al-Qaida in Afghanistan."]*

"We ask Allah to reward you for your encouragement and words of advice. Your words have reached us and, by the will of Allah, we will benefit from your recommendations. The enemies of Islam are increasing their efforts more and more these days and are directing more attention to the media battle and the battle for the 'hearts and minds.' As we have seen even recently, they are continuously throwing accusations at those who want to live by the law of the Creator. For example, we can take the issue of the stoning of the woman in Kismayo. The disbelievers have falsely reported that she was 13 years old, unmarried, and was raped. The reality and truth is that she was over 20 years old, married, and was practicing adultery. This is just one example of how they twist the news, so we would like to take this opportunity to advise our brothers not to believe any news reported about us except from our official Media Department."

"Sheikh, we look to you as one of the very few scholars who stand firm upon the truth and defend the honor of the Mujahideen and the Muslims by continuously uncovering the feeble plots of the enemies of Allah. Allah knows how many of the brothers and sisters have been affected by your work so we ask you to continue the important effort you are doing wherever you are and never to fear the blame of the blamers. Keep us in your invocations as you know this path is always full of trials and Allah tests those that He loves. We ask Allah to guide the Muslims and to open their eyes to the plots of their enemies and to give them the strength and success to hold firmly to the rope of Allah. We ask Allah to protect you and all of those who are standing for the truth. We ask Allah to join us together in this world and in the highest of Paradise. O Sheikh, we would not only look at you as only a soldier, but as the likes of Ibn Taymiya during the trials of the Ta'tars."

"Your brothers from Shabab Al-Mujahidin"