

2007 NAML-NMLSA Conference

Protecting America's Promise

November 9-11, 2007

Marriott at San Francisco Airport, Burlingame, CA

Program

FRIDAY, November 9, 2007

6:00 p.m.

Registration

Location: Bayside Ballroom Foyer

Maghrib Prayer

Location: San Ramon Room

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Welcoming Reception

Talk by Jameel Jaffer, Co-Author of *Administration of Torture: A Documentary Record from Washington to Abu Ghraib and Beyond*

Location: Bayside Ballroom

SATURDAY, November 10, 2007

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast

Location: Salons A-D Foyer

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks

Syma Ahmad, 2007 Conference Co-Chair

Abbas Rayjani, NMLSA Vice-President

Farhana Khera, Executive Director, NAML and Muslim Advocates

Location: Salons A-E

9:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Plenary Session I: Investigating & Prosecuting Terrorism Cases: Seeking Justice, While Upholding Constitutional Principles

This opening plenary session will focus on the tension between bringing alleged terrorists to justice and upholding core constitutional rights and protections, including the right to counsel, the right to a speedy trial, and the right to confront evidence against an accused. This session will analyze the implications of trying suspects in the civilian system versus a specially created national security court system. This session will also address which system provides the best measure for holding alleged terrorists accountable and at the same time ensuring that the U.S. abides by its constitutional and international legal

obligations. Finally, this session will explore how other legal systems have handled terror suspects and national security matters.

Location: Salons A-E

Moderator: Khurrum Wahid, Partner, Wahid, Vizcaino & Maher

Speakers:

Aziz Huq, Director, Liberty & National Security Project, Brennan Center for Justice

William B. Moffitt, Partner, Asbill, Moffitt & Boss Chtd.

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Break I

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Plenary Session II: The Impact and Legality of U.S. Counterterrorism Policies Overseas

This plenary session will explore the impact of U.S. counterterrorism policies overseas. At a macro level, this session will discuss whether the U.S. has accurately framed the threat and how its policies have inflamed or diminished the terror threat. The session will also focus on the legality and effectiveness of arbitrary detention, torture, rendition and other counterterrorism policies.

Location: Salons A-E

Moderator: Khurshid Khoja, Associate, Thelen Reid Brown Raysman & Steiner LLP

Speakers:

Jameel Jaffer, Director, National Security Program, American Civil Liberties Union

Kevin Lanigan, Director, Law and Security Program, Human Rights First

Suzanne Spaulding, Principal, Bingham Consulting Group

12:30 p.m.

Dhur Prayer

Location: San Ramon Room

1:00 p.m.

Registration Closes

12:50 – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch

Location: Salons A-D Foyer

2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Parallel Session IA: Leveraging Legal Resources for the Benefit of the Muslim American Community: A Training Session for Lawyers

With Muslim Americans continuing to face a number of law enforcement actions, including interviews by the FBI, immigration enforcement, and questioning and searches at the border, this session seeks to train and build the capacity of lawyers to be able to provide advice and assistance to Muslim Americans. Attendees will learn some of the basic laws and challenges facing Muslim Americans from experienced criminal defense and immigration lawyers, as well as guidance on how to advise those who turn to lawyers for assistance and possible representation. Regardless of whether you currently practice in the area of criminal and immigration law, all lawyers are strongly encouraged to attend this session.

Location: Salon E

Moderator: Ruxana Meer, Attorney Adviser, Social Security Administration

Speakers:

Sean Maher, Partner, Wahid, Vizcaino & Maher LLP

Sara Mostafavi, Immigration Attorney, The Law Offices of Sara Mostafavi

Shirin Sinnar, Staff Attorney, Asian Law Caucus

Parallel Session IB: Encouraging Muslim Civic Engagement: Overcoming Legal Obstacles

Muslim Americans are increasingly eager to exercise their civic rights and responsibilities, whether through voting, running for public office or establishing organizations that add to the greater diversity of their local communities. However, in certain situations communities have faced challenges as some attempt to impede such efforts and deter Muslim Americans from participating in American civic life. This panel will explore the legal and practical hurdles that exist and develop solutions for overcoming those hurdles.

Location: Salons A-D

Moderator: Asad Ba-Yunus

Speakers:

Shahid Buttar, Associate Director, Communications & Outreach, American Constitution Society

Albert L. Farrah, Jr., Member, Farrah Law Offices

John Tanner, Chief, Voting Rights Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice

3:15 – 3:45 p.m.

Break II

Asr Prayer

Location: San Ramon Room

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Parallel Session IIA: Muslim Charities Under Siege: An Update & Efforts to Protect & Strengthen Muslim Nonprofit Institutions

Muslim charities have come under increased scrutiny post-September 11 based on allegations that these charities have ties to and are funding terrorist organizations. This session aims to (i) provide a brief post-September 11 history highlighting some of the key issues in high profile investigations including charities assets being frozen and in some cases charities having to close down, (ii) address why these Muslim charities and individuals and groups associated with them are being subject to increased scrutiny and investigation, (iii) discuss what has been done to address these challenges, and (iv) discuss what next steps must be taken.

Location: Salon E

Moderator: Sairah Saeed

Speakers:

Ahilan Arulanantham, Staff Attorney, American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California

Kay Guinane, Director, Nonprofit Speech Rights, OMB Watch

Michael Rosen, Policy Adviser, Office of Terrorist Financing & Financial Crimes, U.S. Department of Treasury

Akil Vohra, Counsel, Muslim Charity Works Campaign, Muslim Advocates

Parallel Session IIB: Muslim Americans and Family Law in U.S. Courts

This timely and important panel will discuss the future of Muslim marriages in American courts. The speakers will provide an overview of significant cases that the courts have

adjudicated over the last decade and what it means to the Muslim American community. The panel will also include a discussion of the development and evolution of Muslim women's "Islamic" rights in America and the phenomena of Muslim women claiming their Islamic marital rights in U.S. courts.

Location: Salons A-D

Moderator: Asifa Quraishi, Professor, University of Wisconsin Law School

Speakers:

Irfana Anwer, Director, Family Law Division, Karamah

Mohammad Fadel, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto Faculty of Law

5:00 p.m.

Maghrib Prayer

Location: San Ramon Room

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Registration and Reception

Location: Salons A-D Foyer

7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Banquet Dinner Fundraising Event to Benefit Muslim Advocates

Keynote Speaker: Justice Carlos Moreno, California Supreme Court

Location: Salons A-E

9:30 – 11:00 p.m.

Moroccan tea and cash bar with light mezzas

SUNDAY, November 11, 2007

7:45 – 9:00 a.m.

Registration

Location: Salons A-D Foyer

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.

NMLSA sponsored Mentor/Mentee Breakfast

Location: Salon E

Meeting of the NAML Board and affiliated Muslim lawyer boards (*private meeting*)

Location: Salons A-D

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Parallel Session IIIA: Law Student Career Panel: All the Things to Do With a Law Degree

A law degree is a versatile degree, opening the door to a variety of jobs and opportunities. As law students explore their opportunities, it is important to consider their interests, strengths and how particular experiences can help them build necessary knowledge and expertise. Once members of this noble profession, lawyers should commit themselves to being dedicated professionals, not only serving their clients, but also serving their communities. This panel will discuss what steps law students can take in order to achieve these goals.

Location: Salons A-D

Moderator: Salman Ravala, Law Student, Syracuse University College of Law

Speakers:

Hanifa Baporia, Assistant General Counsel, Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Mazen Basrawi, Associate, Bingham McCutchen LLP

Moushumi Khan, Zuckerman Fellow at John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University

Yusuf Safdari, Senior Counsel, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Shaarik Zafar, Senior Policy Adviser, Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Parallel Session IIIB: The Future of Muslim Lawyers: Identifying Career Goals And The Path To Getting There

Planning out a career as a lawyer does not stop the moment one graduates, passes the bar, and begins practicing law. As an associate at a law firm, the inevitable questions are: Do you want to make a push for partnership at your firm? Do you want to go in-house at a corporation? Do you want to be a sole practitioner or partner up with someone else? If you are working for the government, are you going to be a Deputy Attorney General, County Counsel, City Attorney, public defender, or prosecutor forever? Can you move forward and what are your options to do so? Are you aspiring to become a federal or state judge? How do you become appointed or elected to the bench? Come listen to our panelists from all areas of the legal community as they talk about their career paths, how they chose them and how they got there.

Location: Salon E

Moderator: Marwa Elzankaly, Partner, McManis Faulkner & Morgan

Speakers:

Monty Agarwal, Partner, Bingham McCutchen LLP

Arif Alikhan, Deputy Mayor for Homeland Security & Public Safety, City of Los Angeles

Sabiha Chunawala, Director of Legal Affairs, Assistant General Counsel, Juniper Networks, Inc.

Mark Ward, Sr. Deputy Assistant Administrator for Asia and the Near East, U.S. Agency for International Development

The Honorable Erica Yew, Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge

10:15 – 10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Plenary Session III: Islamic Jurisprudence and American Law

This plenary session will provide an overview of the legal schools of thought that have developed in Islamic history and the principles they share with each other and with the U.S. legal system. The session will analyze how the underpinnings of the U.S. criminal, civil, and constitutional law are akin to principles articulated and practiced in Islamic jurisprudence. This session will also explore the commonalities and differences between the centuries-old Islamic jurisprudence and the modern U.S. constitutional law in terms of interpretation, application, and evolution.

Location: Salons A-E

Moderator: Baraa Kahf, Law Student, University of California Davis Law School

Speakers:

Dr. Umar Faruq Abd-Allah, Chairman of the Board & Scholar-in-Residence, Nawawi Foundation

W. David Ball, Teaching Scholar at Santa Clara Law's Center for Social Justice and Public Interest, Fellow, Criminal Justice Center, Stanford Law School

Asifa Quraishi, Professor, University of Wisconsin Law School