

The South Asian Bar Association

of San Diego

e - Announcement

South Asian Bar Association of San Diego, c/o McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, 750 B Street, Suite 3300, San Diego, CA 92101
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2006-2008 BOARD & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nita Mehta | Sanjay Bhandari | Rama Padmanabhan | Omar Iqbal | Rekha Chiruvolu | Rupa G. Singh
President | President-Elect | Vice-President | Secretary | Treasurer | Board Chair

President's Welcome

On behalf of the SABA-SD Board, I would like to wish all our members a very Happy New Year. It is hard to believe that 2007 is here and moving forward with such promise. In 2006, I watched SABA-SD continue to grow its membership base and gradually strengthen itself as a resource not only for attorneys and law students but also for the South Asian community. By the end of the year, we witnessed the installation of a new Board that has already started to dedicate hours of hard work in an effort to continue making SABA-SD an organization of which all of you can be proud. For those of you unable to attend the Holiday Event and Scholarship Fundraiser last month, I would like present to you the 2006-2008 SABA-SD Board: Sanjay Bhandari – President Elect; Rama Padmanabhan – Vice President; Omar Iqbal – Secretary; Rekha Chiruvolu – Treasurer; and Rupa G. Singh – Board Chair.

I am very proud to be a part of this group and cannot wait to see the visions it has for SABA-SD's future come to fruition. In fact, in just the last month alone, the Board is making great strides with growing the organization. The first project to be completed in 2007 is the new newsletter you see before you. In the near future, our new website will officially go on-line and assist our members with keeping up to date on upcoming events and pressing issues pertaining to the

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South Asian community. Kicking off 2007 will be our Annual Mentorship Mixer to be co-hosted by SABA-SD Member, Amar Thakur. For those of you that have not RSVP'd yet for this event, please take a moment to do so. It promises to be a great opportunity for all of us to meet one another in a social setting and for attorneys to assist students as they enter the legal profession.

But none of this would be possible and 2006 would never have been a successful year without the dedication and support we have received from all of our members. At the Holiday Event, I remember taking a moment and looking around the room and seeing many faces I have come to know over the last years. What an amazing community we are all part of and just think where we will go from here. Thank you to all of you that have supported us and remained committed to SABA-SD. I wish all of you the best in 2007!

– Nita Mehta

Annual Holiday Dinner & Scholarship Fundraiser

SABA-SD would like to extend a warm thank you to all the members and guests who attended the Third Annual SABA-SD Holiday Celebration and Scholarship Fundraiser held on Saturday, December 2nd at the beautiful historic Mills House in Downtown San Diego. The Holiday Dinner is always one of the liveliest and most enjoyable events of the year, this year's was one of the best.

The event not only provided guests with an opportunity to meet and network with fellow

members, it also was a benefit event to help raise funds for the SABA-SD law student scholarship. A very special thank you is in order for all the generous support of our members as the scholarship fundraiser was once again a great success.

The SABA-SD Board will email the scholarship application to law student members by late January. Please direct any questions regarding the scholarship to sabasandiego@yahoo.com.

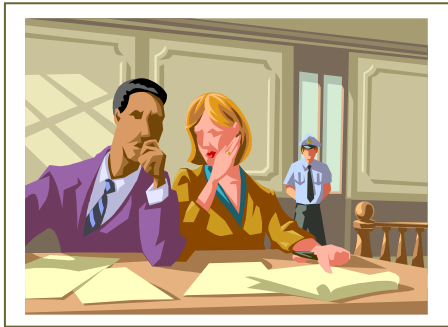
Holiday Dinner Pictures



NASABA Announcements

NASABA Forms Litigation Section

The North American South Asian Bar Association (NASABA) is pleased to announce that it has formed a Litigation Section. The purpose of the section is to provide a forum for litigators to network, promote their skills and experience, and receive continuing legal education. To that end, the section plans on creating a national directory, searching for opportunities to promote its members (for example, help them get on panels for national events and possibly nominate people for relevant awards), and putting together



“...this Section is a unique and valuable opportunity for South Asian litigators to work as a cohesive group...”

CLEs that would be available nationally via teleconference and/or webcast. The creation of this section is a unique and valuable opportunity for South Asian litigators to work as a cohesive group towards advancing professional development.

Currently, Bharati Sharma and Rishi Agrawal are heading the section, NASABA is in need of many others to help the Litigation Section reach its full potential-- if you are interested in helping to lead this section, please email Rishi at ragrawal@eimerstahl.com.

NASABA Convention 2007

The Northern California South Asian Bar Association is proud to host the Annual Convention for the North American South Asian Bar Association in San Francisco from June 27th to the 29th. For information concerning the event schedule, speakers and hotels arrangements please visit <http://www.nasabaconvention.org>.



Please see *NASABA Announcements* on page 4

NASABA Applauds the Appointment of Sabita Singh as Massachusetts District Court Judge

Boston, Massachusetts – NASABA is pleased to announce the recent confirmation of the immediate past President of NASABA, Sabita Singh, to serve as District Court Judge for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Singh will be the Commonwealth's first South Asian American judge.

Singh was nominated to the post on October 26, 2006 by Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney. On November 22, 2006, the Governor's Council unanimously confirmed Singh's appointment. Upon taking her oath by the end of Governor Romney's term, Singh will serve as one of less than ten South Asian American judges in the country and one of only three South Asian American women judges in the United States.

"Sabita Singh's confirmation is a significant moment for the South Asian American legal community," said NASABA President Paul Grewal.

"Sabita Singh's confirmation is a significant moment for the South Asian American legal community..."



"She possesses the intellect, strength, temperament, and heart to make an extraordinary judge."

"I consider a judgeship to be the highest honor in the legal profession. I consider a judge to be a sort of ambassador from the justice system to the public at large and I want to be that ambassador," said Ms. Singh during her confirmation hearing.

Singh currently serves as Special Counsel for Criminal Civil Rights Enforcement under Michael Sullivan, United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

She previously spent seven years with the Boston law firm of Bingham McCutchen specializing in white-collar criminal defense and business regulation and another seven years as an assistant district attorney in Middlesex County. She is a resident of Somerville, Massachusetts and is a graduate of Boston University Law School. Singh was born in Bihar, India and grew up in Clearfield, Pennsylvania.

Mentorship Mixer

SABA-SD is pleased to announce a Mentorship Mixer for law students and young attorneys. The event is an excellent opportunity to meet and develop relationships with established South Asian attorneys in the San Diego legal community.

The event will take place on February 3, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the home of SABA-SD member Amar Thakur. Light refreshments will be served.



For more information or to RSVP, please email SABA-SD at sabasandiego@yahoo.com.

New SABA-SD Website

The Board is pleased to announce the creation of a new organizational website. In our continuing effort to provide our members and community with accessible and relevant information about our organization, events and the South Asian community, the existing website is being redesigned.

In addition to new content, the new website will feature a South Asian Attorney Directory. The directory is slated to include all South Asian attorneys practicing in San Diego. Once completed, the directory will contain searchable contact information, practice areas and educational background.



Community Events

Indian Ambassador to Speak at UCSD

Ambassador Ronen Sen will be presenting a special lecture on “India- US Civilian Nuclear Agreement and Beyond” on Tuesday, the January 16, 2007 at UCSD.

Thereafter, the San Diego Indian American Society will host a dinner at Bali Hai Restaurant. Although time for RSVP is passed, you may contact vedsrivastava2@yahoo.com to check if seating is still available.

Membership

The South Asian Bar Association of San Diego invites its law student and attorney constituents in the San Diego legal community to become full-fledged members of the organization. Your dues will help SABA-SD fund events, continue to develop its website, and explore ways to further represent the interests of the South Asian legal community (as well as the community at large) in San Diego.

Javade Chaudhri Honored by AALDEF

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) will present Javade Chaudhri, Executive Vice President and General Counsel for Sempra Energy, with its “Justice in Action” award on February 22, 2007 at its Lunar New Year Gala, in recognition of his professional and personal accomplishments as one of the most influential Asian American lawyers in the country.

Please visit <http://www.aaldef.org> for more information.

Dues Schedule

- \$45/year for attorneys in private practice,
- \$35/year for public interest and government attorneys,
- \$15/year for law students.

Please contact sabasandiego@yahoo.com with any questions or send payment to: Rekha Chiruvolu, Butz Dunn DeSantis & Bingham, 101 West Broadway Suite 1700, San Diego, CA 92101. Receipts are available on request.

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MEMBERSHIP / DIRECTORY FORM

Name					
Current SABA-San Diego Member? (Y/N)				Dues Paid / Enclosed ? (Y/N)	
Past or Present SABA-San Diego Board Member or Officer? If so, please list positions (including years).					
<i>Professional Contact Information</i>					
Law Firm/Agency / Company					
Your Title					
Business Address					
City		State		Zip	
Work Email		Work Phone		Work Fax	
<i>Professional History</i>					
Law School				Graduation Year	
Bar Admissions (state bars; specialized bars (e.g., patent bar))				Year	
Undergraduate				Graduation Year	
Masters / LLM/Other				Graduation Year	
Areas of Practice (list all)					
Areas of Practice for Which You Could Supply References					
Other Professional Associations, Including Your Title (if any)					
<i>Personal Information (Optional)</i>					
Interests					
Family					
Other					
Home Email		Home Phone		Home Fax	

Remember – PLEASE EMAIL US A DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH OF YOURSELF.