

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
sabasandiego@yahoo.com | www.sabasandiego.org

2006–2008 BOARD & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nita Mehta | Sanjay Bhandari | Rama Padmanabhan | Lavanya Ramachandran | Rekha Chiruvolu | Mustapha Parekh
President | President-Elect | Vice-President | Secretary | Treasurer | Outreach Coordinator

Announcements

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First South Asian Article III Judge



SABA–SD is pleased to announce the confirmation of Amul Thapar to serve as District Court Judge for the Eastern District of

Kentucky. Upon confirmation, Mr. Thapar will make history as the first South Asian Article III Judge. Previously, Mr. Thapar served as the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky and assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and the District of Columbia. Mr. Thapar received his undergraduate degree from Boston College and his law degree from the University of California–Berkeley.



Young Lawyers Recognized

The Daily Transcript has recognized SABA–SD members Nita Mehta and Lori Batra, as young achievers in the local San Diego



community. The Transcript recognizes up-and-coming young lawyers who are nominated by other practicing attorneys.

Our own SABA–SD President Nita Mehta is among the finalists for the prestigious San Diego Daily Transcript’s Young Lawyers Award. We wish her the best.

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The Daily Transcript also recognized another SABA-SD member Lori S. Batra. Ms. Batra is general counsel at Coastal Plastic Surgeons.

Ms. Batra is also the legal director for Doctors Offering Charitable Services (DOCS), a California nonprofit Organization dedicated to providing reconstructive surgery to indigent citizens.

Rupa Singh makes Partner and get appointed on State JNE Commission



Rupa Singh

Rupa G. Singh, co-founder and immediate past president of SABA-San Diego, was recently elevated to partnership at McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP. Ms. Singh will

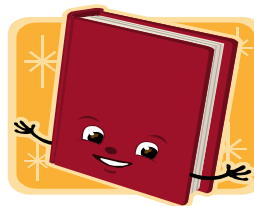
become the only female partner in the firm's San Diego office, and the only South Asian woman partner at any major law firm in San Diego.

Ms. Singh has also been appointed by the California State Bar Board of Governors to its prestigious Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission ("JNE"), which investigates and evaluates all candidates under consideration by the Governor for a judicial appointment in the State. Ms. Singh is now the third South Asian to serve on the JNE Commission. Congratulations to Rupa Singh for both of these accomplishments.

SABA-SD's Newest Board Members

SABA-SD welcomes two new members to its board Mustapha Parekh of Cooley Godward Kronish, LLP and Lavanya Ramachandran of Grant & Zeko. Mr. Parekh will act as SABA-SD's Outreach-Coordinator, a liaison between SABA and other bar associations. Ms. Ramachandran will serve as SABA-SD's secretary for the remainder of the 2006-2008 term, taking over from Omar Iqbal.

SABA-SD 2008 Law Student Scholarship



SABA-SD's 2008 Law Student Scholarship (for \$500+) will reward a local law student who has

demonstrated academic achievement and a commitment to the South Asian community. See the flyer included in this newsletter for additional details on applying for this scholarship.

SABA-SD Events

The 8th Annual San Diego Asian Film Festival



8th Annual San Diego Asian Film Festival
October 11-18, 2007

SDAFF
SAN DIEGO
ASIAN FILM
FOUNDATION

San Diego Asian Film Foundation

SABA-SD'S general membership and board members participated in the 8th annual San Diego Asian film festival on October 14, 2007. A number of SABA members and their friends attended the screening of "Vanaja" by South Asian directed Rajnesh Domalpalli. For more details on this film see www.vanajathefilm.com

SABA-SD's Fourth Annual Dinner

SABA-SD's 4th Annual Dinner was a great success.



The event, held at the historic Mills

House on

November 17, 2007, was well attended by SABA members, representatives of the San Diego County Bar Association, and members of a number of minority bar associations. SABA-SD would like to extend a warm thank you to all the members and guests who attended the Fourth Annual SABA-SD Holiday Celebration and Scholarship Fundraiser. The proceeds of this event helped fund SABA-SD's 2008 Law Student Scholarship Program. (See separate announcement for details on applying for this scholarship.)



(Lto R: Nita Mehta, Lavanya Ramachandran, Rekha Chiruvolu, Benita Ghura, Neeta Toprani)

SABA-SD Awards' Ceremony

This year, at the Annual Dinner, SABA also handed out its very first annual awards to recognize the commitment and contributions of SABA members and of member of the community.

The following awards were handed out:

Law Firm of the Year: Cooley Godward Kronish, LLP

Service to Diversity: Amar L. Thakur of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton, LLP.

Service to SABA-SD: Benita Ghura of Qualcomm, Inc.

Community Leadership Award: Erica Hiramatsu of the California's Attorney General's Office and the 2007 President of the Pan Asian Lawyers Assoc.

Congratulations to all the winners!



(Lto R: Aaron Arnzen (for Cooley), Ms. Hiramatsu, Ms. Ghura)

THE SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION
OF SAN DIEGO INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR
ITS FOURTH ANNUAL



LAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Application Deadline: February 17, 2008

The 2008 SABA-SD Law Student Scholarship (for \$500+) will reward a local law student who has demonstrated academic achievement and a commitment to the South Asian community. Interested Applicants should submit the following materials: (1) A Resume; (2) A One-Page Personal Statement on one of the following topics: (a) How the applicant's involvement in the South Asian Community or in SABA-SD has contributed to his or her academic development; (b) How the applicant hopes to contribute to SABA-SD or the South Asian Community after graduation; (c) What reasons compelled the applicant to pursue a career in the law; or (d) What the applicant finds most interesting, challenging, or fulfilling about his or her legal education; AND (3) Academic Records (either an official transcript or law school registrar's letter of good standing).

APPLICATIONS MAY BE SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: NITA MEHTA AT SABASANDIEGO@YAHOO.COM OR FAXED/MAILED TO THE SABA-SD SECRETARY: MS. LAVANYA RAMACHANDRAN, GRANT & ZEKO APC, 1331 INDIA STREET, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101. FAX: 233-7036

~ SABA-SD membership dues must be current for consideration.
Recipients will Be Announced By Early April ~

2006-2008 BOARD & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NITA MAHTA	President
SANJAY BHANDARI	President-Elect
KAMA PADMANABHAN	Vice-President
OMAR A. IQBAL	Secretary
RASHA CHIRUVOLU	Treasurer
RUPA C. SINGH	Board Member

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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.