

2013-2104 In Pictures



ISSUE

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MAY 2014

Year-In-Review Newsletter

MUBANY
The Muslim Bar Association of New York



The Muslim Bar Association of New York serves the educational, professional, and social needs of Muslim legal professionals

Letter from the President

Dear MuBANY Members & Friends,

Asalaam Alaikum. We are thrilled to be wrapping up another amazing year of supporting Muslims in the legal profession! Let's take a look.

Strengthening Networks: MuBANY members overwhelmingly ask for one thing – more networking opportunities. So this year we continued our tradition of hosting events where members could expand their professional base. This includes our signature Ramadan Iftar, more intimate events with facilitated discussion, and co-sponsored events with SABANY, the NYS Women's Bar Association, the Arab American Bar Association, and others.

Landing Jobs & Building Business: We're still in a tough job market, so MuBANY helped give members an edge by providing exclusive opportunities like a dedicated MuBANY resume book submitted to a city agency and participation in a minority recruitment event at a major financial institution. Coupled with regular business referrals on our listserv, MuBANY has tried hard to open doors for you.

Being a Voice: Whether protesting the NYPD's surveillance policies or educating our peers about Muslims in the legal profession, MuBANY has continued to be a voice for Muslim lawyers and the larger Muslim community.

Celebrating Member Achievement: This has been a FANTASTIC year for Muslim lawyers, from having members recognized as rising stars by Forbes, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the New York Bar Association, the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, and the New York Law Journal, to seeing members selected for key positions in New York City's new administration. Our colleagues have been tapped to be head lawyers at companies, partners at law firms, and professors at law schools. And in the spirit of community, they have provided advice and mentorship to those following their path.

Peer Recognition: A highlight of the year was receiving the 2014 "Faith in Action" Award from the New York Chapter of the Council on American Islamic Relations. It was a humbling testament to our work and it inspires us to do more.

None of this would have been possible without a dedicated team of Officers, Directors and members. Thank you all for making this year such a success. On a personal note, this is my final year on the MuBANY Board, and what has kept me coming back is our wonderful team. MuBANY is an all-volunteer organization that runs on a shoe-string budget, and yet with so little we've managed to do so much. With your participation we can do even more. We look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Kind Regards,
Asim Rehman
President

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Visit our website!

www.muslimbarny.org

Join us on 

2013-2014 Selected Events & Highlights

Advocacy & Service

- At a CLE co-hosted by MuBANY, attorneys were trained on the basics of handling law enforcement contact cases, where law enforcement agents or officers approach an unindicted client for a voluntary interview. (April 2014)
- MuBANY members donated over 156 toys & books, and 750 educational supplies to underprivileged children through our annual Ramadan Toy Drive with the Arab American Association of New York in Brooklyn. (August 2013, AAANY)
- MuBANY joined other legal and community organizations in a letter to the Department of Justice asking for an investigation of the NYPD's surveillance activities targeting the Muslim community. (October 2013)
- MuBANY partnered with other New York Muslim organizations to call upon the National September 11 Memorial & Museum to meet with Muslim leaders regarding the planned viewing of a potentially prejudicial film at the Museum. (April 2014)
- MuBANY continued its role as a core member of the Muslim American Civil Liberties Coalition, which has been at the forefront of advocating for greater law enforcement accountability in New York City.
- MuBANY Director, Yousef Mian, participated in the NY Office of the Attorney General's Civil Rights Bureau's Religious Rights roundtable on issues affecting New York State's Muslim communities. (January 2013)
- MuBANY Leadership & Members participated in mayoral events in honor of Immigrants Rights Week. (June 2013)

MuBANY in the Workplace

- Together with AABANY, MuBANY co-hosted Inside the Partner Track, a panel and networking reception with top litigators, partners, and general counsel at leading law firms and corporations. Panelists included: Helen Wan, Samaa A. Haridi, Rosevelie Márquez Morales, Manisha Sheth, Adrienne K. Eason Wheatley, and Joyce Y. Xu. (January 2014)
- Members heard reflections on careers in legal academia from law school professors whose expertise spans both doctrinal and clinical teaching. 'So You Think You Want To Teach Law? Reflections on Careers in Legal Academia' panelists were Adil Ahmad Haque (Rutgers School of Law - Newark) and Intisar Rabb (NYU School of Law; Harvard Law School). (November 2013)
- Once again, in Ramadan 2013 we sent out a "Ramadan Greetings" letter to inform legal employers and partner bar associations about the holy month. Our letter was prominently featured on the websites of several professional associations.
- Together with AABANY, SABANY, the Black Bar Assoc. of Bronx County & KALAGNY, MuBANY another edition of the annual Women-In-Law-Connect networking mixer, a professional networking event for women who want to expand their network. (December 2013)

Join the MuBANY Listserv!

Every day the MuBANY listserv buzzes with news, job announcements, client referrals and other services and opportunities. We are excited to hear that many of you have found jobs, clients, *pro bono* projects and amicus assistance through our list. With over 350 members and growing, join our listserv and become a part of our vibrant online community. Visit www.muslimbarny.org.

Advancing Career Development & Networking

- In this competitive job market, MuBANY was invited to submit resumes to the Brooklyn District Attorney's office. Furthermore, our members recently participated in a networking and recruiting event with the JP Morgan Chase law department. We look forward to promoting job opportunities for members.
- Our annual Iftar dinner was, once again, a sold-out event. We were honored to welcome many new members this Ramadan. (August 2013)
- MuBANY held its annual Summer Networker at Skadden Arps, with over 40 attorneys and law students in attendance. (July 2013)
- Thank you for participating in MuBANY's survey for members and attorneys. Your feedback and insight has been crucial to further strengthening the organization and growing with members' needs.

Furthering Attorney Education & Service

- Together with the CUNY-CLEAR Project and SABANY, MuBANY hosted a CLE titled: "Agents Unleashed: Protecting Vulnerable Communities from Aggressive Law Enforcement Questioning". (April 2014)
- MuBANY was a proud co-sponsor of NYSBA Committee on Diversity and Inclusion's 11th Annual Celebrating Diversity in the Bar Reception. (January 2014)
- MuBANY encouraged members to poll monitor as part of AALDEF's election protection efforts by co-sponsoring an Ethics CLE training with the Asian, Korean and South Asian American Bar Associations. (November 2013)
- In February 2014, Vice President Nermeen Arastu presented at the Penn APALSA Conference on a panel titled "A Seat at the Table: APA Inclusion in the Legal Profession and Beyond".
- In April 2014, MuBANY member Madiha Zuberi presented on Muslims in the workplace at the 2014 NALP Annual Education Conference held in Seattle, WA.

MuBANY Receives the "Faith in Action" Award from CAIR-NY

On April 13th, MuBANY was honored to receive the Faith in Action award by CAIR-NY at its 2014 Annual Gala.

According to CAIR-NY: *"MuBANY members have been at the forefront of the important social issues of our time, whether it is police spying, marriage equality, or immigration issues. MuBANY members have worked tirelessly to improve the lives of New Yorkers. Thank you for your continued commitment and service!"*

SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS

This was a big year for MuBANY members as they made strides and were recognized by their colleagues and peers.

Congratulations!

- President **Asim Rehman** honored With the "Best Lawyers Under 40 Award" at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's 2013 Conference.
- Former Director **Adeel Mangi** named a "Rising Star" by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association and the New York Law Journal
- Former Director **Muhammad Faridi** was given the 2014 "Outstanding Young Lawyer" Award by the New York State Bar Association.
- *Forbes* "30 Under 30" List for Law And Policy included Community Members **Noorain Khan** and **Nabiha Syed**.
- Former Director **Saema Somalya** was named Vice President and General Counsel of Warren Resources.
- Vice President **Nermeen Arastu** selected for Public Advocate-elect Letitia James' Transition Team
- Members **Chaumotli Huq** and **Umair Khan** were appointed to NYC Public Advocate Letitia James' legal team.

The MuBANY Board is delighted to recognize the accomplishments of our members and colleagues. If you have a professional announcement to share about yourself or a colleague please send it to mubanyinfo@gmail.com.