



IABA is one of the largest minority bar associations in the country. Help us by joining or renewing your membership.



1. December 3, 2009 (Orange County): Networking Mixer and Clothing Drive

2. February 2, 2009 (San Diego): Annual Fundraising Dinner for IABA Scholarship



- Panteha Abdollahi
- Salman Elmi
- Farschad Farzan
- Hani Ganji
- Katayoun Goshtasbi
- Kafah Bachari Manna
- Nema Milaninia
- Niki K. Moore
- Karen Ostad
- Anthony B. Ravani
- Shahrooz Shahnavaaz
- Amir Toossi
- Hermine Valizadeh



Jamie Abadian

### IABA Washington, D.C. Chapter Hosts First Legal Clinic

On November 5, 2009, the DC chapter of the Iranian American Bar Association held its first pro bono clinic. At the first of its monthly meetings, five volunteer attorneys reviewed twelve legal cases in the fields of: landlord/tenant, immigration, foreclosures, family, employment and Social Security law. The process involved intake of the clients pursuant to IABA's national pro bono guidelines, and assigning each prospective client to an attorney with knowledge in the relevant legal field.

Seven of the cases which involved foreclosure and immigration questions were resolved at the clinic. Two cases, involving family and employment law, were taken on privately by two of the volunteer attorneys present at the clinic. The DC Chapter intends to continue with the clinic on a monthly basis, and to eventually expand this program to assist other nationalities/ethnicities in various venues.

In order to foster the program's success, the DC-IABA pro bono clinic must count on fellow attorneys time and support. DC-IABA encourages any and all members to volunteer time at one of the pro bono clinics in order to help facilitate the program's goals. If you are in the Washington, D.C. area and wish to become involved in the DC-IABA pro bono clinic, please contact Salman Elmi at [selmi@ashcraftlaw.com](mailto:selmi@ashcraftlaw.com).

### IABA Hosts Panel Discussion on "Dismantling the Axis of Evil"

On November 10, 2009, the Los Angeles Chapter for the Iranian American Bar Association in conjunction with the Levantine Cultural Center (LCC) presented a panel discussion entitled: *"Dismantling the Axis of Evil: Reforming Middle Eastern Representations in Hollywood & Seeking Sounder Public Policy after 9/11 in the Age of Obama."* Co-sponsored by PAAIA NexGen, BoomGen TV, Shabeh Jomeh, and the Arab American Lawyers Association (AALA) of Southern California, the program included a brief review of roles Middle Easterners play in film and television, followed by a spirited discussion featuring Reza Aslan, author of *No God, But God and How to Win a*

Nader Ahari  
Michael Farhang  
Babak Hoghooghi  
Houri Khalilian  
Ali M. M. Mojdehi  
Nader Mousavi  
Hamid Rafatjoo  
Sima Sarrafan  
Soroush R. Shehabi  
Hon. Ashley Afsaneh  
Tabaddor  
Farzad Tabatabai  
John Tehranian

Cosmic War; John Tehranian, attorney and author of *Whitewashed: America's Invisible Middle Eastern Minority*; Maz Jobrani, actor and comedian ("Axis of Evil Comedy Tour"; "The Interpreter"); Ahmed Ahmed, comedian and actor, and Shiva Rose, actress ("David & Layla" and playwright.)

The event took place at the Mark Taper Auditorium at the Los Angeles Central Public Library and drew over 200 audience members from the Los Angeles areas. To find out more about this one of the kind event and watch videos and pictures, please visit the following links:

- Read a summary of the event at the [Levantine Cultural Center website](#).
- Pictures of the panel discussion can be [found on Flickr.com](#).
- View a video excerpt edited by [Javan TV online here](#).

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### **Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP Donates \$1000 to IABA Scholarship**

On November 30, 2009, the global law firm, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP donated \$1000 toward the IABA Scholarship fund for the 2010-2011 year. The donation marks the first time a global law firm has directly donated funds to IABA's annual scholarship and reflects Wilmer Hale's commitment to diversity and to the advancement of Iranian-Americans in the field of law. IABA is deeply grateful to Wilmer Hale for this enormous contribution and encourages all law firms to take similar steps in helping IABA fund important programs that assist Iranian-American youth advance their legal careers.

More information about [IABA's Annual Scholarship can be found on IABA's website here](#).

To find out more information about Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, [please visit their website at http://www.wilmerhale.com](http://www.wilmerhale.com). To find out how you can donate to the IABA Scholarship Fund, please contact Niki Moore at [nmoore@iaba.us](mailto:nmoore@iaba.us).