



کانون وکلای ایرانی در آمریکا

IRANIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

# E/NEWSLETTER

July 1, 2009

IABA Newsletter

Issue 18



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



1. July 2, 2009 (Northern California): Chapter Meeting
2. August 12, 2009 (Orange County): Judge's Dinner and Panel Presentation
3. October 11, 2009 (Northern California): Battle Over Persepolis Antiquities Panel Discussion



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

## IABA Issues Response to Post-Election Violence in Iran

On June 17, 2009, IABA issued a response to the post-election violence in Iran, opposing violence against by all parties against peaceful protestors. The IABA [requested that the Iranian Government comply with its international obligations](#) under various treaties and conventions it had undertaken noting violations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In order to address this issue, members of IABA's leadership have issued similar statement in video, television and newspaper interviews, including with the Financial Times, the American Lawyer, the California Reporter, FOX News, the Public Broadcasting Station, and other outlets.

IABA will continue to remain abreast of issues in Iran as they unfold and issue comments and remarks as they are consistent with our mission and mandate. IABA also welcomes statements by other leading Iranian-American organizations calling for non-violence, including those from the [National Iranian American Council \(NIAC\)](#) and the [Public Affairs Alliance of Iranian Americans \(PAAIA\)](#). For more information, please contact [press@iaba.us](mailto:press@iaba.us).

## Invitation for 2009/10 IABA Scholarship

IABA issues one or more scholarships each year to law students in good standing enrolled in an accredited law school in the United States. The scholarships take the form of bursaries paid out of our annual operating budget. We consider the scholarship program to be one of our organization's most valuable contributions to law students who embrace the mission of IABA and can demonstrate their commitment its mission and ideals. Statistics show that increasing numbers of Iranian Americans are enrolling in law schools, graduating with law degrees and embarking on accomplished careers in a variety of fields.

IABA consider today's law students as future leaders of our community and is committed to developing its rapport with the Iranian American law student body nationwide, soliciting their input and encouraging their



## Advisory Board of Directors

Jamie Abadian  
Nader Ahari  
Cyrus Amir-Mokri  
Michael Farhang  
Babak Hoghooghi  
Houri Khalilian  
Ali M. M. Mojdehi  
Hamid Rafatjoo  
Sima Sarrafan  
Soroush R. Shehabi  
Hon. Ashley Afsaneh  
Tabaddor  
Farzad Tabatabai

contribution to the organization's initiatives. The scholarship is one part of this larger strategy. The award amount varies depending on the organization's financial resources, but IABA has for several years now always set aside funds in an amount at least \$2,000 annually to fund the scholarship program. The scholarships are designed to recognize the commitment of full or part time law students to the advancement of the Iranian American community. The awards are aimed at helping those students who have no access to other external funding sources; accordingly, students who are receiving full funding for education from another organization are not eligible. The requirements for submitting an application, together with the application form, can be found here: <http://iaba.us/Content.aspx?pg=2-3>. The deadline for submitting a scholarship application is **September 1, 2009**. Should you have any questions, please email [scholarship@iaba.us](mailto:scholarship@iaba.us).

---

### **IABA Joins the U.S. Census Bureau National Partner**

The United States census occurs every 10 years and is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution. The Census is used by federal, state, and local officials to allocate Congressional seats and apportionment, electoral votes, and government funding programs. It is also used to determine what community services to provide. The census is scheduled to take place on April 1, 2010. In hopes of encouraging Iranian-Americans to take participate in the census and educate them about the legal and political effects of having a large-turn out, the IABA has agreed to partner as both a national and regional partner with the U.S. Census Bureau. IABA is also participating in the coalition of Iranian-American organizations currently being formed by the Public Affairs Alliance of Iranian-Americans (PAAIA).

Throughout the next year, various IABA chapters will host important events and programs in order to reach out to the community on the issue and in encouraging people to participate in the census. More information will be provided in the near future on how you can get involved and assist.

---

### **IABA Member Profile: Afshin Pischevar (Washington, D.C.)**

Afshin Pischevar is the managing attorney at the Pischevar Law Firm, located in Rockville, Maryland. A graduate of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 2003, Mr. Pischevar's primary practice is in general civil and criminal litigation, including claims of medical and dental malpractice, personal injury, commercial, family, bankruptcy, employment and immigration disputes. Mr. Pischevar is also an active member of the Iranian-American community. He is currently on the local board of directors for the Washington, D.C. IABA Chapter. In 2007, Mr. Pischevar also began representing the National Iranian American

council (NIAC) in their action for defamation against Voci of America. Mr. Pishevar has been quoted in hundreds of news reports on National and Local Television, Newspaper Articles, on the Web and Radio.

Mr. Pishevar joined IABA "because it is a professional organization that is of great significance not only to Iranian-American lawyers, but also to all the Iranian-Americans in the U.S." In his own words he notes, "We, the IABA can and should participate, inter alia, by filing briefs and position papers with agencies holding public, in pro bono cases involving important legal issues, in national, state and local legislatures and/or any other venue addressing a matter of great significance to the Iranian-Am Community. We can even be the legal arm for other grass roots organization that are working hard to protect and advocate for the interests of the Iranian-Am Community. I want to be a part of this and do whatever I can to play a role in bringing this about. This is why I am a proud member of the IABA."

Questions or Comments? We'd love to hear from you!

Visit the IABA at [www.iaba.us](http://www.iaba.us)