



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



1. May 7 (San Diego): Reception for Judge Tamila Ipema
2. May 9 (Northern California): Annual Board of Directors Summit
3. May 14 (New York): Networking Reception
4. May 28 (Orange County): Wine-Tasting Networking Event
5. June 10 (Chicago): Conference on Persian Antiquities Litigation



- 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 Convenes National Board of Director's Summit

On May 9, 2009, the IABA Board of Directors convened its annual Board summit, this year in San Francisco, CA. The Board discussed how to improve chapter relations, national projects, government and public relations, the allocation of this year's scholarship, and general infrastructure and foundational matters. Of most importance, the Board agreed to issue national operational guidelines, accessible by members across the country, in order to greater inform its members about the operations of IABA. In addition, the IABA Board of Directors created the following national committees: (1) Member Services; (2) Public Relations; (3) Government Outreach; (4) Publications; and (5) Fundraising. If you would like to participate in, or assist, any of these committee please visit the following link and contact the respective committee chair: <http://iaba.us/Content.aspx?pg=0-5>.

List of Accomplishments for 2008/09

The following is a short list of IABA's accomplishments for 2008-09:

Publications: Annual IABA Review addressing important legal issues of interest to the Iranian-American community; two working group documents on Humanitarian Assistance to Iran Under Current Sanctions Laws and Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions; and a bi-monthly e-Newsletter on programs and legal issues

Pro Bono Representation: Assisted countless number of indigent individuals and non-profit organizations secure legal representation for their matters

Continuing Legal Education: Obtained CLE accreditation in California to provide programs on continuing legal education

Panels with Prominent Speakers: Hosted prominent speakers, including Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi (New York), Congressman Howard Berman (Los Angeles), Superior Court Judge Susan Etezadi (Northern California) and Former Assistant Secretary of State Goli Ameri (Washington, D.C.)

Community Outreach: Hosted courses around the nation on important legal issues, including developing a living trust, intellectual property law and patent applications, adjustment of status for visa-holders, and



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of Directors**

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Soroush R. Shehabi
Hon. Ashley Afsaneh
Tabaddor
Farzad Tabatabai

criminal law issues

IABA Scholarship: Awarded annual IABA Scholarship to three law students to assist in their legal education

Public Interest Fund: Established a public interest fund to award attorneys working for the interest of the community

Social and Business Networking: Hosted dinners and business networking programs for lawyers and law students

Government Relations: Held direct meetings with the US Department of State and US Department of Treasury to discuss issues impacting Iranian-Americans

Persian Antiquities Panel in Chicago, IL

On June 10, 2009, the Chicago Chapter of the IABA will host a panel on the Persian Antiquities Litigation. The panel will be hosted in Chicago, IL from 5:45pm - 8:00pm CST at the University Center, 525 S. State Street, Chicago, IL 60605 and will discuss the legal and cultural issues related cases pending in Federal District Court in Chicago and Boston concerning disputes between plaintiff-victims and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Depending on the outcome of these cases, priceless ancient Persian artifacts in museums in Illinois and Massachusetts may be dismantled and sold at auction.

Presented by:

- **Dr. Matthew Wolfgang Stopler**, Professor of Assyriology in the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago

- **Dr. Patty Gerstenblith**, Director of the DePaul College of Law's Program in Cultural Heritage Law

- **Sue Benton, Esq.**, Partner, Winston & Strawn LLP and Lead Counsel for the Chicago Field Museum

- **Dr. Gil Stein**, Director of the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago

Tickets are free for IABA Members, \$10 for non-Members, and \$5 for students. Please note seating is very limited. If there is availability on the day of the event, tickets will cost \$15 at the door for members and non-members and \$10 for students.

To RSVP, [please visit this link to purchase tickets.](#)