



NAML Appoints Executive Director

June 13, 2005

After an intensive executive director search, we are extremely pleased to announce our first full time President and Executive Director: Ms. Farhana Khera.

Farhana is a long time member of NAML and a supporter for many years. Many of you may know her. She will be leading both NAML and NAML's recently formed, charitable sister entity, **Muslim Advocates**.

Farhana is uniquely positioned to lead NAML and Muslim Advocates. She previously served for six years as counsel to Senator Feingold on the US Senate Judiciary Committee, where she focused substantially on the USA PATRIOT Act, racial and religious profiling, and other civil liberties issues raised since September 11th. Prior to her work in the U.S. Senate, among other positions, she served as an attorney with the Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson.

You will see much more about our exciting new plans in the coming days and weeks, so stay tuned. Together with Farhana, we've begun an intensive strategic planning process for the next three years, taking to heart many of the suggestions and ideas that were put forth by our membership in the survey conducted last year. This survey confirmed that our community and nation requires more of us as Muslim American lawyers -- and that NAML members stand ready to engage in the legal and legislative process and work to educate community members about the law and their rights.

We very much hope for your continued input as we embark upon this new phase of our operations. In order to move NAML forward at this exciting juncture in its growth, it is more important than ever that all NAML members are current with payment of their membership dues. If you have not already paid your dues for 2005, we kindly [request that you do so](#).

For more information about our future plans and to offer your ideas and suggestions, you can reach Farhana at farhana@namlnet.org or (202) 448-9978.

* * *

Farhana Khera, President and Executive Director

Farhana Khera leaves her position as Counsel to the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Property Rights to join the NAML and Muslim Advocates as our Executive Director. In the Senate, she worked for six years directly for Senator Russell D. Feingold (D-WI), the ranking member of the Constitution Subcommittee. Ms. Khera focused substantially on the USA PATRIOT Act,

racial and religious profiling, and other civil liberties issues raised by the government's anti-terrorism policies since September 11th. She was the Senator's lead staff member in organizing subcommittee hearings on racial profiling, the treatment of individuals rounded up and detained after the September 11th attacks, and legal reform in Iraq.

Prior to her service with the Senate Judiciary Committee, Ms. Khera was an associate with Washington, D.C. law firms. She worked with Hogan & Hartson, specializing in commercial and administrative litigation. She also worked with Ross, Dixon & Masback, serving as the lead associate on several *pro bono* employment discrimination cases, which resulted in the firm being honored with the Outstanding Achievement Award by the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs.

Ms. Khera received her B.A. with honors in political science and economics from Wellesley College. At Wellesley, she served as president of the student body and co-founded the first Muslim students organization, al-Muslimat ("The Muslim Women"). Ms. Khera received her J.D. from Cornell Law School, where she was a finalist in the law school's annual Cuccia Cup Moot Court Competition and was an editor with the *Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy*.

###