

RAMADAN MUBARAK

**As Salaamu Alaikum
(Peace Be Upon You),**

CAIR-Philadelphia Executive Committee and Staff would like to wish you and your family a blessed Ramadan. This Ramadan is yet another opportunity to renew one's faith, practice patience and enable the establishment of truth, justice and mutual understanding in our society. May Allah (SWT) accept our fasts and answer all of our supplications and prayers during this sacred month.

CAIR-Philadelphia continues to be your most effective institution that safeguards your civil rights and advocates for justice. Our priorities are to proactively address the civil rights challenges American Muslims face, such as rising Islamophobia in the form of stereotypes, propaganda, biased media coverage and misinformation. The consequences of which affect us all through discrimination against and disempower-

ment of the American Muslim community.

Harassment and bullying suffered by Muslim students in public schools is on the rise. It can, at times, appear insurmountable to our children. CAIR-Philadelphia countered this challenge both institutionally and at the personal level. We highlighted the issue with law firms, government agencies, schools and community advocates by conducting in-depth legal training on how to effectively address and litigate school bullying. From a personal empowerment perspective, we presented anti-bullying workshops at mosques and community centers, equipping children and their parents with tools to challenge school-related harassment.

CAIR-Philadelphia continues to be the go-to source by media outlets for comment on current events of the day. During the Boston Marathon tragedy, CAIR-Philadelphia's Legal Director

Amara Chaudhry assertively spoke on behalf of the local Muslim community on NBC10 News and AM1210 WPHT's *The Dom Giordano Program*. We ensure these outlets have a reliable source of information to convey to their audience and readership regarding Islam and Muslims within our community.

These are just a few examples to illustrate the benefits of your investment in CAIR-Philadelphia. We ask that you continue your unwavering support of CAIR-Philadelphia to help build and sustain this organization for many years to come. We owe it to our country, our community, our children, and ourselves.

Thank You

CAIR-Philadelphia
Executive Committee and Staff



Help CAIR-Philadelphia Protect American Muslim Civil Rights

We remind you that 42.6 million dollars has been spent to fund Islamophobia. Anti-Muslim organizations create fear of Islam in the larger community by telling them Islam is inherently violent and that it should be banned.

CAIR-Philadelphia is the most effective Islamic organization that can defend our community from mosque oppositions and vandalism, "anti-shariah" bills, hate crimes, youth bullying, government in-

timidation, discrimination against our businesses and more.

To successfully address these challenges, CAIR-Philadelphia employs professional and seasoned staff and interns to handle the day-to-day operations. However, to meet our expenses we need you to invest in your organization.

Our goal is to raise **\$100,000** during the blessed month of Ramadan through December 2013.

A donation to CAIR-Philadelphia is tax-deductible and zakat-eligible.

Visit: pa.cair.com/donate/

We have earned the GuideStar Exchange Seal, demonstrating our commitment to non-profit transparency.



CIVIL RIGHTS & LEGAL ADVOCACY

CAIR-Philadelphia is willing to go to court to protect our community

Whereas many organizations chant the mantra of “Muslim civil rights,” CAIR-Philadelphia’s Legal Department has long-identified two specific areas of focus within this burgeoning, yet often poorly defined, legal specialty: First, we protect American Muslims from systemic governmental discrimination. Second, we protect vulnerable subpopulations within the American Muslim legal community. In the overwhelming majority of our cases (including all of the cases described below), CAIR-Philadelphia relies solely upon “in-house counsel,” in the form of Legal Director Amara Chaudhry, to litigate our cases from initiation to conclusion.

Fighting Governmental Discrimination: CAIR-Philadelphia Challenges US Dept. of Defense

Legal Director Amara Chaudhry represented a Muslim federal employee who was denied a promotion due to concerns that he was susceptible to “foreign influence” and therefore no longer worthy of the federal security clearance needed for his government job. We became involved in this case when it became evident that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) had based its decision largely on our client’s identity as an American Muslim.

Our representation of this client included a day-long trial-type hearing before a federal administrative judge (AJ) with the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals in Arlington, VA.

Ultimately, CAIR-Philadelphia was successful at trial and our client’s security clearance was restored. The AJ issued a recommended decision in our client’s favor and the final decision-making authority on such matters, the DoD’s Clearance Appeals Board (CAB), agreed



“CAIR-Philadelphia took this case to ensure that the federal government does not use legitimate concerns regarding national security to discriminate against law-abiding American Muslims who pose no discernible threat to national security.”

with that recommendation and restored our client’s security clearance. CAIR-Philadelphia’s involvement in this case spanned little over a year, but our client had been struggling with this case for seven years prior to our involvement. The CAB’s decision ended that struggle.

This is an important case for the American Muslim community. There is a danger that the federal guideline concerning “foreign influence” will be unfairly construed against Muslim and Jewish Americans who maintain contacts with persons and places in the Greater Middle East. Indeed, there are number of federal court cases which have raised this concern. CAIR-Philadelphia took this case to enforce the existing federal policies relating to “foreign influence” and to ensure that the federal government does not use legitimate concerns regarding national security to discriminate against law-abiding American Muslims who pose no discernible threat to national security.

Fighting Governmental Discrimination: CAIR-Philadelphia’s Legal Battles Against US Dept. of Justice

Similarly, CAIR-Philadelphia wants to ensure that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) does not use legitimate concerns regarding national security to engage in practices that discriminate against law-abiding American Muslims, and we have initiated legal action in the federal court system where we suspect such practices. The DOJ includes both the FBI and the U.S. Attorney’s Offices.

One of our resolved cases alleged unlawful FBI interference with resolution of our client’s immigration petition. We also have ongoing matters which raise a novel question of law: whether the grand jury process can be lawfully used to compel cooperation with the FBI’s “intelligence gathering” efforts. It is not clear, as yet, whether the federal courts will address this novel question of law “on the merits.”

Protecting Vulnerable Populations

CAIR-Philadelphia has identified two specific underserved “vulnerable subpopulations” within the American Muslim community: (1) school children, and (2) incarcerated persons and their families. Our 2012 Annual Report will more fully discuss our 2012 case work on behalf of incarcerated persons.

Bringing the issue of bullying to the legal community

Legal Director Amara Chaudhry created a groundbreaking continuing legal education course (CLE) course titled “How to Litigate a School Bullying Case” which premiered in April 2013. Unfortunately, too few lawyers and litigators consider school bullying to be a “legal issue,” and far too few are unaware of the multitude of legal remedies available. This training was CAIR-PA’s latest effort to bring the issue of school bullying to the forefront of the legal community. We thank the Pennsylvania Bar Institute for helping CAIR-Philadelphia bring this issue to the legal community.

How to Litigate a School Bullying Case

9:00 AM TO 12:15 PM
PHILADELPHIA
FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013



PENNSYLVANIA BAR INSTITUTE
Continuing Education Arm of the Pennsylvania Bar Association
BRINGING EXCELLENCE TO CLE

MEDIA ADVOCACY

CAIR-Philadelphia provides reliable information on Islam and Muslims

Discussing the Continuing Effects of September 11, 2001

CAIR-Philadelphia Staff Members Amara Chaudhry and Rugiatu Conteh visited the studio of WURD 900 AM for the *Nick Taliaferro Show* discussing the continuing legacy of 9/11 in terms of community relations and legal and governmental ramifications while clearing up myths about Muslims and the Islamic faith. Staff were scheduled to speak on the live radio show for an hour, but the host kept them on longer to respond to callers that tied up the studio phone lines.



Relations

Suite 510



Outreach & Communications Director Rugiatu Conteh speaks with NBC10 reporters regarding Muslim reactions to the attack on US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

CAIR-Philadelphia Responds to Boston Marathon Bombing



Legal Director Amara Chaudhry appeared on NBC10 News and was a guest on radio talk show *The Dom Giordano Program* discussing the Boston bombings' investigation and its impact on society and federal policies.

When terrorism is falsely linked by race or religion, we all become the victims

Delaware County Daily Times

by Osama Al-Qasem, CAIR-Philadelphia Executive Committee Member

A week after the cruel attack on the Boston Marathon, our nation is still trying to answer that piece of the — who, what, and why — puzzle. Despite our lack of information as to the “why,” we do know some facts as to “what” happened. We know that when the suspects placed their bombs amongst the crowd of joyous spectators, they did not check for the race or religion of their potential victims. Instead, they coldly sought a body count. We know that three young people lost their lives — an 8-year-old boy who once held up a sign “no more hurting people,” an out-

going restaurant manager, and an immigrant who had traveled far from northeastern China to seek an education in our land. We also know that over 150 people were injured, and many more witnesses were traumatized by this event.

The victims of this horror represented a wide spectrum of American society: white, brown, citizen, immigrant, Christian and, yes, even Muslim.

Read more at our website: <http://pa.cair.com/media/when-terrorism-falsely-linked/>

CAIR-Philadelphia Documentary Discusses the “Anti-Shariah” Movement Within Context of U.S. History

Brown Skin, Funny Names is a 24-minute documentary film discussing Pennsylvania’s proposed “anti-Shariah” bill, House Bill 2029 (Nov. 18, 2011), within the context of identity and race in post-9/11 America.

Why did CAIR-Philadelphia decide to make a documentary film? Because CAIR-Philadelphia realizes that American Muslims must create our own media, rather than relying upon others to tell our stories for us.

Not only does this film document CAIR-Philadelphia’s substantial efforts defeating House Bill 2029, it also discusses the social and cultural issues which are inextricably linked to laws affecting historically marginalized populations in the United States, particularly American Muslims. Most importantly, this film places both American Muslims and the “anti-Shariah” movement solidly within America’s legal, social, and cultural history.

Brown Skin, Funny Names aired on Philadelphia’s public access television channel (PhillyCAM) beginning in January 2013.

Check out brownskinfunnynames.com for more information.



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

CAIR-Philadelphia teaches the general public who Muslims are

SAVE THE DATE

**CAIR-Philadelphia's
8th Annual Banquet
March 15, 2014 in Springfield, PA**



We are 100% locally-funded by private individual donations.

Support CAIR-Philadelphia

Join our e-mail list or find us on social media to stay up-to-date
pa.cair.com



Educating Law Students Regarding "Muslim Civil Rights"

On February 15, 2013, Legal Director Amara Chaudhry was a presenter at a law school academic symposium titled "Discrimination Against Muslim Americans in a Post-9/11 World." Ms. Chaudhry participated in two panels. In the first panel, she argued that the increasing "ex ante" (before the event) criminalization of American Muslim identity is not surprising in light of the American legal system's historic "racialization" of Muslim identity and "criminalization" of non-white racial

identities. In the second panel, Ms. Chaudhry relied upon her professional experience challenging Pennsylvania's "anti-Shariah" House Bill 2029 (on behalf of CAIR-Philadelphia) to assert that the new "facially neutral" "anti-Shariah" bills are as unconstitutional as their more overtly discriminatory predecessors. This symposium was sponsored by the Journal of Civil Rights & Social Justice at Washington and Lee University School of Law.

Educating College Students Regarding the Role of Women in Islam

CAIR-Philadelphia takes a proactive approach to addressing misconceptions by conducting educational presentations that provide a forum for ordinary citizens to ask questions about Islamic beliefs or Muslim practices.

Outreach and Communications Director Rugiatu Conteh conducted an Islam 101 and Women in Islam presentation at Gwynedd-Mercy College in October 2012 to discuss these issues. Students and faculty who attended found the presentation both enlightening and informative.

Outreach Within the Larger Faith Community

In September 2013, CAIR-Philadelphia Outreach and Communications Director Rugiatu Conteh joined The Philadelphia Interfaith Children and Youth Festival, a 2-day multicultural festival for youth and their families to learn about different faith traditions. The festival is a fun-filled experience for children and youth of all ages, backgrounds, faiths, and abilities.

April 2013 was the 10th Anniversary of The Philadelphia Interfaith Walk for Peace and Reconciliation. The Walk drew over 600 participants from various faith traditions that visited different houses of worship while engaging in conversation, song, prayer and reflection. It offered a soulful alternative to violence in Philadelphia's neighborhoods.

2013 Projected Expenses: \$290,000



Payroll (\$168,000)	Admin. (Rent, Utilities, Etc.) (\$36,000)
Annual Banquet (\$48,000)	Communications and Programs (\$20,000)
Travel/Expense/Contingency (\$18,000)	

Expenses by Programs



Legal/Civil Rights (29%)	Interfaith (15%)
Empowering Our Youth (10%)	Annual Banquet (10%)
Community Education (16%)	Media & Outreach (10%)