



*In the name of Allah, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful*

**MONUMENTAL MOMENTS  
FOR MUSLIM LAWYERS  
NAML Annual Conference 2023**



**Friday, October 6, 2023**

**9:30 – 11:30 am      DC FIELD TRIP (SCOTUS PHOTO + LIBRARY OF CONGRESS TOUR)**

**Description:** meet outside Supreme Court for group photo and walk to Library of Congress for private tour, including viewing of Thomas Jefferson's Quran. Pre-registration for tour required.

**11:30 – 1:00 pm      TIME FOR OFF-SITE INDIVIDUAL LUNCHESES**

**1:00 – 1:30 pm      IJUM'AH PRAYER AT CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT (SALON H)**

- Imam Yahya Hendi, Georgetown University

**1:30 - 2:00 p.m.      NAML CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (SECOND FLOOR)**

**Description:** attendees check-in at the registration desk and receive conference materials.

**2:00-2:15 p.m.      WELCOMING REMARKS FROM NAML LEADERS (SALONS A, B, C)**

**Description:** NAML leaders welcome participants, preview conference and share updates.

**2:15 – 3:15 p.m.      INSIDE CAPITOL HILL: MUSLIMS SUPPORTING THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (PLENARY SESSION - SALONS A, B and C)**

**Speakers:**

- Suhail Khan, Director of External Affairs, Microsoft; Senior Fellow, Institute for Global Engagement
- Niha Razi, Hill Alliance Consulting, Former Chief of Staff, U.S. House of Representatives
- Moon Yousif Sulfab, Congressional Staffer, U.S. Senate
- Diala Qasem, Senior Legislative Assistant, U.S. House of Representatives
- Moderator: Rahmah Abdulaleem, NAML President-Elect

**Description:** speakers discuss their unique experiences as Muslims working in the legislative branch in a panel co-sponsored by Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS).

**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.      MANIFESTING BLACK LIVES MATTER: THE LATEST IN CRIMINAL LAW REFORM (PLENARY SESSION - SALONS A, B and C)**

**Speakers:**

- Amir Ali, Executive Director, MacArthur Justice Center
- Maha ElKollali, Law Office of Maha A. ELKolalli, P.L.
- Nabeha Shaer, Esq., Senior Associate Attorney, Ben Crump Law
- Mehwish Shaukat, Supreme Court and Appellate Fellow, MacArthur Justice Center
- Moderator: Edward Ahmed Mitchell, NAML President & Deputy Director, CAIR

**Description:** panelists discuss the status of reforms to the criminal law system, including issues involving police brutality, wrongful convictions, and qualified immunity.

**Friday, October 6, 2023**

**4:45 - 5:45 p.m.      MORAL, ETHICAL & PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGES:  
WHAT WOULD YOU DO? (PLENARY SESSION) (SALONS A, B, C)**

**Speakers:**

- Saba Alvi, Deputy Chief Compliance Officer, Flowserve Corp
- Lena Masri, General Counsel, Council on American-Islamic Relations
- Erum Mirza, General Counsel, District of Columbia Bar
- Danette Zhagari-Mask, Deputy General Counsel, National Public Radio
- Moderator: Ali Gadelhak, Internal Revenue Service; CAMBA President

**Description:** Panelists discuss challenges they have faced or witnessed as Muslim lawyers, such as moral issues related to their faith or values, ethical issues related to bar and legal rules, and professional issues related to career and the workplace.

**6:00 - 7:00 pm      PRACTICE AREA MEET & GREET BREAKOUT SESSIONS (SALONS D&E and F&G)**

**Description:** practice group facilitators host networking sessions with attendees based on practice area. Discuss developments, opportunities and challenges in your respective fields.

- **BIG LAW:** Ali Al-Sarraf, Special Counsel, Jenner & Block & Zahra Usmani, Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP
- **IN-HOUSE/GENERAL COUNSEL:** Asad Rahman, Vice President & Assistant General Counsel at JP Morgan Chase Co. & Danette Zhagari-Mask, Deputy General Counsel, NPR
- **SOLO, SMALL/MEDIUM FIRMS, PERSONAL INJURY:** Hamid Saahir, Founder, Hurt 317
- **NON-PROFIT/PUBLIC INTEREST:** Sumayya Saleh, Senior Attorney, Civil Rights Corps
- **CRIMINAL LAW - PROSECUTION & DEFENSE:** Aliya Khalidi, Esq., Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Columbia
- **IMMIGRATION LAW:** Bushra Malik, Shareholder, Butzel Attorneys and Counselors
- **ACADEMIA:** Professor Rahmah Abdulaleem, NAML President-Elect
- **GOVERNMENT/CIVIL SERVICE:** Ali Gadelhak, Internal Revenue Service; CAMBA President & Zaheer Muskatia, VA Board of Appeals; Former CAMBA President
- **JUDICIAL SERVICE:** Judge Dania Ayoubi, Administrative Law Judge, Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings
- **ESTATE PLANNING, PLANNED GIVING, WILLS:** To be announced insha Allah

**Friday, October 6, 2023**

**7:00 - 7:30 p.m.      PRAYER BREAK (MAGHRIB + ISHA FOR TRAVELERS - SALON H)**

**7:30 - 9:00 p.m.      NETWORKING DINNER (SALONS A, B, C)**

- Keynote remarks: Judge Zia Faruqui, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
- Entertainment: Yasmin ElHady, Attorney and Comedian

**Description:** NAML conference attendees sit down for an on-site networking dinner, followed by a comedy show.

**9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.      LOCAL EVENT OFF-SITE (Nighttime Monument visit)**

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**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**7:30 – 8:30 a.m.      BREAKFAST**

**8:30-9:00 a.m.      WELCOME FROM LOCAL LEADERSHIP (SALONS A, B, C)**

**Description:** NAML leaders greet guests, introduce board members, recognize sponsors, overview the day's events and introduce local leaders for welcoming remarks.

**9:00 – 9:50 am      LIFE AS A MUSLIM LAWYER: HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HEALTH, LIVE YOUR FAITH, AND SHOW UP AS YOUR FULL SELF (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS D&E)**

**Speakers:**

- Samita T. Ali-Khan, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP
- Roula Allouch Of Counsel, Bricker Graydon
- M. Khurram Baig, Principal, The Baig Law Firm
- Zuneera Masood, Associate Corporate Counsel, Continental Finance
- Moderator: Baraa Kahf, Vice President, NAML & Partner, Knobbe Martens

**Description:** panelists share their experiences and tips for finding the appropriate work-family-spiritual balance, overcoming 'impostor syndrome,' living out their values in the workplace, and protecting their mental and physical health in high-stress environments.

**9:00 – 9:50 am      TRICKS OF THE TRADE: AVOIDING, MEDIATING AND RESOLVING DISPUTES FOR YOUR CLIENTS (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS F, G)**

**Speakers:**

- Shirin Afsous, Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Mahir Nisar, MCDR Board Member and Partner at Nisar Law Group, P.C.
- M. Salman Ravala, Muslim Center for Dispute Resolution (MCDR) Board Member and Partner at Criscione Ravala, LLP
- Moderator: Saba Alvi, Deputy Chief Compliance Officer, Flowserve Corp

**Description:** panelists share advice about adding alternative dispute resolution to your practice area, their experiences resolving conflicts through ADR, and tips for how corporate and nonprofit clients can use best practices to prepare for and avoid internal conflicts.

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**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**10:00 – 10:50 am    THE LAW & CHANGING TECHNOLOGY: PRIVACY, CYBERSECURITY AND A.I. TOOLS & RISKS (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS D&E)**

**Speakers:**

- Professor Farshad Ghodoosi, California State University
- Wajeeh Mahmoud, Principal, West Law Los Angeles
- Noha Moustafa, Counsel, Google
- Moderator: Abbas Ravjani, Privacy and Public Policy Senior Manager, Ads, Monetization and Data Strategy, Meta

**Description:** panelists discuss legal tools, risks and opportunities associated with rapidly changing technology, including issues involving cyber security, data privacy, artificial intelligences.

**10:00 – 10:50 am    IMMIGRATION LAW TRENDS AND CHALLENGES: FROM REFUGEES TO BUSINESSES (PARALLEL SESSION) - SALONS F&G**

**Speakers:**

- Hassan Ahmad, Founder, The HMA Law Firm
- Laila Ayub, Director & Immigration Attorney, Project Anar
- Spojmie Nasiri, Principal, Spojmie Nasiri Law Office
- Jennifer Nimer, Nimer Law LLC: Immigration & Federal Litigation
- Mo Syed, Partner, Offit Kurtman
- Sahar Mahmoud Taman, Offices of Sahar Mahmoud Taman, Esq.
- Moderator: Hudaidah Bhimdi, Bhimdi Global Immigration PLLC

**Description:** Panelists discuss major developments in immigration field, including the Afghan refugee crisis, ongoing litigation related to lingering impacts of the Muslim Ban.

**11:00 – 11:50 am    MUSLIMS IN ACADEMIA: TURNING THEORY INTO PRACTICE, PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION (PARALLEL SESSION - SALON D&E)**

**Speakers:**

- Professor Faisal Kutty, Southwestern Law School
- Professor Adnan Zulfiqar, Rutgers University Law School
- Professor Zeba Huq, Clinical Supervising Attorney & Lecturer in Law, Religious Liberty Clinic, Stanford Law School
- Professor Saleema Snow, University of District Columbia Law School
- Professor Asifa Quraishi-Landes, University of Wisconsin Law School
- Moderator: Syma Ahmad Siddiqui, Associate General Counsel, Johns Hopkins University

**Description:** panelists discuss their academia experiences, including clinical work, efforts to train the next generation of principled lawyers, and tips for students and attorneys.

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**11:00 – 11:50 am    FROM DISCRIMINATION TO GENOCIDE: THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST ISLAMOPHOBIA (PARALLEL SESSION - SALON F&G)**

**Speakers:**

- Gadeir Abbas, Senior Litigation Attorney, Council on American-Islamic Relations
- Professor Sahar Aziz, Director, Center for Security, Race and Rights, Rutgers University Law School
- Professor, Khaled Beydoun, Arizona State University, Author of “The New Crusades: Islamophobia and the Global War on Muslims”
- Naz Ahmed, Director, Creating Law Enforcement & Accountability Project (CLEAR, City University of New York)
- Yasmin Al Ameen, International Litigation and Arbitration Department, Foley Hoag
- Moderator: Reem Subei, Senior Staff Attorney, Muslim Advocates

**Description:** panelists discuss their efforts to challenge domestic and global Islamophobia, particularly anti-Muslim bigotry entrenched in the laws and policies of governments.

**12:00 – 1:00 pm    MEET THE JUDGES: LUNCH KEYNOTE PANEL (PLENARY - SALONS A, B and C)**

**Speakers:**

- Judge Dania Ayoubi, Administrative Law Judge, MD Office of Admin. Hearings
  - Judge Fatima El-Amin, Chief Judge, Dekalb County Family Court, State of Georgia
  - Judge Zia Faruqui, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
  - Judge Zahid Quraishi, United States District Judge, District of New Jersey
- Moderator: Arsalan Suleman, President & Chair, America Indivisible

**Description:** Muslim judges discuss their paths to the bench, experiences and challenges during and after the confirmation process, and their ongoing service.

**1:00 – 1:15 pm    PRAYER BREAK (ZUHR + ASR FOR TRAVELERS - SALON H)**

**1:20 – 2:10 pm    THE LATEST FROM SCOTUS: DEVELOPMENTS, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR MUSLIM CAUSES (PARALLEL - SALONS D, E)**

**Speakers:**

- Professor Zeba Huq, Clinical Supervising Attorney & Lecturer in Law, Religious Liberty Clinic, Stanford Law School
- Azam Nizamuddin, Managing Partner, Martoccio & Martoccio
- Sumayyah Waheed, Senior Policy Counsel, Muslim Advocates
- Moderator: Samer Sabbour, 2L, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law; Programs Coordinator, National Muslim Law Students Association

**Description:** panelists discuss appellate work, recent major SCOTUS decisions involving religious liberty and other topics, and their potential impact on American Muslims.

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**1:20 - 2:10 p.m. REENTRY & REINTEGRATION: A FRESH START FOR RETURNING CITIZENS (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS F&G)**

**Speakers:**

- Judge Zia Faruqui, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
- Sumayya Saleh, Senior Attorney, Civil Rights Corps
- Mark Timberlake, Trauma Program Coordinator, Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants, Executive Office of the Mayor of Washington, DC
- Moderator: Isra Bhatti, Assistant Federal Public Defender, District of Columbia

**Description:** Panelists discuss how lawyers, judges and community advocates are working to alleviate the impact of the penal system through improvements in the reentry and recovery process for returning citizens.

**2:20 - 3:20 p.m. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS: MUSLIM LAWYERS SERVING POTUS (PLENARY SESSION - SALONS A, B and C)**

**Speakers:**

- Brenda Abdelall, Assistant Secretary for Partnership and Engagement, Department of Homeland Security (speaking in personal capacity)
- Raheemah Abdulaleem, General Counsel and Special Assistant to the President, White House Office of Administration
- Mazen Basrawi, Director for Partnerships & Global Engagement | National Security Council, Senior Advisor & Liaison to Muslim Communities | Office of Public Engagement The White House
- Sameera Fazili, Former Director, National Economic Council of the United States
- Moderator: Aimen Mir, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

**Description:** panelists share their experiences as political appointees or civil servants in the executive branch during the Obama, Trump and/or Biden administrations.

**3:30 - 4:20 p.m. MUSLIM LAWYERS SERVING THE VULNERABLE: FROM FAMILIES TO JUVENILES TO SURVIVORS (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS D&E)**

- Judge Fatima El-Amin, Chief Judge, Dekalb County Family Court, State of Georgia
- Kinza Khan, Managing Attorney, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation
- Farhana Querishi, Attorney, Querishi & Salejee PLLC
- Moderator: Shirin Afsous, Greenberg Traurig, LLP

**Description:** attorneys and judges discuss their work on legal issues involving particularly vulnerable members of society, such as children, parents, families, juvenile defendants, or victims of abuse.

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**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**3:30 – 4:20 pm      HOW MUSLIM LAWYERS ARE BRINGING THEIR UNIQUE PRINCIPLES AND EXPERIENCES TO CORPORATE LAW (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS F&G)**

**Speakers:**

- Samita T. Ali-Khan, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP
- Ali Al-Sarraf, Special Counsel, Jenner & Block
- Noha Moustafa, Counsel, Google
- Moderator: Asad Rahman, Vice President & Assistant General Counsel at JP Morgan Chase Co.

**Description:** Panelists discuss their experiences representing or working within major companies as Muslim lawyers, trends and challenges in the corporate field, and interesting developments of particular relevance to the Muslim community.

**4:30 – 5:20 pm      THE UNIQUE CHALLENGES OF ESTATE PLANNING FOR MUSLIM CLIENTS: WILLS, PLANNED GIVING, & INHERITANCE (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS D&E)**

**Speakers:**

- Abed Awad, Awad & Khoury LLP & Founder of Shariawiz
- Talib Karim, Attorney & CEO, Abe Legal
- Umar A. Sheikh, Principal and Department Chair, Offit Kurman, P.A.
- Moderator: Edward Ahmed Mitchell, President, National Association of Muslim Lawyers

**Description:** Panelists discuss the value of a robust estate law practice and unique issues faced by Muslim clients related to inheritance, planned giving, marital property, and other issues. Panel co-hosted and sponsored by Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA).

**4:30 – 5:20 pm      PRACTICING HEALTHCARE LAW: STORIES AND CHALLENGES (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS F&G)**

**Speakers:**

- Haroon F. Hashmi, Senior Healthcare Attorney, Clark Hill Law
- Hamza Siddiqui, Counsel, CVS Health
- Hadeer Soliman, Associate Counsel, CHOC Children's Hospital (CA)
- Moderator: Shariyf Muhammad, NAML Board Member & Director of Health Law & Policy, Georgia Department of Human Services

**Description:** Panelists discuss trends involving providers and patients in healthcare law, including transactional, regulatory, and litigation matters.

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**5:30 - 6:20 p.m.     MOVEMENT LAWYERING (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS D&E)**

**Speakers:**

- Tahirah Al-Waddud, Executive Director, CAIR-Massachusetts
- Namira Islam, Co-Founder & Executive Director of MuslimARC
- Omar Shakir, Israel and Palestine Director, Human Rights Watch
- Reem Subei, Senior Staff Attorney Muslim Advocates
- Moderator: Iqra Niazi, 3L, Seton Hall University School of Law; Vice Chair of Programs, National Muslim Law Students Association

**Description:** panelists share their perspectives and experiences engaging in activism as a Muslim lawyer and using the law as a tool to advance various causes of justice.

**5:30 – 6:20 pm     LAW AND ORDER: MUSLIMS AS DEFENDERS & PROSECUTORS (PARALLEL SESSION - SALONS F&G)**

**Speakers:**

- Isra Bhatti, Assistant Federal Public Defender, District of Columbia
- Aliya Khalidi, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Columbia
- Sufia Khalid, Staff Attorney, Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America – Muslim Legal Fund of America
- Sajid Khan, Deputy Public Defender, Santa Clara County
- Moderator: Nadia Ahmed, Appellate Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Nevada

**Description:** panelists share their experiences working as prosecutors and public defenders, or private attorneys specializing in federal criminal defense, the value of having more Muslim lawyers in such roles, and recent developments in those areas of practice.

**6:45 – 7:00 p.m.     PRAYER BREAK (MAGHRIB + ISHA FOR TRAVELERS - SALON H)**

**7:30 - 9:00 pm     DINNER WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER, AWARD RECOGNITIONS & CLOSING REMARKS (SALONS A, B and C)**

- Keynote remarks: Ambassador Rashad Hussain, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom

**9:00 - 10:00 pm     SOCIAL HOUR OFF-SITE**

**END OF PROGRAM**

Review the digital version of the NAML conference program on our Cvent app for speaker biographies and any updates to the schedule.