



SABA North America Congratulates Judge Mustafa Kasubhai and Amir Ali on their Historic Confirmations

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This week, SABA North America celebrates two historic appointments that highlight the continuing progress toward a more diverse and inclusive judiciary.

First, we applaud Judge Mustafa Kasubhai's confirmation to the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon. Born to Indian immigrants, Judge Kasubhai was the first Muslim American judge to serve on the federal bench as a magistrate judge in 2018. He is now making history again as the first Muslim American and first Asian American judge to be serving on the federal courts in the District of Oregon. Judge Kasubhai's journey, from practicing civil law to his distinguished career on the Oregon Workers' Compensation Board and as a circuit judge, is a testament to his dedication to fairness and justice.

As SABA President, Keerthi Sugumaran remarked:

"We are proud of Judge Kasubhai's recent confirmation. He is an accomplished jurist and a founding member of SABA Oregon. His appointment also ensures that the judiciary continues to reflect and represent the rich diversity of Oregon."

Similarly, we congratulate Amir Ali on his confirmation to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. This historic appointment makes Mr. Ali the first Arab American and the first Muslim U.S. District Court Judge to serve on this esteemed court. In his previous roles, Mr. Ali has demonstrated a commitment to advancing legal and civil rights. As the president and executive director of the Roderick & Solange MacArthur Justice Center, he spearheaded efforts to protect the rights of individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

As SABA Executive Director, Mona Shah remarked:

"I am thrilled to celebrate Mr. Amir Ali's confirmation to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. His dedication to advancing legal and civil rights exemplifies the commitment the judiciary needs to navigate contemporary challenges thoughtfully and fairly. His historic appointment to this court not only heralds progress but also enriches the judicial landscape with invaluable perspectives. Mr. Ali's distinguished record, including pivotal cases like *Atkins v. Virginia*, illustrates his profound capacity to uphold justice and equality. This milestone is a monumental step towards a judiciary that truly mirrors our nation's diverse and vibrant tapestry."

These often-underrepresented perspectives are essential to our judiciary, as they foster greater trust in our courts, enhance judicial decision-making, and bolster the strength of our democracy.