



MUSLIM BAR
ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK

Officers:

P.O. Box 2244, New York, New York 10085 – www.mubany.org

President

Saira Hussain

October 3, 2016

Vice-President

Nehal Siddiqui

Hon. Janet DiFiore
Chief Judge of the State of New York
New York State Unified Court System
Office of Court Administration
25 Beaver Street, Rm. 852
New York, NY 10004

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Dear Chief Judge DiFiore:

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Abid Hossain

Sabila Khan

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Nausheen Rokerya

The Muslim Bar Association of New York (MuBANY) congratulates you on your appointment as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and of the State of New York. We look forward to working with you in service to the legal community and the people of New York.

Today, I write to bring your attention to certain religious observances pertinent to our membership that we would request judges of the Courts of New York be made aware of for scheduling purposes. Many Muslims, including litigators, attend weekly prayer services on Fridays (*Jummah* prayer) for about an hour between 12:30 PM and 2:30 PM, as a matter of religious obligation. Furthermore, Muslims observe the religious holidays of *Eid-al-Adha* and *Eid-Al-Fitr*, each of which are based on the lunar calendar and occur once per year.

We request that the judges of the Courts of New York be understanding of the needs of Muslim practitioners who engage in the aforementioned religious observances by granting adjournments of appearances as requested. Additionally, we would like the administrative offices of the Courts to be mindful regarding scheduling networking, career development, and other professional events hosted by the Courts during the aforementioned dates and times so that our members can fully participate in such events. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you or one of your representatives to further discuss these issues and possible next steps in person.

If you have any questions regarding the matters mentioned in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us at [REDACTED] or amh597@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Abid M. Hossain

Director

Muslim Bar Association of New York

cc (via regular mail):

Hon. Lawrence K. Marks
Chief Administrative Judge

Hon. Fern A. Fisher
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

Hon. Michael V. Coccoma
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge