

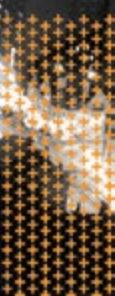


**CAIR**  
CHICAGO

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ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2013

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CAIR-Chicago Staff and Interns 2014



**CAIR**  
CHICAGO

CAIR-Chicago is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization registered independently in Illinois. CAIR-Chicago raises its own funds from its local constituency and sets its own operational and strategic agenda. Our office, located in the heart of Chicago's downtown business district, is currently in its tenth year of operation.

## OUR VISION

To attain equal opportunity for - and normalize the image of - Muslims in America.

## OUR MISSION

To defend civil rights, fight bigotry, and promote tolerance.

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# TESTIMONIALS



"I congratulate CAIR-Chicago on another successful year of serving the needs of the Muslim population in Illinois, and for working toward ensuring justice and civil rights for all the communities you serve. Your efforts to reach out to divergent faiths and build broad coalitions are truly commendable. In a state as diverse as ours, every effort to broaden cultural awareness and understanding is truly appreciated...I am certain that CAIR-Chicago will continue to positively impact Muslims for many years to come."

**-Pat Quinn**  
Governor of Illinois



"CAIR-Chicago has provided a comprehensive array of invaluable services to the Muslim-American community. It has also facilitated important partnerships and civil rights advocacy opportunities for Muslim Americans throughout the Chicagoland area...I commend the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago Chapter for its commitment to the Muslim-American community."

**-Rahm Emanuel**  
Mayor of Chicago

See more testimonials on page 23

# A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In its ten years of service, CAIR-Chicago has handled over 2,890 cases of anti-Muslim discrimination, conducted over one thousand mainstream media interviews and graduated over 500 interns.

Since day one, CAIR-Chicago's guiding light has been our unique organizational model of Professional Muslim Activism. This model combines corporate standards in all aspects of our technical work with the Islamic values of human care and social justice in our treatment of the issues.

CAIR-Chicago is an autonomous, grassroots, community-based organization. We have grown from a two-person volunteer staff into an institution served by 14 staff members and dozens of interns, fueled exclusively by local community donations.

*CAIR-Chicago continues to be a rising force in civil rights defense and advocacy both in terms of public opinion and legal representation.*

2013 saw continued success for CAIR-Chicago. We took our own independent media in the form of the Chicago Monitor to new heights featuring 75 unique columnists who provide fresh and critical perspectives on current events that are often misrepresented or overlooked by the mainstream media. The writers are young talents we help cultivate into full-fledged writers.

We secured one of the largest settlements for a local Mosque that

was unjustly denied its zoning permit, and started a new similar case for another Mosque. We worked with the media, law enforcement, local affected communities, and partner organizations to ensure that Illinois can move closer to being hate free. We are taking the lead on behalf of Illinois Muslims in standing with our interfaith partners and immigrant communities to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform.

We were able to resolve key civil rights cases to the benefit of our clients including a record number of citizenship delay cases. We continued with our landmark Prison Project through which we have advised 250 Muslim inmates on their rights and coordinated food and Islamic literature donations for 500 Muslim inmates to date.

In January, we completed our move into a brand new state-of-the-art office center in downtown Chicago which now serves as the new home of Muslim activism serving this great city and state.

Our influence continues to expand from the local scene into the national and international scenes in terms of alliances, speaking engagements, and media representation. We represented the Chicago Muslim community in US State department trips to Egypt and Germany where we engaged with counterparts in local community activism, education, and law enforcement.

In 2013, our representatives have been hosted dozens of times on networks such as NPR, FOX News, MSNBC, CNN, Al Jazeera, RT, CBS, NBC, ABC, WGN and others. We have brought a lucid Muslim perspective on pressing issues to the Chicago Tribune, the Daily Herald, the Chicago Sun-Times,

and the Washington Post among other newspapers and websites. Our staff has led panels and discussions at universities, churches, mosques, and temples in Chicagoland and beyond.

We continue to run Muslim Youth Leadership Symposium (MYLS) workshops helping to provide direction and motivation for high school students to become exemplary citizens who positively contribute to the progress of their community and country.

Most importantly, CAIR-Chicago continues to be a rising force in civil rights defense and advocacy both in terms of public opinion and legal representation.

Please continue to read through this annual report for a detailed review of our work in the year 2013 and remember to visit [www.cairchicago.org](http://www.cairchicago.org) for more information. We hope that you will continue to support our services.

Sincerely,

Ahmed Rehab, Executive Director



Ahmed Rehab with Senator Richard Durbin

**“HATE IS A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.”**

*-CAIR-Chicago Executive Director, Ahmed Rehab*



# CAIR-CHICAGO'S CORE VALUES

## CREDIBILITY

Gain the trust and respect of all involved.

## CONSISTENCY

Our level of motivation and productivity should not waiver with time. The attention given to the various areas of our work should be even.

## BEING PROACTIVE

Create programs that predict and preemptively challenge potential problems.

## OMNIPRESENCE

Our presence and our programs should enjoy high exposure with members of the Muslim community, the general public, the media, and government.

## FOCUSED SCOPE

Well defined problem areas and solutions.

## TRANSPARENCY

What you see is what you get.

## EFFICIENCY

No redundancies. Putting the right people in the right place at the right time.

## EGALITARIANISM

Reach out to support faith based communities who face similar grievances as our own.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Easy to find and reach whether by members of our community, or members of the media.

## SINCERITY

What fuels our work is not personal ego or a hidden agenda, but rather a genuine desire to effect positive change.

## PROFESSIONALISM

Objective and presentable.



Deputy Director Sufyan Sohel (left) with Finance Manager Mohamed Abdelati (right)



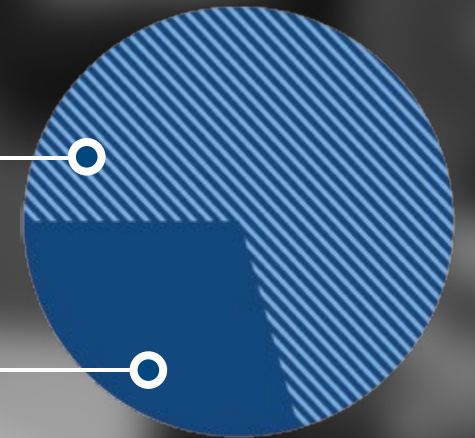
Staff Attorney Rabya Khan (right) with Kais Sorour, a citizenship delay success

# 2013 FINANCIAL

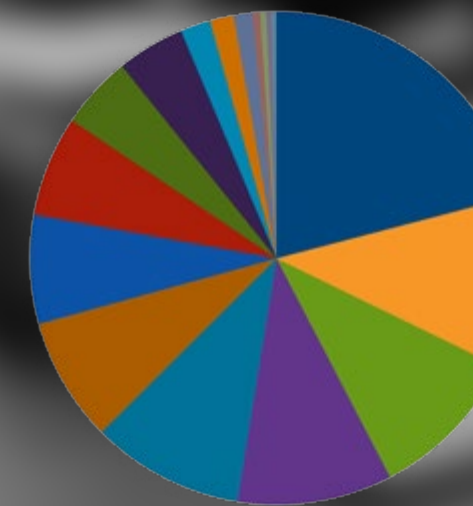
## SUMMARY

### INCOME

DIRECT PUBLIC SUPPORT	\$642,903.18
SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS	\$268,168.03
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$911,071.21</b>



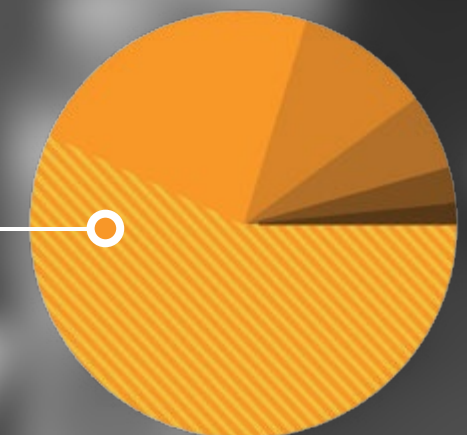
### EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



CIVIL RIGHTS EXPENSES	\$155,064.23	CONTRACT SERVICES	\$32,889.90
OFFICE LEASE & UTILITIES	\$83,669.95	OFFICE SUPPLIES & EXPENSES	\$14,699.77
EVENTS & FUNDRAISING	\$75,437.34	ACCT. FEES & BANK CHARGES	\$11,492.52
BENEFITS, TAXES, & INSURANCE	\$75,366.18	TRAVEL & MEETINGS	\$9,234.36
COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA	\$74,156.18	MARKETING & ADVERTISEMENT	\$3,634.18
FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT	\$60,482.56	MEALS & ENTERTAINMENT	\$2,892.32
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$52,964.57	POSTAGE	\$2,531.08
OUTREACH & YOUTH DEV.	\$48,927.35	ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT	\$2,422.99
RESEARCH	\$35,469.00	<b>TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$741,334.48</b>

### EXPENSES BY CATEGORY

SALARIES/BENEFITS/PAYROLL TAXES	\$421,605.37
BUSINESS/OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$169,670.41
EVENTS & FUNDRAISING	\$75,437.34
CONTRACT SERVICES	\$42,169.90
LITIGATION EXPENSES	\$20,324.58
TRAVEL & MEETING EXPENSES	\$12,126.88
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$741,334.48</b>



# CIVIL RIGHTS DEPARTMENT



Civil Rights intake meeting

Throughout 2013, the Civil Rights Department of CAIR-Chicago continued its critical work of advocating against discrimination of Muslims in America, litigating when necessary to fully protect our civil liberties. Currently, over 200 cases are open and being actively worked on by the Department. The Department's strategic approach in selecting the best cases for litigation has been very successful. After more than three years of litigation, Litigation Director Kevin Vodak succeeded in overturning DuPage County's refusal to issue Irshad Learning Center a permit to use its private property as a religious educational center. Vodak secured a monetary settlement, which required DuPage to pay \$445,000 for violating the Center's rights – an unprecedented amount for any of the Department's clients.

The Department also continued its success in the Citizenship Delay Project, directly participating in ensuring that 12 more individuals obtained their U.S. citizenship. Staff Attorney Rabya Khan has developed a more streamlined approach to resolving these cases, working with senior USCIS officials to address the delays. Resolutions to other civil rights matters in 2013 included FBI harassment, prison issues, and school violations.

**“OVER THE COURSE OF 10 YEARS, THE CIVIL RIGHTS DEPARTMENT HAS PROGRESSED INTO A COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE FOR EMPOWERING AMERICAN MUSLIMS TO PROTECT THEIR RIGHTS AND BE VINDICATED.”**

*-Rabya Khan, Staff Attorney*



CAIR-Chicago staff, law clerks, and interns with Ald. Pawar, Dr. Theresa Mah, and community activists at the Chicago City Council Asian American Caucus press conference

# CIVIL RIGHTS DEPARTMENT ONGOING CASES

On March 29, 2013, Judge Pallmeyer granted summary judgment to the Irshad Learning Center (ILC) on claims that DuPage County unlawfully denied a permit to operate its religious educational center. ILC primarily serves the Iranian community and sought to convert a secular school for worship services and educational classes. The County Board denied the permit without explanation in January 2010, after extensive hearings by the Zoning Board of Appeals and the County Development Committee. In granting judgment, Judge Pallmeyer held that the County's "repeated errors, speculation, and refusal to impose conditions support an inference that the County subjected ILC to a substantial burden" on its free exercise of religion. CAIR-Chicago subsequently settled ILC's claims for damages and attorney's fees, resulting in the County paying \$445,000.

Litigation Director Kevin Vodak's expertise in mosque zoning resulted in the Department partnering with Anthony J. Peraica & Associates, Ltd. to file a complaint against the City of Des Plaines in September 2013 on behalf of the American Islamic Center (AIC), a Bosnian community organization. After seeking a permanent location for its worship and educational services since March 2011, AIC secured a contract purchase for a vacant commercial space in Des Plaines. Despite the Plan Commission's recommendation that the property be rezoned for religious use, the City Council denied AIC's petition. The lawsuit alleges violations similar to the DuPage County case, seeking court-mandated approval of the rezoning and damages.

The Department's Citizenship Delay Project, initiated in April 2005, continues to be a vital asset for Muslims experiencing problems in being naturalized as U.S. citizens. The Department resolved delays of more than 2 years for clients in 2013, and Staff Attorney Rabya Khan has worked directly with senior USCIS officials in the Chicago District Office to expedite the process in lieu of filing lawsuits.



AIC Des Plaines Lawsuit Press Conference



New US Citizens being sworn in at the USCIS office in Chicago.



CAIR-Chicago client Kais Sorour receiving his naturalization certificate at US District Court.



CAIR-Chicago client Mrs. Noor Munasser receiving her naturalization certificate at the USCIS office.



Deputy Director Sufyan Sohel

# CIVIL RIGHTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## DIRECT RESOURCE FOR VICTIMS

- The Department has handled over 2900 cases of anti-Muslim discrimination over the past ten years.
- In the past six years, CAIR-Chicago has negotiated the payment of over \$900,000 directly to clients of resolved discrimination cases.
- CAIR-Chicago has conducted sensitivity trainings of law enforcement officials, employees and managers of private businesses, faculty and administrators of public and private schools, and offenders of hate crimes.

## CITIZENSHIP DELAY

- The Department has directly assisted more than 230 Muslim immigrants to become naturalized as U.S. citizens after facing extensive delays, and has advised more than 500 individuals on their immigration benefits applications.

## POLICE MISCONDUCT



- More than 150 individuals have been advised by the Department in addressing contacts by FBI agents.

## EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION

- The Department has advised more than 550 Muslim employees regarding their potential claims of employment discrimination.
- In 2009, CAIR-Chicago was the first Muslim civil rights organization to ever successfully litigate an employment discrimination case, obtaining a large compensatory damages award for a corrections officer during a jury trial.



## ZONING DENIALS

- In 2013, CAIR-Chicago became the first Muslim civil rights organization to obtain judgment in favor of a religious organization denied zoning authority to establish a worship and education facility, paving the way for other Muslim institutions to receive approval for their zoning petitions.

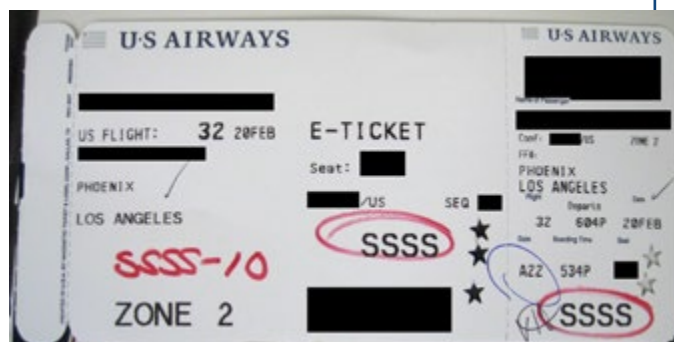
## THE PRISON PROJECT



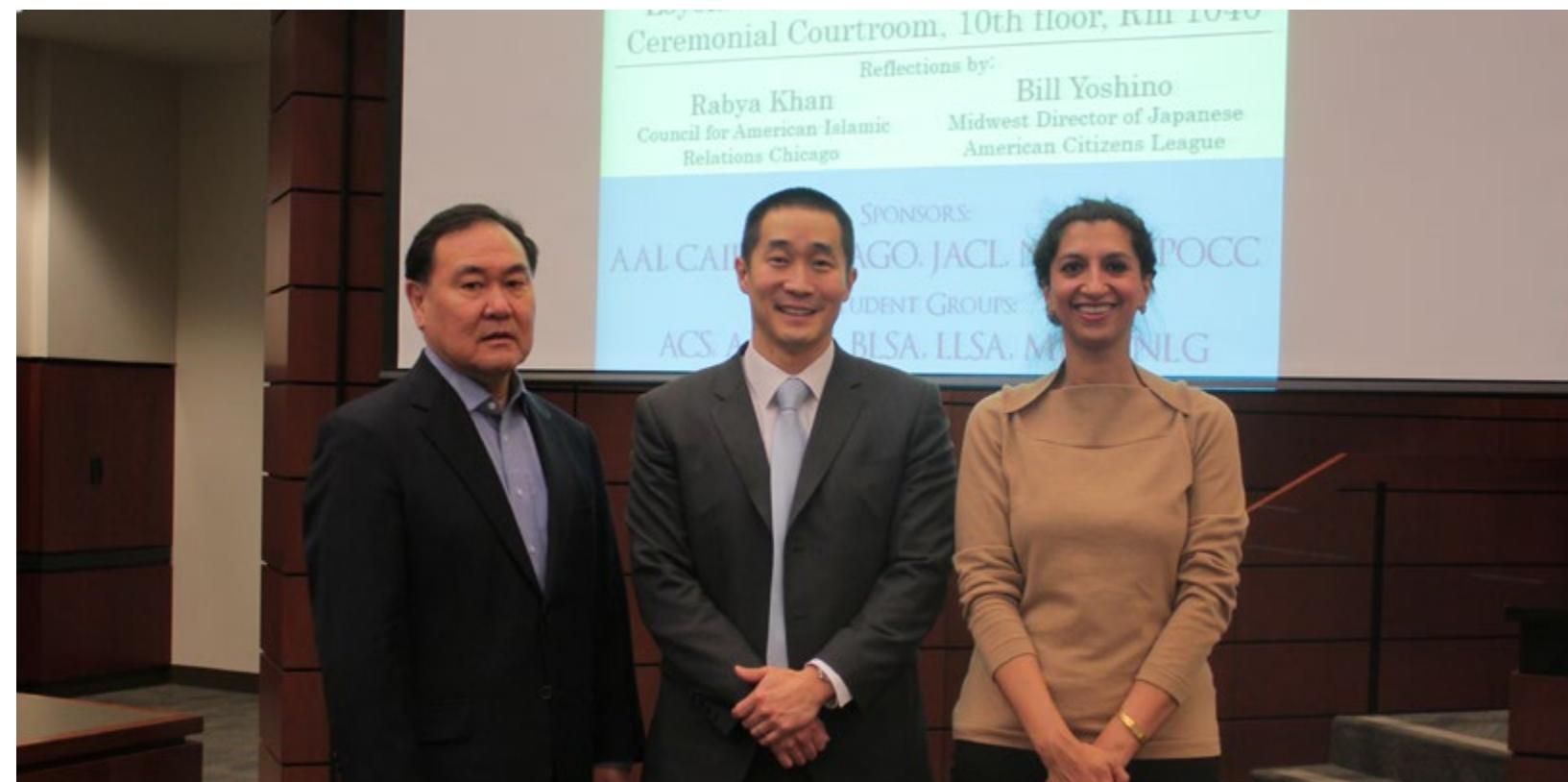
- The Department has provided more than 240 inmates with legal advice regarding their rights to religious accommodations.
- Beginning in 2012, the Department has coordinated volunteers to provide food donations to Chicago area inmates during the Eid holiday celebrations.

## TRAVEL FREE PROJECT

- The Department directly advises Muslim travelers who are delayed, detained, or interrogated by law enforcement officers, primarily due to their names being placed on watchlists by the Transportation & Security Administration (TSA) and other federal agencies. Assistance has included filing Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (TRIP) complaints, issuing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and working with government officials to resolve the problems.



# CIVIL RIGHTS DEPARTMENT



Staff Attorney Rabya Khan (right) with William Yoshino, Midwest Director, Japanese American Citizens League (left) and Andrew Kang, Legal Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice Chicago (center) - Korematsu Day at Loyola University

## CIVIL RIGHTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- January 21, 2013 - Staff Attorney Rabya Khan was a speaker at the MLK Day event - Civil Rights remembrance - interfaith event at Mosque Foundation organized by Muslim American Society.
- March 15, 2013 - Know Your Rights Presentation at Community Builders meeting in Glendale Heights.
- April 19-22, 2013 - Staff Attorney Rabya Khan was a speaker at the South Asian Americans Leading Together national summit in Washington D.C. on a panel about "Law Enforcement in the Community: Exploring Multiple Strategies for Engagement."
- September 17, 2013- CAIR-Chicago hosted DHS Community Engagement Section Office for a Civil Rights and Civil Liberties meeting on countering violent extremism where leaders of the Chicago Muslim community and law enforcement met with their counterparts - leaders and law enforcement members from Germany.
- December 7, 2013- Idli and Immigration event at Schaumburg Public Library - organized by SAAPRI, and co-sponsored by CAIR-Chicago. The panel focused on the political, legal and policy impact of immigration reform on the South Asian and minority immigrant communities.
- December 8, 2013- Know Your Rights presentation at Muslim Educational Cultural Center of America. The presentation discussed constitutional rights when encountering law enforcement, and also addressed immigration options of Temporary Protected Status and Asylum in the United States for Syrian nationals.

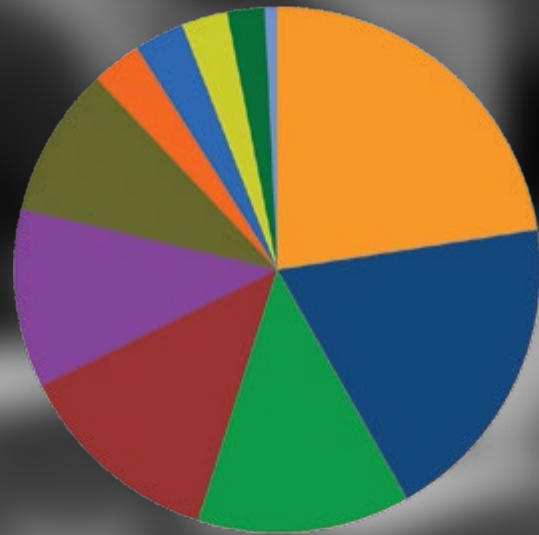
# CIVIL RIGHTS DEPARTMENT CASES

2013

- 390 CASES WERE REPORTED
- 43 CASES WERE RESOLVED
- 9 LAWSUITS WERE FILED

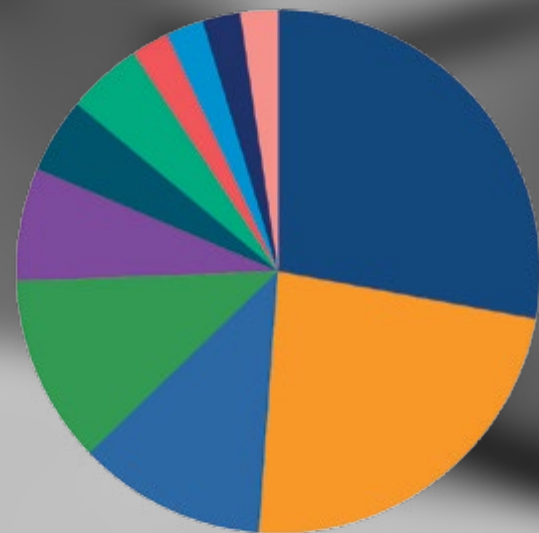
\*Resolved cases include only those cases in which work has been fully completed. It does not include cases in which verdicts have been rendered or settlements have been negotiated that still require post-trial or other follow-up work. A "resolved" case indicates a case whose completion has been deemed successful by CAIR-Chicago and the client(s).

## CASES REPORTED



GENERAL	88 CASES REPORTED
EMPLOYMENT	75 CASES REPORTED
USCIS TOTAL	51 CASES REPORTED
PRISON	50 CASES REPORTED
GOVERNMENT - OTHER	43 CASES REPORTED
FBI	36 CASES REPORTED
SCHOOL	12 CASES REPORTED
CRIMINAL	12 CASES REPORTED
CHILD CUSTODY	11 CASES REPORTED
PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION	9 CASES REPORTED
OTHER	3 CASES REPORTED

## CASES RESOLVED



USCIS - NATURALIZATION	12 CASES RESOLVED
FBI	10 CASES RESOLVED
EMPLOYMENT	5 CASES RESOLVED
GENERAL	5 CASES RESOLVED
PRISON	3 CASES RESOLVED
GOVERNMENT - OTHER	2 CASES RESOLVED
SCHOOL	2 CASES RESOLVED
TSA	1 CASE RESOLVED
USCIS - OTHER	1 CASE RESOLVED
AIRPORT	1 CASE RESOLVED
CRIMINAL - AGAINST PROPERTY	1 CASE RESOLVED

\*FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation - USCIS: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services - TSA: Transportation Security Administration



**“CAIR-CHICAGO IS NOT ALONE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST BIGOTRY. HATE AFFECTS US ALL, NO MATTER OUR ETHNICITY. SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF OTHER FAITHS, WE ARE PROUD TO WORK TOWARDS A SOCIETY AND A FUTURE THAT IS HATE FREE.”**

*-Sufyan Sohel, Deputy Director*



# OUTREACH DEPARTMENT



Gerald Hankerson, Outreach Coordinator, joined CAIR-Chicago in 2007. He has over fifteen years of experience working in youth development and intercultural engagement

The Outreach Department aims to educate and build bridges between Muslims and diverse communities in the greater Chicago metro region, establish partnerships with other civil rights and advocacy organizations, and bolster CAIR-Chicago's ability to serve its constituents in Chicago's Muslim communities. To this end, the Outreach Department leads CAIR-Chicago's youth leadership programs, internship and volunteer activist programs, interfaith and intercultural initiatives, and educational seminars.

In 2013, the Outreach Department contributed to significant efforts that marked milestones for the organization. CAIR-Chicago moved to its new home—its fifth and largest office space that's more conducive to offering community events. For the third consecutive year, more public officials shared their support with CAIR-Chicago and the Muslim community throughout Illinois. The office hosted its 500th participant in its coveted internship program, and marked its fifth year in welcoming supporters to what's now a highly anticipated event during the holy month of Ramadan.

With the new Azima Center, located within the office, CAIR-Chicago has expanded its events and programs by its varied topics and increasing hosting opportunities, as well as enriching new and long-time partnerships with peer organizations and community events.

**"WE EMPOWER YOUTH TO GUIDE THEIR COMMUNITIES FROM THE MARGINS TO THE MAINSTREAM."**

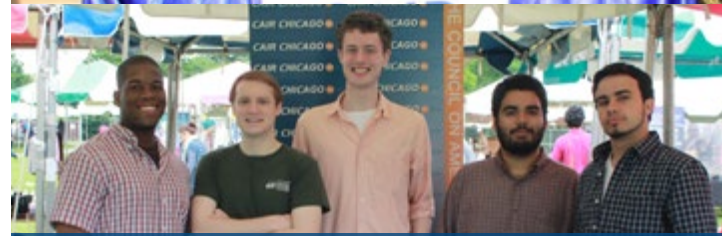
*-Gerald Hankerson, Outreach Coordinator*



Hamza Jamjoom (left) films Ahmed Rehab for the CAIR-Chicago documentary



Two CAIR-Chicago interns creating materials for the documentary



Our office partnered or sponsored with several organizations to host events outside the office. One event was the 2013 Takin' It to the Streets: Urban International Festival, hosted by IMAN in Marquette Park on Chicago's southwest side.

# MOSQUE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH



CAIR-Chicago staff delivered Friday sermons (khutbahs) at some of the largest mosques in the city and state in an effort to promote key civic and humanitarian ideals fostered in Islam's teachings, and to bridge the mosque audience with the resources that CAIR-Chicago offers.

In the summer of 2013, CAIR-Chicago partnered with the Illinois Humanities Council and the Inner-city Muslim Action Network in screening "Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World," a documentary featuring contributions of Islamic art and architecture.

Ramadan 2013 provided several key events to address unity, diversity, and social justice. The highlight was the annual Taste of Ramadan Iftar & Cook-off, which relished in its fifth consecutive year of delighting over 300 community members and supporters in a record number of dishes, desserts and beverages reflecting cuisines from around the world. The event was featured on WBEZ 91.5 (NPR Chicago) radio broadcast program Afternoon Shift, online radio station Yahala Voice, and Voice of America (VOA)-Bahasa Indonesia website. In addition, the office remembered prisoners who fasted by hosting an iftar for those supporters with the Pelican Bay Prisoners Solidarity Group. And for the second year, CAIR-Chicago coordinated with community members to ensure that Muslim prisoners received over 500 donations at Stateville Correctional Center in Crest Hill near Joliet, Dixon Correctional Center in Moline, and Cook County Jail.

# INTERNSHIP & VOLUNTEER ACTIVIST PROGRAMS



CAIR-Chicago is indebted to the interns and volunteer activists (VAs) who assist our staff to empower, mobilize, and engage our communities.

In 2013, our internship program hosted 62 interns, externs and fellows, along with 11 volunteers, from across the United States, the United Kingdom, and Yemen. The year marked the milestone of graduating its 500th alum since 2005.





# PUBLIC EDUCATION & ACADEMIA



CAIR-Chicago interns at an event

CAIR-Chicago staff members from all departments spoke at prominent Illinois colleges and universities including the American Islamic College, Carthage College, Columbia College, DePaul University, Drake University, Loyola University Chicago, Northwestern University, Saint Xavier University (SXU), the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The staff also presented at Little Village-Lawndale High School, Universal School, Aqsa School, and the Jewish youth leadership development group Or Tzedek. Additionally, CAIR-Chicago visited Stateville Correctional Center for a Know Your Rights presentation.

The topics ranged from educational seminars to addressing more nuanced issues such as the history and current sociopolitical status of Muslim activism in the U.S.



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Since 2011, the Outreach department has led civic engagement efforts in order educate and mobilize community members to respond appropriately to policies that affects all Americans.

CAIR-Chicago advocated for legislation on Capitol Hill, by meeting directly with Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth and Congressman Rodney Davis, as well as several other offices of the Illinois delegation. After successful passing both houses in the Illinois 98th General Assembly, CAIR-Chicago and community members successfully encouraged Governor Pat Quinn to sign into law drone surveillance being banned throughout the state (Senate Bill #1587).

For 2013, Outreach sought the support of elected federal and state officials to act on the following issues:

- Closing the Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp
- Supporting comprehensive immigration reform for both the state and nation
- Supporting the End Racial Profiling Act of 2013
- Opposing warrantless government spying
- Restricting extra powers of law enforcement agencies with respect to national security
- Amending the Voting Rights Act



Outreach Coordinator Gerald Hankerson with Executive Director of CAIR-Connecticut Mongi Dhaouadi (center), and Civil Rights Director for CAIR-San Diego, Sadaf Hane

**“WE ARE DEDICATED TO MAINTAINING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH MOSQUES AND THEIR CONGREGATIONS IN ORDER TO APPRISE THEM OF THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS AND DUTIES.”**

*-Ahmed Rehab, Executive Director*

# INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT

The Outreach department continues to hold educational lectures, workshops and dialogues. Often, Outreach works in interfaith partnerships to engage community members.

Most notably, the City of Elgin invited CAIR-Chicago to present a second installment of “Who’s My Muslim Neighbor” following the inaugural program hosted by the Village of Hanover Park. The event was organized by the Coalition of Elgin Religious Leaders and the Elgin Human Relations Commission, with Elgin Mayor David Kaptain welcoming over 120 community members at Elgin Community College.

CAIR-Chicago remains an active partner of the Jewish-Muslim Community Building Initiative (JMCBI), which hosts community events and study sessions on holy texts. One of the initiative’s most successful events is Café Finjan, which regularly draws hundreds for an evening of creative performance and presentation of visual arts. The American Islamic College hosted the 2013 program.

For its third appearance, CAIR-Chicago presented at the annual Saint Xavier University Interfaith Expo.

# ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS

Our interns from all departments—with their diverse backgrounds, interests, and perspectives—have contributed to CAIR-Chicago’s broader advocacy and awareness efforts. Here are some headlines from Outreach and Government Affairs team members whom have contributed to CAIR-Chicago’s publications:

- U.S. war on Syria diverted while war on U.S. Syrians continues**  
*Mali: Africa’s ground zero in the global “War on Terror”*
- Law enforcement strategies in Muslim communities need reform**  
*The identity of security: NSA surveillance and the media’s America*
- Close connections between Latin culture and Islam**  
*Muslims vie for praying space in Córdoba’s Cathedral*
- Addressing latent racism and blatant discrimination in America**  
*New TV series combats images of Muslim women and superwomen*
- A centuries-old Jihad: Women of the Abrahamic faith traditions strive for justice and fight sexism in religion**

# INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH



CAIR-Chicago welcomed international delegations of civic leaders, scholars, educators, students, activists, and law enforcement officials through partnerships with WorldChicago (formerly the International Visitors Center of Chicago) and Governors State University. All delegates were guests of the U.S. Department of State. Delegations in 2013 included representatives from Russia and Turkey.

Outreach Coordinator Gerald Hankerson closed out his participation in the “Professional Fellows Program: An Exchange Program for Emerging Leaders in Egypt, Morocco and the U.S.,” sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs with a two week immersion trip to Egypt and Morocco. CAIR-Chicago hosted a fellow from the Qena province in Upper Egypt, and Hankerson mentored the fellow to develop a project his non-governmental (NGO) organization would implement for community development with the focus on youth and economy. The program’s organizational partners were Citizen Bridges International (Chicago), El Sadat Association for Social Development & Welfare (Egypt), and Neighborhoods Association-Idmaj (Morocco).

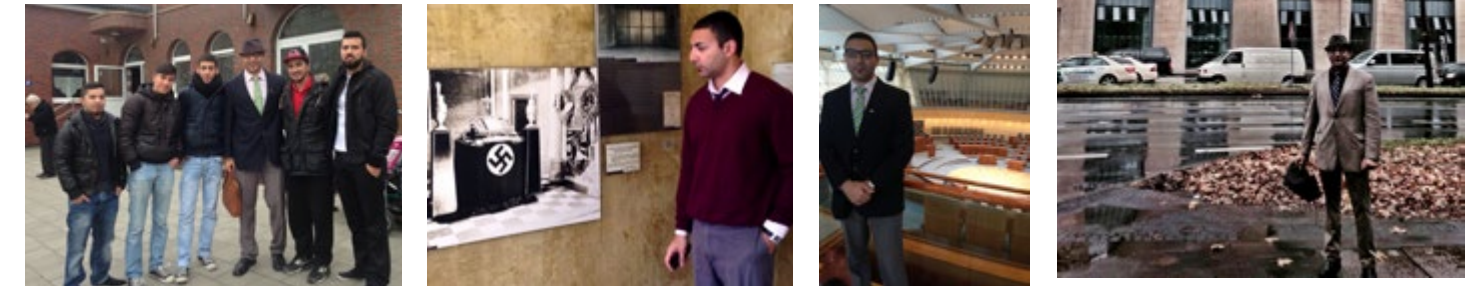
Other events led by the Outreach Department included:

- Gerald Hankerson Travels to Egypt & Morocco in U.S. State Dept. Legislative Professional Program
- Gerald Hankerson Meets with Congressional Members on Capitol Hill
- Gerald Hankerson Leads Workshop at Little Village-Lawndale High School
- City of Elgin Invites CAIR-Chicago to Present “Who Is My Muslim Neighbor?” at Elgin Community College
- CAIR-Chicago Serves as Community Partner in Hosting Annual “Iftar in the Synagogue” event
- Gerald Hankerson Accepts Invitation to Join the Inaugural African American Leadership Advisory Council at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)
- CAIR-Chicago Lobbies Governor Pat Quinn to Bar Drone Surveillance in Illinois
- Gerald Hankerson Speaks at “Story Slam”
- CAIR-Chicago Hosts 5th Annual “Taste of Ramadan” Iftar & Cookoff, and Featured on WBEZ’s “Afternoon Shift”, Yahala Voice, and Voice of America-Bahasa Indonesia
- CAIR-Chicago Hosts Iftar Dinner, “Solidarity with Prisoners in Pelican Bay, Guantanamo Bay and Palestine”
- Gerald Hankerson Presents at UIC’s Mental Health Class
- CAIR-Chicago Presents at 8th Interfaith Expo at Saint Xavier University
- CAIR-Chicago Presents on Muslim Americans at Marquette University
- Russian Interfaith Delegation Visits CAIR-Chicago
- Gerald Hankerson Speaks on “Faith Informed Justice” Panel



# INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Executive Director Ahmed Rehab joined a US State Department trip to Germany where along with other Chicago activists and members of the Chicago police, the US delegation met with their German counterparts to discuss issues of extremism and policing. During the trip the US delegation visited Nazi indoctrination camps, police stations, government offices, and community centers and learned about the issues of extremism facing Germany today, both nationalist and religious. The delegation met with members of government, the police, and community leaders from the German region of North Rhine Westphalia in Dusseldorf, Cologne, and Bochum.



## INTERNSHIP & EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

CAIR-Chicago enjoys a thriving partnership with over 210 national universities and colleges throughout Chicagoland and the nation to offer their students internship and volunteer opportunities year round.

### INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS AVAILABLE THROUGH:



### EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS AVAILABLE THROUGH:



# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT



Ahmed Rehab on the O'Reilly Factor on Fox News

For the Communications Department, 2013 represented another year of growth and progress in executing our strategy of providing fair, accurate, and diverse portrayals of Islam and Muslims to the public while challenging negative, inaccurate, and unreliable portrayals through various multimedia, marketing, and public relations efforts. To ensure that Muslim voices with new and critical perspectives are presented in public discourse, CAIR-Chicago's Communications Department develops and maintains relationships with a number of mainstream media outlets.

The department serves as a leading resource for producers, editors, and journalists, and regularly provides media professionals with research and expert analysis to help them understand the nuances and complexities of the Muslim community and Islamic faith. The Communications Department not only monitors mainstream media coverage of Islam and Muslims, it also responds to it by producing powerful analyses that critique negative and misinformed portrayals while praising and guiding the efforts of those who seek to present more fair, accurate and diverse depictions of the Islam and Muslims.

The department also works closely with the Chicagoland community and presents cultural sensitivity trainings and educational seminars at universities, government agencies, and private companies across Illinois. Covering a wide range of topics, Communications conducts original research, releases public reports, delivers presentations on the state of media coverage, and produces the latest in multimedia.



Comm. Coordinator Ambreen Zuberi at Taste of Ramadan



Outreach Coordinator Gerald Hankerson and Senior Communications Coordinator Agnieszka Karoluk presenting at Marquette University



Previous Communications intern Austin Huetter (middle) was hired this year as Communications Coordinator

**“DEFENDING CIVIL LIBERTIES OF AMERICAN MUSLIMS  
REQUIRES ACTIVELY EXERCISING OUR FIRST AMENDMENT  
RIGHTS AND PROMOTING MAINSTREAM MUSLIMS VOICES  
IN THE MEDIA.”**

*-Agnieszka Karoluk, Communications Coordinator*

## WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING SESSIONS

The Communications Department led numerous lectures and workshops for community leaders, students, mosques, and organizations. These sessions trained participants on how to engage the media and become more effective activists and community spokespersons. Presentations were made at institutions like the Asian American Institute Leadership Forum, Carthage College Diversity Summit, Drake University in Des Moines and Marquette University.

# MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH



Boston Bombings Press Conference

The Communications Department organizes press conferences and issues dozens of press releases and media advisories annually in order to ensure that Muslim perspectives on vital issues and current events are represented in the mainstream media.

CAIR-Chicago has developed such a strong reputation with media outlets that producers, editors and journalists now come to us regularly seeking story ideas and news leads. The efforts of the Department have been crucial to helping shape a more positive and realistic understanding of the Muslim American community.

# SOCIAL MEDIA & WEB TECHNOLOGIES



WWW.CAIRCHICAGO.ORG

The Communications Department updates CAIR-Chicago's websites, cairchicago.org and chicagomonitor.com and the organization's respective social media pages via Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest, Flickr and Instagram on a daily basis to provide up to date information on all of the organization's activities, as well as commentary on current events.

CAIR-Chicago constantly updates its websites to keep them visually appealing, easy to navigate, and more informative.

The website's sections have been designed to reflect the wide breadth of work performed by all CAIR-Chicago departments. The Multimedia page allows users to see a selection of our photos, films, radio, and TV clips. The official site is also interactive and its updates are immediately made available on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr.

Combining professional aesthetics, functionality, and cutting edge technology, cairchicago.org is one of the largest and most tech-savvy, non-profit websites in the United States. Whether providing incident report forms for victims of discrimination or sharing information through video blogs, the website amplifies CAIR-Chicago's ability to serve the Chicago community.



WWW.CHICAGOMONITOR.COM



# THE CHICAGO MONITOR

The Chicago Monitor was founded in 2012 by CAIR-Chicago Executive Director Ahmed Rehab and Communications Coordinator Aymen Abdel Halim to provide a platform for activists to produce works that challenge mainstream media coverage by providing alternative perspectives on social justice as well as civil and human rights issues. The writers for the Chicago Monitor include CAIR-Chicago staff, interns, and volunteers from around the world, and has attracted thousands of international and local visitors who are seeking alternative perspectives on important social justice, civil, and human rights issues.

On April 15 2013, two men set off explosives during the Boston Marathon, resulting in three deaths and numerous injuries. The aftermath of the Sandy Hook shootings in late 2012 spurred a discussion on gun control. In the summer of 2013, George Zimmerman was found not guilty on all counts for the shooting of Trayvon Martin and prompted

*This year the Chicago Monitor began to take its journalism to a much higher level. We've published over 100 articles and featured over 75 contributors.*

national protests against racial profiling and the legitimacy of the case.

On June 5, journalist Glen Greenwald published in the Guardian that the NSA has been collecting metadata from tens of millions of Americans. This information was then

superseded by a series of articles containing dates when PRISM (a NSA data mining program) collection began for each telecommunications provider, follies within Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC), and biopics of the leaker and former CIA technical assistant and NSA employee Edward Snowden.

By April, the #MyJihad campaign was spurring controversy across the nation, including Amitai Etzioni's article in the Huffington Post which critiqued the series of ads that aim to reclaim the Arabic word 'jihad,' and had been posted on buses and in metro stations across Washington DC, Chicago and San Francisco.

At every one of these pivotal moments in 2013, The Chicago Monitor responded and delivered fresh insight into these provocative issues.

The Chicago Monitor's Chief Editor, Agnieszka Karoluk, speaks on the importance of the news site, "This year the Chicago Monitor began to take its journalism to a much higher standard. We have published over 100 articles and featured over 75 individual contributors on the site since its inception in 2012. From interviews with prominent Muslim authors, to media analysis of breaking news events, this has been an incredibly successful year for the Monitor and I look forward to the future of this site and its growth."

While CAIR-Chicago aims to fight bigotry, promote tolerance, and defend civil rights, the Chicago Monitor echoes these principles not only by giving voice to new and unique perspectives on critical issues, but also by inspiring activists to participate in social justice, civil, and human rights activism.



Chicago Monitor Chief Editor Agnieszka Karoluk



CAIR-Chicago interns working on Chicago Monitor articles

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706



Pat Quinn  
GOVERNOR

March 15, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Chicago Chapter (CAIR-Chicago).

I congratulate CAIR-Chicago on another successful year of serving the needs of the Muslim population in Illinois, and for working towards ensuring justice and civil rights for the communities you serve. Your efforts to reach out to divergent faiths and build broad coalitions are truly commendable. In a state as diverse as ours, every effort to broaden cultural awareness and understanding is truly appreciated. I commend everyone in attendance for your dedication to advancing the well-being of Muslims throughout the Land of Lincoln and across the country.

The only way for us as a society to truly achieve unity and equality is through an understanding of the many diverse cultures that make up this great country. By respecting and embracing our differences and recognizing what makes us all unique, we can come together and work towards breaking down existing barriers of prejudice and discrimination.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate CAIR-Chicago on the celebration of your 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To celebrate an anniversary such as this is a significant milestone for any organization. This is an excellent opportunity to reflect on all that your organization has accomplished over the past ten years and to make plans for the future of your organization that will build on your past successes. I am certain that CAIR-Chicago will continue to positively impact Muslims for many years to come.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

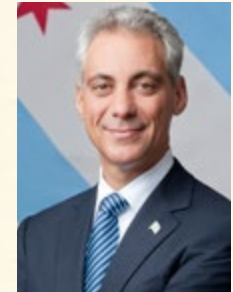
Sincerely,  
*Pat Quinn*  
Pat Quinn  
Governor

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR



March 15, 2014

Dear Friends:

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, it is my pleasure to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala.


Since its establishment in 2005, CAIR (CAIR-Chicago) has become the largest non-profit Muslim and civil rights advocacy organization in the nation committed to protecting and promoting the civil rights and liberties of Muslim-Americans. CAIR-Chicago has provided a comprehensive array of invaluable services to the Muslim-American community. It has also facilitated important partnerships and civil rights advocacy opportunities for Muslim-Americans throughout the Chicagoland area.

This year's event themed "*Forward*" celebrates the outstanding example of diversity and freedom of religion for all residents in our great city, and I commend the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago Chapter for its commitment to the Muslim-American community.

On behalf of the people of Chicago, you have my best wishes for an enjoyable celebration and much continued success in the future.

Sincerely,  
*Rahm Emanuel*  
Mayor


# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

DANNY K. DAVIS  
1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT - ILLINOIS

January 27, 2014

Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations - Chicago Chapter  
17 North State Street - Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602



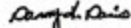
Dear Director Rehab:

Thank you for offering this opportunity to greet and welcome attendees at the CAIR-Chicago 2014 annual Banquet, Saturday, March 15, 2014. Illinois has one of the largest Muslim populations in the United States and I trust that this year's event, like events of past years, will be a great success.

The theme of this year's event, *Forward*, references CAIR's chapter and national milestone anniversaries, their 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> respectively, as leading advocates for justice and mutual understanding. These historic anniversaries should remind all Americans that we live in a multi-cultural nation and that, in the final analysis, the security and strength of our nation lies in our diversity and our unity. Our mutual commitment to those rights and responsibilities are set forth in our constitution, and they have been deepened, reconfirmed and reassured over time so as to encompass every American. These are the true core principles of our democracy and these principles have been ratified at great cost so many times over our history.

I salute CAIR-Chicago for their commitment to justice and equality for Muslim Americans . . . and all Americans. CAIR understands that in defending Muslim Americans against employment discrimination, prison abuse, hate crimes and citizenship delays they are also defending our American values for every American.

Once again, welcome attendees, I am certain you are in for a highly worthwhile event, and an unique opportunity to network with community members, leaders and activists from every sector of the Muslim American community in the highest tradition of our grassroots based and driven democracy.

Sincerely,  
  
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress


DKD:ic

RICHARD J. DURBIN  
ILLINOIS  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-1501

March 15, 2014




Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) - Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet.

For more than 20 years, CAIR-Chicago has enhanced the understanding of Islam within our communities by facilitating dialogue, protecting civil liberties, empowering American Muslims, and building coalitions which promote justice and mutual understanding. I applaud your commitment to guaranteeing that our country's ideals are fully respected and realized for all.


Again, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to tonight's attendees for your dedication in promoting justice and understanding. Congratulations on all your work and achievements, and I wish you best of luck in your future endeavors.

Very truly yours,  
  
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

111 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1084 (202) 224-2721 TTY (202) 224-8700  
200 SOUTH DEARBORN, 20TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60604 (312) 354-4900  
326 SOUTH EASTWYCH STREET SPRINGFIELD, IL 62762 (314) 482-4822  
1001 THIRD AVENUE SUITE 207 ROSELAND, IL 61158 (309) 398-3173  
3001 BRADEN FEDERAL BUILDING 100 N. CHERRY STREET SUITE 110-D CARROLLTON, IL 60010


# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

BOBBY L. RUSH  
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
SUBCOMMITTEE:  
POWER, ENERGY AND POWER  
COMMERCE, MANUFACTURING AND TRADE  
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Assistant Whip  
Co-Chair  
AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH  
Co-Chair  
CONGRESSIONAL BUSINESS/INNOVATION CAUCUS  
Co-Chair  
JIM NOBLE CAUCUS  
STEMMING AND POLICY COMMITTEE

March 15, 2014



Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60620-3259

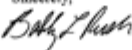
Dear Mr. Rehab:

I offer my warmest greetings as do the residents of Illinois First Congressional District to the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) as you celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet.


Supporting this annual event is a great way to stay in touch with current events affecting the Muslim community here in Chicago, and throughout the state. It is also a great way to enjoy fellowship with each other while contributing to some wonderful causes - celebrating CAIR-Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> and its 20<sup>th</sup> national organization's milestone anniversaries.

I also commend the CAIR for promoting public service through this evening's theme, "Forward," and being a leading and nationwide advocate for justice, mutual understanding and trust. Over the years, members of the Council on American-Islamic Relations have made tremendous contributions to the growth of our state, and today we recognize those who truly stand out as models of achievement.


Best wishes for an enjoyable event and much continued success.

Sincerely,  
  
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

BLR: ys

  
MIKE QUIGLEY  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

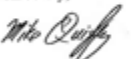
March 15, 2014




Dear Friends,

I congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations for another productive year. The Annual Report gives us time every year to recognize CAIR-Chicago and its work to fight for the equal treatment and protection of all citizens.


CAIR-Chicago facilitates open lines of communication between different cultures and religions. Their efforts encouraging equality, enhancing cultural knowledge, and promoting justice are both admirable and necessary. The work that CAIR-Chicago does for our city and across the nation not only enriches the Muslim community but also expands productive dialogue between cultures. I thank them for their efforts.

Sincerely,  
  
Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



CONGRESSMAN ANDRÉ CARSON



March 15, 2014  
CAIR-Chicago 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

As salaam alaikum!


I am pleased to welcome each of you to the CAIR-Chicago 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala! Tonight we celebrate an exciting milestone in the Council on American-Islamic Relations' work to defend civil liberties for all Americans.

CAIR continues to be a strong advocate for our community through its commitment to promote equal justice while encouraging understanding and dialogue among all faiths. The theme "Forward" is very fitting for this milestone anniversary. This organization has made great strides over the last ten years, and I hope that these accomplishments will inspire and strengthen your resolve for the work ahead.

The successes we celebrate tonight are made possible through the efforts of CAIR's leadership, staff, and membership at the national and local level. I commend each and every one of you for your dedication to ensure that our nation's ideals are fully realized for all. You are making a positive impact in the lives of all Americans.

Thank you for being here this evening and for exemplifying CAIR's mission and purpose in Chicago and across our great nation. Please enjoy tonight's event.

Best wishes,



André Carson  
Member of Congress



March 15, 2014



Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602-3259

Dear Friends,

I am honored to welcome you all to the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. Congratulations on another successful year in your work to promote equality and civil rights for all.

Since 1994, CAIR has worked to create a more accepting and tolerant society through a deeper understanding of Islam. As a diverse nation, we are at our best when we embrace our differences and work together as one. You have put this ideal into action repeatedly, as an outspoken advocate to pass comprehensive immigration reform, and in your dedication to religious freedom in the military. I would like to thank you for this work, and hope that together we can accomplish these goals in the coming year.

Your promotion of open communication, tolerance, and acceptance is greatly appreciated. I thank CAIR for all the work you do in promoting these qualities within our communities. It is through your work and the support of those in attendance tonight that we can overcome the obstacles ahead to achieve our shared goals of justice and understanding.


Thank you again for all of your work and leadership.

Sincerely,




The Honorable Tammy Duckworth  
Member of Congress  
Illinois' 8<sup>th</sup> District

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

March 15, 2014



Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)  
Chicago Office  
28 East Jackson, Suite 1700  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Greetings:


Welcome as you gather in celebration of the 10th Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Chicago Annual Banquet.

The event theme, "Forward," sets the tone for looking toward the future while reflecting on the organization's milestone anniversaries. As you celebrate the 10th and 20th year of serving as advocates for justice and mutual understanding of Islamic ideals, I offer a sincere thank you for a job well done on behalf of the people of Illinois.


I commend your efforts to enhance tolerance, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties and empower American Muslims. Your exceptional contributions are not only impacting Chicago, but our state and nation as well. Your hard work, combined with the efforts of your loyal supporters and contributors, will ensure further success in the coming years.

Again, congratulations on these achievements and best wishes for a successful event.

Very truly yours,




JESSE WHITE  
Secretary of State



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

March 15, 2014



Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 N. State Street  
Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Friends,


As Illinois Attorney General, I am honored to welcome you to CAIR-Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. I want to congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago for its important work to ensure civil rights and promote justice and tolerance within our community.

America is at its strongest when we embrace our diversity. Few nations have been as open and welcoming to people of all walks of life. Yet, it would be naïve to think such diversity does not also pose challenges. We are blessed that groups such as CAIR devote their efforts to building mutual understanding and trust among the many creeds, colors, religions and backgrounds that make up our community and our country.

For a full decade, CAIR Chicago has helped to support and enrich Chicago's Muslim community. But its broader goals -- "To defend civil rights, fight bigotry and promote tolerance" -- assist our entire community. The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a noteworthy accomplishment; however, this year's theme -- "Forward" -- signifies there remain challenges ahead and CAIR is prepared to meet those challenges.

Again, welcome to all in attendance tonight, and may 2014 prove to be a wonderful and successful year for CAIR-Chicago and all those it serves.


Very truly yours,



Lisa Madigan  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



**State Senator**  
**Don Harmon**  
39th District

Council of American Islamic Relations  
Chicago Office  
17 N. State St. Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Friends:

I write to welcome you to the Council of American Islamic Relation (CAIR) - Chicago's 10th Annual Banquet. Congratulations and thanks to CAIR and all the banquet attendees as you celebrate another year of hard work promoting civic engagement and understanding in Chicagoland's neighborhoods. I commend CAIR's continued advocacy and core mission to defend civil rights, fight bigotry and promote tolerance.

The theme for the Annual Banquet for 2014 is "Forward." I would like to think that one common goal that we want to move "Forward" or advance together as Americans is fairness and tolerance for all, irrespective of elements that might divide us. I thank CAIR for all they have done towards that common goal on behalf of the American Muslim community.


I wish all gathered at the banquet an enjoyable evening and extend my best wishes for continued success.

Thank you.


Sincerely,  
*Don Harmon*  
Don Harmon

District Office:  
6933 W. North Avenue  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
dharmon@senatedem.ilga.gov  
Office: (708) 848-2002  
Fax: (708) 848-2022

Capitol Office:  
329 Capitol Building  
Springfield, IL 62706  
Office: (217) 782-8111  
Fax: (217) 558-5013



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY**  
118 NORTH CLARK STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
(312) 603-6400  
TDD (312) 603-5255



TONI PRECKWINKLE  
PRESIDENT

March 15, 2014

GREETINGS

As President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and on behalf of the residents of Cook County, I offer warm greetings to the members and friends of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Chicago Chapter, as you gather together to hold your Tenth Annual Banquet, themed "Forward."

I wish to commend everyone at CAIR, Chicago Chapter, for your deep sense of mission which informs the vital work you continue to do on behalf of the Muslim American community of Cook County. Through your dedicated service in the areas of civil rights defense and advocacy, media outreach, public relations and voter registration, you truly are empowering and transforming Cook County's Muslim American community. Further, I laud CAIR, Chicago Chapter, for fostering awareness, appreciation and understanding of Muslim Americans and Muslim American culture among the residents of Cook County.

May all in attendance enjoy a memorable Banquet, and I wish all continued success.

Sincerely,  
*Toni Preckwinkle*  
Toni Preckwinkle  
President



DOROTHY BROWN  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Richard J. Daley Center  
Room 1001  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
312-603-6030  
FAX 312-603-4807  
www.cookcountyclerkscourt.org

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

March 15, 2014



Mr. Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations, Chicago Chapter  
28 E. Jackson Blvd., Ste. 1410  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Rehab:


Greetings to you and everyone attending the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet for the Chicago Chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). The selected theme, "Forward" resonates with me as a reminder that we must continue to work for the advancement of full and equal justice for all.

I applaud CAIR-Chicago for its commitment to ending practices of defamation and discrimination in our communities, and its efforts to unite individuals from various backgrounds in support of its mission to ensure justice for all. The CAIR organization works tirelessly to promote understanding across racial, religious and cultural lines, and thereby serves to enhance the quality of life for all Americans.

For its dedication to inclusiveness, civic responsibility, human rights and public safety, I extend best wishes for continued success to the Chicago Chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.


Sincerely,  
*Dorothy Brown*  
Dorothy Brown  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

COOK COUNTY CLERK DAVID ORR  
69 W. Washington, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60602



TEL (312) 603-0996 FAX (312) 603-9788 WEB cookcountyclerk.com

March, 2014



Council on American Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 N. State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60602-3259

Dear Friends,


It is my pleasure to congratulate CAIR-Chicago on the occasion of your 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, and your national organization's 20<sup>th</sup> year. My best to you as you look Forward to the future. I commend you for your efforts to protect the rights of Muslim-Americans, and for your work to further communication and understanding between us all.

I wish you an enjoyable evening and continued success in your good work.

Sincerely,  
*David Orr*  
David Orr




# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE CHICAGO**

February 13, 2014

Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Chicago)  
28 E. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700  
Chicago, IL 60604




Dear Mr. Rehab and Members of CAIR – Chicago,

I want to extend my sincerest congratulations to the Council on American – Islamic Relations for your hard work and your continued dedication to promote cultural understanding and tolerance of Muslim Americans throughout the Chicago area and the Country.

Congratulations as well on your Chapter reaching this 10-year milestone. Your organization's mission seeking equality and respect for all through an open dialogue and community partnerships not only assists the Muslim community but strengthens the entire Chicagoland area. Your interactions with many different faith groups promote justice and set an example for our future generations to follow. To that end, this year's banquet theme "Forward" is extremely appropriate. It is so important to move forward and continue to build upon the foundation your organization has laid over the past 10 years to further ethnic and cultural understanding.

On behalf of the Chicago Police Department thank you and good luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,



Garry E. McCarthy  
Superintendent  
Chicago Police Department

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT STATE OF ILLINOIS**

JOHN J. CULLERTON  
SENATE PRESIDENT

327 STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706  
217-782-2728



March 14, 2014

To the members and leaders of CAIR-Chicago:


It is my pleasure to congratulate you on a decade of steadfast service to the Muslim community in Chicago. Over the years, CAIR-Chicago has played a vital role in fighting discrimination, defending civil rights and promoting tolerance.

Your commitment and dedication to empowering the lives of many embodies that same spirit behind many of the world's greatest movements for change. Please accept my best wishes for a splendid evening as you celebrate your achievements of the past 10 years and to continued success in your mission of spreading equality and justice for all in the decades to come.

Sincerely,




John J. Cullerton  
President of the Illinois State Senate



**STATE OF ILLINOIS DANIEL BISS ILLINOIS STATE SENATE 9TH DISTRICT**

DISTRICT OFFICE  
700 S. KANSAS STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706  
217-782-1200  
FAX: 217-782-4730  
daniel@senate.il.gov

CAPITOL OFFICE  
327 STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706  
217-782-2719  
FAX: 217-782-0715  
senate@illinois.gov



March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014


Dear Friends of CAIR Chicago,

I am honored to extend my sincere congratulations to CAIR-Chicago on another year of exceptional service to communities across Illinois. Their dedication to promoting social justice is, no doubt, a tireless task, but enhances the lives of Muslim Americans in so many ways, by effectively defending civil rights, promoting personal political empowerment and sponsoring community events that strengthen our society.


There are times when great challenges arise because of the differences between us, whether they are based on race, religion or creed. But organizations like CAIR-Chicago that embrace and strive for diversity instead of sameness enrich the lives of those for whom they advocate and the rest of the community as well. A truly strong and vibrant community doesn't just tolerate diversity, but thrives because of it. CAIR-Chicago has done so much to help communities across Illinois move forward.

Congratulations on all your hard work and a successful celebration.

Kind Regards,



Daniel Biss



**ILLINOIS STATE SENATE**


**TERRY LINK**  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER  
STATE SENATOR - 30TH DISTRICT

CAPITOL OFFICE  
327 STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706  
PHONE: 217-782-4181  
FAX: 217-782-4430

DISTRICT OFFICE  
100 SOUTH GREENLEAF STREET  
QUINCY, ILLINOIS 62451  
PHONE: 618-247-1811  
FAX: 618-247-1818

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
EXECUTIVE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
TRANSPORTATION  
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS  
COMMISSION

E-MAIL: SENATOR@LINK30.ILGOV



February 21, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 N. State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602-3259


Dear Friends,

I would like to welcome all of you as you gather in Oakbrook Terrace at the Drury Lane Conference Center for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual CAIR-Chicago Banquet on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It is my pleasure to congratulate this fine organization who for the past 20 years has been a leader in promoting understanding of Islam and protecting Muslim civil liberties.

CAIR-Chicago has sustained that same commitment in serving the needs of the Muslim community in the Chicago area. As you celebrate this year's theme of "Forward" may you continue your dedication to fighting bigotry and promoting tolerance.

Please accept my best wishes for another successful banquet. Thank you for all you do for the Muslim community!

Sincerely,



Terry Link  
State Senator  
30th District

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



VILLAGE OF  
ROSEMONT



Dear Friends,

Congratulations to the officers and membership of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) to Rosemont, once again, on your annual banquet celebration.

Even more noteworthy is the fact that CAIR is growing substantially and significantly, so that on Saturday, March 15, 2014, you will recognize 10 years of growth and progress at your annual banquet, being held this year, in Oakbrook Terrace.

Congratulations on your on-going effort to seek to enlighten both the Muslim community here and the general American public by promoting justice, education and understanding. Such activity enriches our culture, thereby moving society "Forward," which is the appropriate theme for your event.


We toast you and wish you a successful banquet.

Best wishes,



Bradley N. Stephens  
Mayor

9901 West Devon Ave.  
Rosemont, IL 60018  
Phone 847-825-4404  
Fax 847-696-2717




City of  
Evanston

Office of the Mayor  
2100 Ridge Avenue  
Evanston, Illinois 60201  
T 847.866.2979  
F 847.859.7814  
etisdahl@cityofevanston.org  
www.cityofevanston.org

Elizabeth B. Tisdahl  
Mayor

January 30, 2014




Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations  
28 E. Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Director Rahab:

Thank you for the opportunity to write a letter of support for your work to ensure justice and foster understanding. Evanston is a diverse community that benefits from everything you do. My thanks go to everyone who is attending your event.

Congratulations on a phenomenal past year and best wishes for the future. You are helping the entire Chicagoland area with what I am sure will be a successful event and another memorable year.


Sincerely,



Elizabeth Tisdahl  
Mayor

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION


2200 WEBER RD.  
CREST HILL, IL 60403  
(815) 207-4445  
(815) 207-4446 (FAX)  
senatorpatmcguire@stateil.net



COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS II  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
ENVIRONMENT  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
REVENUE  
TRANSPORTATION

118 STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706  
(217) 782-8800  
(217) 538-6006 (FAX)  
senatorpatmcguire.com

**PAT MCGUIRE**  
STATE SENATOR - 43RD DISTRICT



March 15, 2014


Dear Friends:

As State Senator of the 43<sup>rd</sup> District, I extend my best wishes to all attending CAIR-Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet.

The Muslim community is an important part of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Senate District, particularly in Bolingbrook and Romeoville. Through religion, sports, culture, the professions, and business, Muslim Americans add much to the area I am honored to represent.


I congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago for another successful year. You have my appreciation for your commitment to justice and opportunity for all.

Sincerely,



Pat McGuire  
State Senator, 43<sup>rd</sup> District


400 NE JEFFERSON  
SUITE 200  
PEORIA, IL 61603  
309-677-0120  
WWW.SENATORDAVIDKOEHLER.COM



1113 STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706  
(217) 782-8250  
(217) 782-2115 FAX  
WWW.SENATORDAVIDKOEHLER.COM

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE  
**DAVID KOEHLER**  
STATE SENATOR - 46TH DISTRICT

February 7, 2014



Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 North State Street  
Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60602

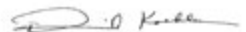
Dear friends:

Congratulations to the Chicago Chapter of CAIR on 10 successful years of advocating for the Illinois Muslim community and advancing justice and mutual understanding between Muslims and members of other faith communities. Congratulations also to your national organization for all the good work that it has done over the past 20 years.

America and Illinois are wonderful places to live in part because of their great diversity. The Muslim community is an important, vibrant part of our society. It is also a part of our society that is often misunderstood. Thank you for the important work that you do to defend Illinois citizens who are discriminated against because of their faith and for your efforts to promote tolerance and understanding.

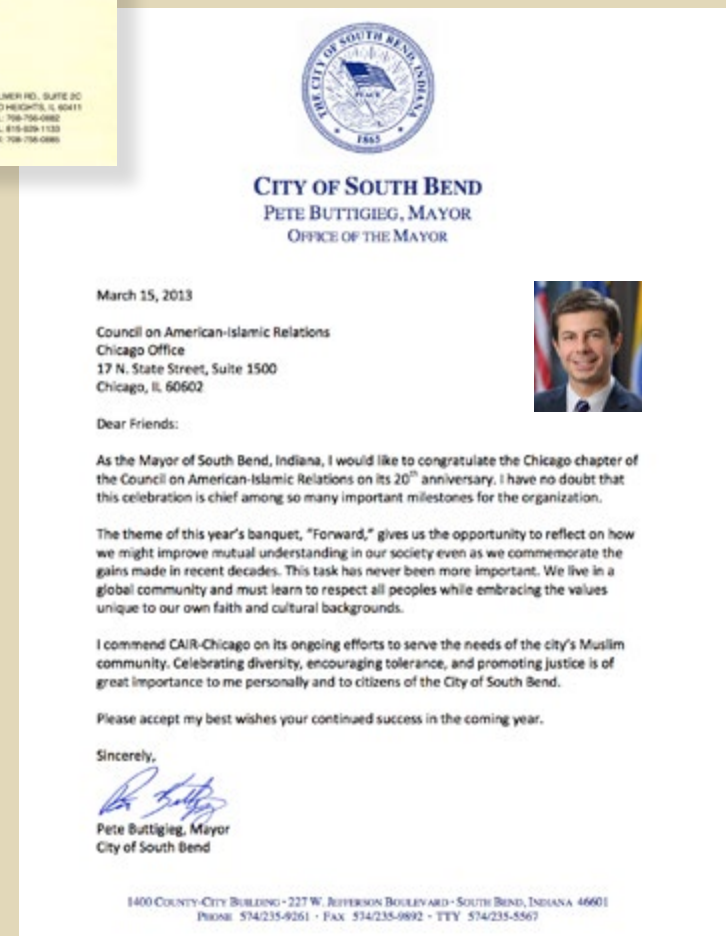
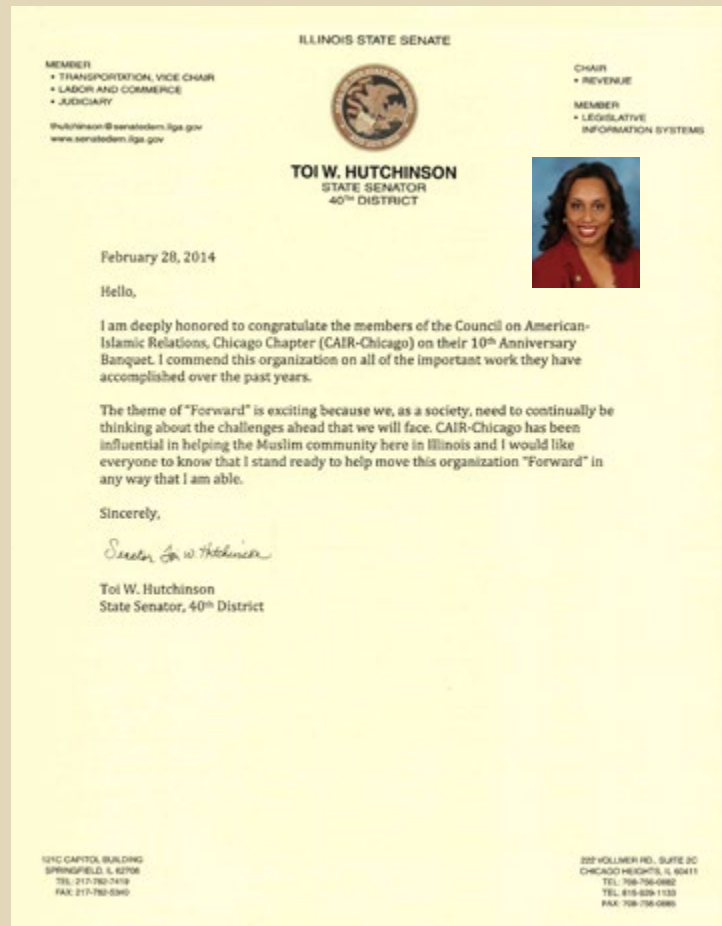
My best wishes for another successful banquet and another successful year.

Sincerely,

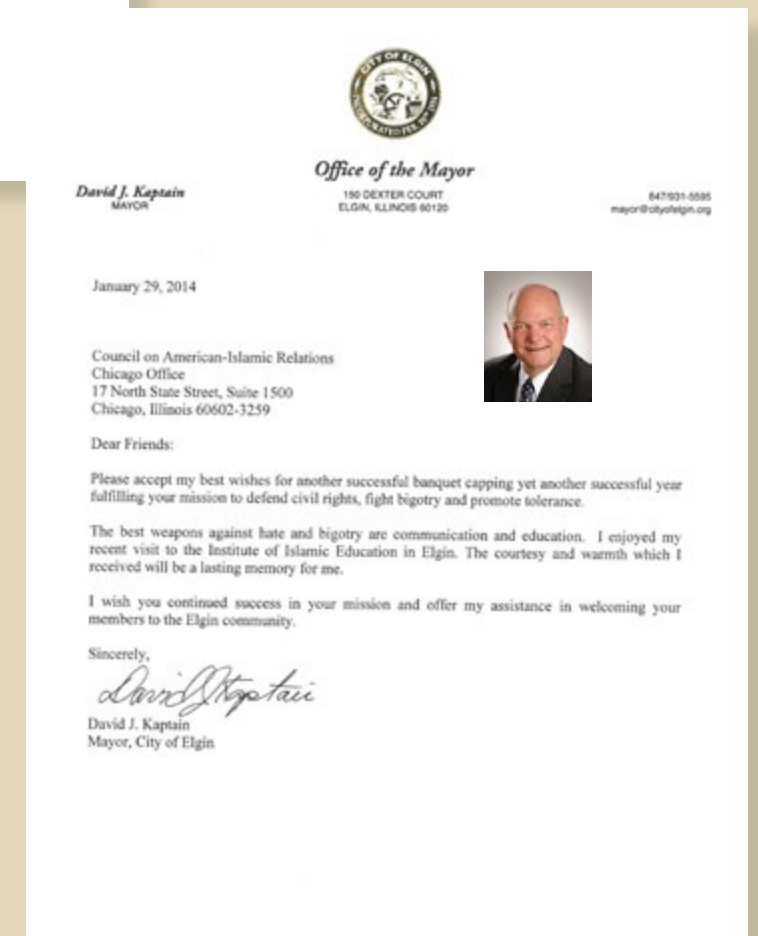


David Koehler  
State Senator, 46<sup>th</sup> District


# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION




# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY OF CHICAGO  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER**  
CITY HALL - ROOM 200  
121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
TELEPHONE: 312.744.0890

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**  
COMMUNITY, PLANNING AND ETHICS  
FINANCE  
HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE  
PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND JUSTICE

**WILLIAM D. BURNS**  
ALDERMAN, 4TH WARD  
435 EAST 35TH STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60616  
TELEPHONE: 773.508-8109  
FAX: 773.508-7290



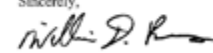
February 18, 2014


Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations  
17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Ahmed:

I am pleased to congratulate and salute the Chicago chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Chicago) on their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet being held March 15, 2014 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook, IL. While unfortunately I am unable to attend, I wanted to extend well wishes for a successful event. The work your organization does continues to be a beacon of light and a valued resource that educates the masses on Muslim civil rights and experiences.

Again, I congratulate CAIR-Chicago on its growth, success and unwavering stand in the fight for justice, understanding and tolerance for all while celebrating and embracing our cultural differences.

Sincerely,  
  
William D. Burns  
Alderman, 4th Ward




**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK

**GOPAL G. LALMALANI M.D., MBA**  
PRESIDENT

February 4, 2014

Mr. Ahmed M. Rehab, Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago Chapter  
28 East Jackson Blvd, Suite 1700  
Chicago, IL 60604




Dear Mr. Rehab:

It is my pleasure, as President of the Village of Oak Brook, to extend congratulations to the members of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Chicago Chapter.

Your 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, themed "Forward", speaks to the national organization's milestone anniversaries, their 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> year in being leading advocates for justice and mutual understanding. I commend CAIR-Chicago not only for all you do, but also for their unending commitment in helping to engage all communities in building mutual understanding and trust.

Congratulations on a great year and best wishes for another successful event.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,  
  
Gopal G. Lalmalani, MD., M.B.A.  
Village President

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



Village of  
**Northbrook**  
1275 Cedar Lane Northbrook, Illinois 60062 847.272.3600 Fax: 847.272.4700 www.northbrook.il.us

February 10, 2014



CAIR-Chicago  
Attn: Mr. Ahmed M. Rehab  
28 East Jackson Blvd, Suite 1700  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Rehab,


Let me first offer my sincere congratulations on another remarkable year for CAIR-Chicago. Please accept my best wishes, along with those of the Village Board of Trustees, for a successful 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet!

The annual banquet provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize the important role that the Illinois Muslim community plays in society. This year's banquet theme "Forward" speaks to the chapter and national organization's 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> year milestone anniversaries in being leading advocates for justice and mutual understanding. It is a promising future when communities can come together with respect and appreciate one another's ideas, voices and experiences.


Again, congratulations to your organization and best wishes on the continued advancement of your mission to ensure justice for all members of the Muslim community as well as to further nurture understanding.

Sincerely,  
  
Sandra E. Frum  
President, Village of Northbrook

PRESIDENT	BOARD OF TRUSTEES	VILLAGE CLERK	VILLAGE I
Sandra E. Frum	James A. Karagiamis A.C. Barkley III Michael W. Soder	Debra J. Ford	Richard A.



March 15, 2014

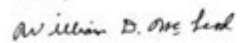


To the members, guests, family & friends of the Council on American-Islamic Relations;

Please accept my congratulations to the members of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Chicago Chapter (CAIR) on your 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet celebrating your success in ensuring justice for the embattled in our communities.

The theme of your banquet, "Forward" is appropriate considering CAIR-Chicago's commitment to guaranteeing equality and respect for all. Through cultivating an open dialogue and cooperation among all people, CAIR-Chicago has made it a priority to appreciate one another's unique ideas, voices and experiences.

As our community strives toward excellence, peace and prosperity, it is organizations like yours that make a difference in the lives of our residents. Your contributions are a vital part of our community and I would like to wish CAIR-Chicago many more years of successful service!

Sincerely,  
  
William D. McLeod  
Mayor

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

**COUNCIL CHAMBER**  
CITY HALL - BOARD ROOM  
121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
TELEPHONE: (312) 744-3100  
(312) 744-4320  
FAX: (312) 744-4009

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY OF CHICAGO

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

COMMITTEE, RULES AND ETHICS  
(VICE CHAIRMAN)

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FINANCE

HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC SAFETY

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & ASSIST

ZONING, LANDMARKS & BUILDING STANDARDS

**CARRIE M. AUSTIN**  
ALDERMAN, 34TH WARD  
CHAIRMAN  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND  
GOVERNMENT OPERATION

March 15, 2014

**VIA EMAIL**

Ahmed M. Rehab  
Executive Director  
Council on American-Islamic Relations—Chicago  
17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Director Rehab,

Greetings and congratulations to the Council on American-Islamic Relations ("CAIR")—Chicago on its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, which occasions a formidable cause to look "forward." I fully embrace your stance and stand in company with CAIR's fight to ensure justice and understanding for the Muslim community, yet with an inclusive view of rights, liberties and equality for all.

Further, I wholly agree that when we can all come together and respect each other's differences, we nurture a progressive society in which the rights of all citizens cannot be compromised. Moving "forward," it is our civic responsibility to identify injustice everywhere and endeavor to correct and annihilate divisiveness.

Lastly, I bid your continued stride will kindle a renewed, common bond to keep us fixed on collective sociopolitical activism beyond prejudice or intolerance. My fervent prayer is for us to mutually look forward and press on toward the goal by keeping vigil and active. God's continued blessings upon this important work.

Sincerely,  
*Carrie M. Austin*  
Alderman Carrie M. Austin  
Chairman

**CAPITOL OFFICE**  
833 S. STRATTON BUILDING  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62704  
217-782-3833  
FAX: 217-787-6470

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
1847 W. MONTROSE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60613  
773-748-3424  
FAX: 773-748-3478  
Email: greg@greggarris.org

**ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**GREGORY S. HARRIS**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE - 13<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT

January 23, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
17 N. State Street  
Suite 1500  
Chicago IL 60602

Dear Friends,

I write to congratulate CAIR, Executive Director Ahmed Rehab, your staff and volunteers for another successful year defending civil rights and defending against bigotry and intolerance. I am proud to stand with you in fighting for social justice, in supporting the hopes and dreams of Muslims throughout Illinois and working in collaboration with CAIR and other organizations to fight those who would promote fear, hatred and discrimination.

I also join my colleagues in thanking you for promoting active civic involvement in our communities, for your outreach and positive support for youth and leadership building, and your work assisting members of our community who are struggling with immigration and citizenship issues.

Best wishes for a very successful 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, and I look forward to working with you in building a better Illinois for all our families.

Sincerely yours,  
*Gregory S. Harris*  
Gregory S. Harris  
Representative  
13<sup>th</sup> District

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

Cook County Board of Commissioners  
118 North Clark Street - Suite 567  
Chicago, Illinois 60642  
Phone: (312) 663-7619  
Fax: (312) 663-4055  
Email: robert.steele@cookcountycl.gov

**ROBERT STEELE**  
COMMISSIONER  
2nd District

District Office  
3936 W. Roosevelt Rd.  
1st Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60624  
Phone: (773) 722-0140  
Fax: (773) 722-0143

March 15, 2014

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I extend warm greetings to the Council on American-Islamic Relations of Chicago on the occasion of your 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. Because of your commendable efforts to encourage equality, enhance cultural knowledge, and promote justice you are protecting the future advancement opportunities of generations to come.

Through programming, outreach and education you are providing a means for all communities in Cook County to grow together. I applaud your efforts and your mission to defend civil rights, fight bigotry and promote tolerance. The services you provide to the American-Islamic Community of Cook County and beyond are immeasurable.

Congratulations on another successful year of education, growth and empowerment.

Sincerely,  
*Robert B. Steele*  
Robert B. Steele  
President Pro Tempore  
Cook County Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY OF CHICAGO

**COUNCIL CHAMBER**

CITY HALL, ROOM 300  
121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
TELEPHONE 312.744.3007

**JOSEPH A. MOORE**  
ALDERMAN, 49<sup>th</sup> WARD  
1104 NORTH CLEVELAND AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60626  
TELEPHONE: 773.338.6708  
WWW.ALDERMANMOORE.ORG

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

SPECIAL EVENTS,  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION

Budget and Government Operations  
Criminal Justice and Ethics  
Finance  
Health and Environmental Protection  
Human Resources

Dear Friends:

As Alderman of the 49<sup>th</sup> Ward, I would like to welcome the attendees of the Council of American-Islamic Relations to the tenth annual banquet, and to extend my congratulations on years of fighting discrimination and promoting tolerance in the community. Muslim-Americans have made tremendous contributions to my community and CAIR-Chicago has advocated for Muslim-Americans across the City.

The theme of this banquet aligns with CAIR-Chicago's mission of continually fighting for equality, educating to eliminate ignorance, and promoting tolerance for everyone. It stresses the importance of continually growing, even after a decade of success. I fully support CAIR-Chicago on this endeavor and I am excited to see what the next ten years will bring for the organization and the community.

The residents of the 49<sup>th</sup> Ward wish you the best for many more decades to come. We hope for your continued success in helping Chicago become a more tolerant and inclusive community for Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

Yours sincerely,  
*Joseph A. Moore*  
Joseph A. Moore  
Alderman, 49<sup>th</sup> Ward

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION


# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

**ILLINOIS STATE SENATE**

Capitol Office  
102 Capitol Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
217.782.4000  
FAX: 217.782.4000  
ksraoul@senators.ilsos.gov

Committees:  
Personnel & Investments - Chairman  
Redistricting - Chairman  
Criminal Law - Vice-Chairman  
Judiciary  
Financial Institutions

**KWAME RAOUL**  
STATE SENATOR - 13TH DISTRICT



March 25, 2014


Dear CAIR Chicago members and guests:

Congratulations as you celebrate another successful year as the nation's fastest growing chapter of this accomplished civil rights organization. I know that it is with particular pride that you gather for your tenth annual banquet tonight, celebrating your hard-won victories for justice and religious freedom - for Muslims, but also for people of all faiths.

The value you place on building a just, tolerant and compassionate society reflects the best in Illinois. Our state's past is marked by shocking inhumanity but also by ordinary moments of brotherhood, inclusion and of course perseverance that have made Chicago a multi-hued city of immigrants and Illinois a state that strives to welcome all comers. Our present is promising yet imperfect, and so I think advocates like you for your passion and vigilance as we move forward toward the vision shared by people of goodwill throughout this state.

I wish you a very successful evening and I look forward to working together with you for an even brighter future.


Sincerely,



**Kwame Raoul**  
State Senator, 13<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

COURTNEY BUILDING  
141 N. Clark Street  
Room 502  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Phone: 773.420.4500  
Fax: 773.421.8991

**JOHN A. FRITCHEY**  
COMMISSIONER, 12<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT  
COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



March 15, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations Chicago Chapter  
17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602


Dear Friends,

I would like to extend my best wishes to CAIR-Chicago on your 10th Annual Banquet. What a wonderful opportunity to look back and celebrate the positive impact CAIR has had on Chicago for the last decade. We all owe a debt of gratitude for the amazing work CAIR does advocating for justice and mutual understanding between the many different religions and cultures in our city.

By defending civil rights, fighting bigotry, promoting tolerance, and providing Islamic perspective on issues of importance, CAIR-Chicago is enhancing understanding of the Islamic religion in a one of the most diverse cities in the nation.

I hope you all enjoy tonight's banquet, and I wish CAIR-Chicago much success in the years to come.

Sincerely,



**John Fritchey**  
Cook County Commissioner, 12<sup>th</sup> District

CAPITOL OFFICE  
ROOM 505, CAPITOL BUILDING  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706  
PHONE: 217.782.4100  
FAX: 217.782.4000

DISTRICT OFFICE  
2845 N. KEDzie AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60647  
PHONE: 773.487.6800  
FAX: 773.487.6700

COMMITTEES:  
EDUCATION  
ENERGY  
LABOR & COMMERCE  
LICENSED ACTIVITIES & PENSION

**IRIS Y. MARTINEZ**  
MAJORITY CAUCUS WHIP  
LATINO CAUCUS CO-CHAIR  
STATE SENATOR - 20<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT



February 14, 2014

Dear CAIR Chicago members and guests:

I want to extend my congratulations to you as you celebrate another successful year as the nation's fastest growing chapter of an extraordinary Muslim civil rights organization. As you gather for your tenth annual banquet, you can proudly reflect on the significant contributions you have made to equality under the law and a better tomorrow for people of all races and faiths.

By attending here tonight, you are expressing your commitment to a just, tolerant, compassionate society. You live out values that you share with people of goodwill throughout Illinois.

On behalf of the residents of the 20<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, I assure you of my support and sincere well wishes for many more years of building our community together.

Sincerely,



**Iris Y. Martinez**  
State Senator, 20<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Majority Caucus Whip  
Latino Caucus Co-Chair

405 E. UNIVERSITY AVE., STE. 204  
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820  
217.243.3633, 84832

124 STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706  
217.782.4007

**MICHAEL FRERICHS**  
STATE SENATOR - 52ND DISTRICT



Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

Congratulations on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CAIR-Chicago. As you celebrate this historic milestone for your organization, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work and dedication to our state. Throughout the years, CAIR-Chicago has worked hard to protect the civil rights of our growing American-Islamic community. The accepting principles of your organization has encouraged dialogue and built coalitions to promote justice and mutual understanding. You have continued to be a leader in promoting community understanding by opening lines of dialogue to create an atmosphere of tolerance.

To continue to grow as a state we need to further CAIR's mission of educating one another and appreciating everyone's experiences, ideas, and differences. CAIR's work has made our community a more accepting place for generations to come.

Once again I would like to extend my congratulations on another successful year, and best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,



**Michael Frerichs**

**B**  
VILLAGES OF BENSenville

1 East Gate Street  
Bensenville, IL 60015  
Phone: 630.832.8000  
Fax: 630.832.8000  
www.bensenville.org

**FRANK SOTO**  
Village President

February 17, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Chapter  
17 N. State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60602

On behalf of the Village of Bensenville and our Board of Trustees, it is my honor to extend congratulations to the members of Council on American-Islamic Relations on the Chicago Chapter's 10th anniversary and 20th anniversary for the organization as a whole.

Spending the last two decades as leading advocates for justice and mutual understanding is truly a tremendous milestone. The Village of Bensenville commends and supports CAIR-Chicago's mission to defend civil rights, fight bigotry, and promote tolerance.

This year's event theme of "Forward" stands as a testament to all of the hard work that has brought CAIR this far and emphasizes the importance of planning for the future. As our country continues to grow and change it is important that we continue to work together and embrace diversity. Bensenville is a diverse community of residents and businesses and we look "Forward" to continue to grow, support and embrace this.

Once again, congratulations to your organization and best wishes for a successful 2014 and many years to come.

Sincerely,



**Frank Soto**  
Village President

STATE OF ILLINOIS • OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER  
**JUDY BAAR TOPINKA**



March 15, 2014

Mr. Ahmed Rehab  
Executive Director  
CAIR - Chicago  
17 N. State Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Mr. Rehab:

Congratulations to the Council on American Islamic Relations, Chicago Chapter's 10th Annual Banquet and the national organization's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

This year's theme, "Forward," highlights the progress CAIR-Chicago has made in helping the prevention of future violence through education about diverse cultures and religions. In the past, our society has experienced acts of hate rhetoric, harassment, intimidation, bullying and violence, but the work of CAIR-Chicago has helped Illinois become a leading voice in denouncing a political climate that often casts people of color as foreign and inherently suspect.

Also, I express my gratitude to you and your staff for always representing peace and unity amongst different cultural and religious groups. The principles of tolerance, religious freedom, trust and safety are vital to the sense of community shared by all people and speak directly to the fabric of the United States of America. The fundamental American values of justice and equality for all are vital foundations of who we are as a people.

I applaud your efforts and look forward to our united work in the future. Congratulations again on your 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. My best wishes for your continued success!

Very Truly Yours,



**Judy Baar Topinka**  
Illinois State Comptroller

JOHN R. THOMPSON CENTER  
501 West Harrison, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60610-1212  
312.763.4800

STATE CAPITOL  
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 62706-0001  
217.782.4000  
www.illinois.gov


LAND OF LINCOLN BUILDING  
321 West Adams  
Bensenville, Illinois 60015-0011  
217.763.4804

Capitol Office  
129 Capitol  
Springfield, IL 62706  
217.782.0422  
217.782.2115 Fax

District Office  
76 S. LaSalle St.  
Suite 202  
Aurora, IL 60505  
630.801.8985  
630.801.8987 Fax

Committees:  
Chairperson  
- Environment  
Vice-Chairperson  
- Labor & Commerce  
Member:  
- Agriculture & Conservation  
- Local Government

**Linda Holmes**  
State Senator - 4<sup>th</sup> District



Dear Friends,

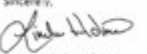
Congratulations on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CAIR-Chicago. I would like to extend my best wishes for another successful banquet!

As you celebrate this historic milestone for your organization, I would like to recognize your hard work protecting the civil rights of our growing American-Islamic community. CAIR-Chicago has fought intolerance in effort to create greater understanding in our communities.

I applaud your commitment to appreciate everyone's experiences, ideas and differences. This attitude is what makes our country stand out in the world. We must continue to build on this commitment through understanding and increasing trust between communities as well as community leaders.

I wish you much continued success and wonderful event.

Sincerely,




**Senator Linda Holmes**

County Building  
111 East DuSable  
Room 100  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
312.329.4600  
312.329.4600  
www.cookcounty.org

State Office  
401 East Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312.600.1000  
312.600.1000  
312.600.1000

**Larry Suffredin**  
Commissioner - 13<sup>th</sup> District  
Cook County Board of Commissioners



Council on American-Islamic Relations  
Chicago Office  
17 N. State St., Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Friends,

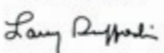
The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) conducts vital work for Cook County and I wholeheartedly congratulate it on its tenth Anniversary. Over the past ten years, CAIR has led the fight to defend the civil rights of Muslim American and against intolerance and bigotry.

As CAIR moves "Forward" in the coming year, it should be congratulated on its phenomenal successes in the past. In ten years, CAIR has:

- handled over 2900 anti-Muslim discrimination cases;
- assisted more than 230 Muslim immigrants to become U.S. citizens;
- advised more than 500 individuals on their immigration benefits applications;
- conducted more than 2000 interviews with local, national and international media outlets; and
- graduated over 500 interns, externs, fellows, developing grassroots leaders, civil rights advocates and social justice activists.

These phenomenal results demonstrate the importance of CAIR's work and its impact on Cook County. I applaud CAIR's success and I look forward to celebrating its work in years to come.

With Warmest Regards,



**Larry Suffredin**  
Cook County Commissioner

The 13<sup>th</sup> District includes the following communities:  
48<sup>th</sup> & 50<sup>th</sup> Wards of the City of Chicago, the City of Evanston and the Villages of Glenview, Deerfield, Kenilworth, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Rose, Northbrook, Skokie, Winnetka, and Wood Dale

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

# LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

**COMMITTEES:**  
 CRIMINAL LAW, CIVIL RIGHTS, REVENUE, VICE-GOVERNOR, ENERGY, EDUCATION, JUDICIARY

**1070 CAPITOL BUILDING**  
 SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706  
 217-782-1746  
 FAX: 217-527-3908  
 WWW.FOREIGNLANDS.COM

**FIVE PROFESSIONAL BUILDING**  
 104 DIVISION STREET  
 SUITE 412  
 ELLICOTT, IL 60120  
 847-876-8884  
 FAX: 847-876-8887

**ILLINOIS STATE SENATE**  
**MICHAEL NOLAND**  
 STATE SENATOR - 22ND DISTRICT

March 15, 2014

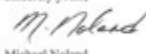
Dear Friends:

I am honored to congratulate CAIR-Chicago and again offer my support to your good work in all of our communities being leading advocates for justice and mutual understanding.


I applaud your theme, "Forward" for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, and wish you a very successful event. I salute you for celebrating CAIR-Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the national organization's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

On behalf of my constituents of Illinois State 22<sup>nd</sup> District, please accept my best wishes for such continued success!

Sincerely yours,



Michael Noland  
 State Senator



**ILLINOIS STATE SENATE**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**  
 Appropriations I - Court  
 Environment - Vice Chair  
 Appropriations II  
 Human Services  
 Public Health

**Springfield Office**  
 Room M130  
 State Capitol Building  
 Springfield, Illinois 62706  
 Phone: 217-782-8442  
 Fax: 217-782-2115  
 steans@senators.illinois.gov

**District Office**  
 5533 North Broadway  
 Chicago, Illinois 60642  
 Phone: 773-769-1717  
 Fax: 773-769-6901  
 www.heathersteans.com

**Heather A. Steans**  
 SENATOR



February, 2014

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to the Council on American Islamic Relations - Chicago on their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. This event celebrates another year of CAIR-Chicago advocating for civil rights on behalf of the American Muslim community.

CAIR-Chicago's work has fostered understanding and tolerance within our communities and I commend their innovative campaigns to promote peaceful and productive dialogues that serve as a model for others. CAIR-Chicago's work reminds us that society should never tolerate discrimination.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event and continued success in the future.

Sincerely,



Heather Steans  
 State Senator - District 7

**ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**COMMITTEES:**  
 Chairman: Insurance, Vice-Chairman: Financial Institutions, Member: Appropriations - General Services, Appropriations - Higher Education, Elementary & Secondary Education, State Government

**District Office:**  
 124 W. 30th St.  
 Chicago, Illinois 60643  
 773-445-4700  
 Fax: 773-445-4705  
 Legislative Aide: Arnold Jordan

**Capitol Office:**  
 211 E. Shelby Building  
 Springfield, Illinois 62716  
 217-782-2032  
 Fax: 217-782-1796

**MONIQUE D. DAVIS**  
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
 27TH DISTRICT



February 10, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
 17 N. State Street, Suite 1500  
 Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Friends:

Congratulations on another phenomenal year as you celebrate 10 Years - we applaud you!

This year's theme "Forward" speaks volumes about your organization and the work you do to protect human rights, advocate for justice, and achieve mutual understanding among Muslim residents and communities throughout the world.

The effort of leadership that you have shown is a perfect example of the historical reflection that we are now celebrating during Black History Month. We reflect and we celebrate those who stood up, spoke up, and fought for our rights.

May you continue moving forward, inspiring others, and to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Sincerely,



Monique D. Davis

**SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:**  
 218 STATE HOUSE  
 Springfield, Illinois 62706  
 217-782-0484  
 217-782-7012 FAX

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**  
 1408 E. 83<sup>rd</sup> St.  
 Suite C  
 Mear House, IL 60627  
 830-329-2028  
 830-329-2251 FAX

**JIM DURKIN**  
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE - 82ND DISTRICT  
 HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

February 21, 2014

Mr. Ahmed M. Rehab  
 Executive Director  
 17 N. State St.  
 Suite 1500  
 Chicago, IL 60602

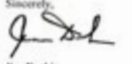
Dear Director Rehab,

I would like to congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago Chapter, on its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014.


The Council's belief that a promising future can be achieved by respecting and appreciating one another's ideas, voices, and experiences is one that can provide and hope and optimism to all.

Again, congratulations on the Chapter's 10 year anniversary, and best of luck over the next 10 years as you work towards fulfilling the promising future of respecting and appreciating one another.

Sincerely,



Jim Durkin  
 House Republican Leader  
 State Representative - 82<sup>nd</sup> District



**ROBERT W. FIORETTI**  
 ALDERMAN - 2<sup>nd</sup> WARD

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS:**  
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & PUBLIC UTILITIES, HEALTH, LICENSE & CONSUMER PROTECTION, RULERS & ETHICS, SPECIAL EVENTS

**PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICE:**  
 1519 NORTH ELSTON STREET  
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60642  
 TELEPHONE: 312-261-4273

**CITY HALL, ROOM 200 OFFICE 412**  
 121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
 TELEPHONE: 312-744-4400

March 15th, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
 Chicago Chapter  
 17 N. State Street, Suite 1500  
 Chicago, IL 60602

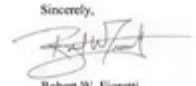
Dear CAIR-Chicago:

Congratulations on CAIR-Chicago's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. I commend you on your "Forward" theme as it reminds us that every day we have to move in that direction in our advocacy and education until there is mutual respect and justice for all.

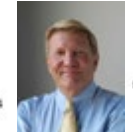
This is a great achievement. I thank you for all the exemplary work you have done, this past decade, on behalf of Chicago's Muslim-American community. I applaud your tireless commitment to justice and continued civic engagement, as it is vital to ending senseless discrimination. Through your outreach activities and awareness campaigns, may the Muslim-American community continue to develop strong partnerships and bring together as one.

Again, congratulations and have a splendid evening.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Fioretti  
 Alderman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward



**DISTRICT OFFICE:**  
 8404 W. LAWRENCE AVENUE  
 CHICAGO, IL 60620  
 TELEPHONE: 773-726-6218  
 Fax: 773-726-2333

**CAPITOL OFFICE:**  
 219 S. BRANTLEY BUILDING  
 SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706  
 TELEPHONE: 217-782-8198  
 Fax: 217-782-2906  
 www.jcdamico.gov

**JOHN C. D'AMICO**  
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
 13TH DISTRICT

March 2014


Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to offer this letter congratulating the Chicago chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Chicago) on another successful year of ensuring justice and mutual understanding in Chicago.


This year, CAIR-Chicago celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the largest organization committed to protecting and promoting the civil rights and liberties of Muslim Americans. CAIR-Chicago has been a leader in engaging all communities to build mutual understanding and trust, and to encourage the creation of a nation that appreciates the ideas, voices, and experiences of all people. CAIR-Chicago has worked tirelessly to ensure that our country's ideals are fully recognized, not only for those in the Muslim community, but for all, and I am honored to be a part of celebrating those accomplishments.

I commend CAIR-Chicago on its ongoing efforts and wish the organization nothing but continued success. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your celebration.

Sincerely,



John C. D'Amico



**WILLAG**  
 Daniel J. McLaughlin  
 VILLAGE CLERK  
 John C. Mahalik  
 14700 S. Ravinia Ave.  
 Orland Park, IL 60462  
 (708) 403-6100  
 www.orlandpark.org

**VILLAGE HALL**

**TRUSTEES:**  
 Kathleen M. Fenton  
 James V. Dodge  
 Edward G. Schussler II  
 Patricia A. Gira  
 Carole Griffin Ruzick  
 Daniel T. Calandrello

February 6, 2014


Mr. Ahmed M. Rehab  
 Executive Director  
 Council on American-Islamic Relations  
 17 North State Street, Suite 1500  
 Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Mr. Rehab:


As Mayor of the Village of Orland Park, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations as you enjoy your 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. I commend CAIR-Chicago for continuing to foster improved respect and understanding of the diversity of our communities and our region.

On behalf of the village board and the residents of Orland Park, my sincere best wishes for a meaningful event.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McLaughlin  
 Mayor



**Capitol Office:**  
 208 West Capitol  
 Springfield, IL 62706  
 217-784-1800  
 217-784-4993 (fax)

**Deputy Majority Leader:**  
 4121 Main St.  
 Moline, IL 61704  
 815-762-1100  
 815-762-4000 (fax)  
 E-Mail: lang@legis.gov

**LOUIS L. LANG**  
 House Representative  
 Deputy Majority Leader  
 18th District

February 1, 2014

Council on American-Islamic Relations  
 17 North State St.  
 Suite 1500  
 Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Director Rehab:

As I proudly represent Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Skokie and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward in the City of Chicago, I would like to welcome all the attendees to this year's Council on American-Islamic Relations' 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet.

Your tireless work on behalf of inclusion and civil rights are invaluable in a world with increasingly less barriers. As Americans, it is essential that we embrace our diversity as a strength that very few countries can match.

Once again, welcome attendees, I wish you a very successful event and year.

Sincerely,



Lou Lang  
 Deputy Majority Leader



# HOW TO SUPPORT US

We all have something valuable to learn from and inspire within each other, and Inshallah (God willing), we continue to be granted the opportunity to do so. CAIR-Chicago thanks all the volunteers, interns and staff who have given their time and effort to the advancement of the Muslim Community, CAIR-Chicago, and social justice, and encourages continued involvement in the years to come.

## FOLLOW US

1. Sign up for our mailing list ([www.cairchicago.org](http://www.cairchicago.org))
2. Respond to action alerts
3. Follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/cairchicago](http://www.facebook.com/cairchicago))
4. Follow us on twitter (@cairchicago)
5. Follow us on YouTube ([www.youtube.com/cairillinois](http://www.youtube.com/cairillinois))
6. Follow us on Instagram ([www.instagram.com/cairchicago](http://www.instagram.com/cairchicago))

## SUPPORT US

(Scholars have confirmed that CAIR-Chicago is an eligible recipient of Zakat. As always, your donations to CAIR-Chicago are tax deductible).

1. Sign up for CAIR-Chicago's Dollar-A-Day program ([www.cairchicago.org/dollar-a-day](http://www.cairchicago.org/dollar-a-day))
2. Make a general donation ([www.cairchicago.org/make-a-donation-form](http://www.cairchicago.org/make-a-donation-form))
3. Check to see if your employer has a gift matching program
4. Designate CAIR-Chicago as a beneficiary in your will ([planned giving](#))
5. Donate stocks, bonds or financial instruments to CAIR-Chicago
6. Donate vehicles via Cars 4 Causes ([www.cars4causes.net/charity-car-donation/cair-chicago](http://www.cars4causes.net/charity-car-donation/cair-chicago))
7. Participate in our Amazon Smile program (<http://smile.amazon.com/>)

## JOIN US

8. Apply for an internship/externship/law clerkship ([www.cairchicago.org/intern-center](http://www.cairchicago.org/intern-center))
9. Volunteer with us ([www.cairchicago.org/volunteer-center](http://www.cairchicago.org/volunteer-center))
10. Participate in one of our many events, rallies, workshops and Annual Banquet



# STAFF AND BOARD

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Ahmed Rehab

### Deputy Director

Sufyan Sohel, Esq.

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Rabya Khan, Esq.

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Maryam Arain

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### Sensitivity Trainer

Hind Makki

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Alaa Abdelati

### Youth Development Fellows (MYLS)

Nour Zein

Adham Sahloul

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Ahlam Jbara

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Christina Abraham

Suzanne Sahloul

Ahmed Rehab - Non-Voting

Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni - Honorary Chair

The Chicago Office  
of the Council on  
American-Islamic  
Relations

17 N. State Street  
Suite 1500  
Chicago IL, 60602

t: 312.212.1520  
f: 312.212.1530

info@cairchicago.org  
www.cairchicago.org



CAIR-Chicago's Board Members during a meeting





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Chicago, IL 60602  
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