



SABA-NJ

The South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey

2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Dear SABA-NJ Members and Friends:

It is an incredible honor to serve as the President of the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey for 2026. I am deeply grateful for the trust you have placed in me, and I step into this role proud of what this organization represents and excited about where we are headed next.

This year's theme is simple, but powerful: **SHOW UP.**

When our members show up – to events, to conversations, to each other – SABA-NJ thrives. Our energy grows, our reach expands, and our collective impact multiplies. As a volunteer-driven organization, participation is the lifeblood of everything we do. Showing up is more than attendance; it is engagement, leadership, and community. It challenges us to invest in one another and to do more, together.

We are fortunate to already have a strong foundation of flagship programming that brings our community together each year. Our Mentorship Program, Judicial Reception, Corporate Counsel event, and, of course, our Annual Gala, our signature event, reflect the strength, professionalism, and diversity of our membership. These programs will continue to anchor our calendar and our mission.

But this year, we also aim to build further.

Our Vision for the Year Ahead

1. **Member-Focused Programming With Renewed Emphasis on CLEs**

We are planning a strong programming year with a particular focus on CLEs. While we already have several topics in the mix, we want to hear from you—about what you want to see from SABA-NJ, and just as importantly, what you want to bring to it. This organization should be a platform not only for support, networking, and professional development, but also for visibility. If there's an issue

**2026 REGIONAL
REPRESENTATIVES**

North Jersey

Rippi K. Karda, Esq.
Verizon

Central Jersey

Rachna B. Malkana, Esq.
Law Office of Rachna B. Malkana

South Jersey

Prema Roddam, Esq.
Compunnel Inc.

affecting your practice, a topic you want to explore, or a CLE you think would add value, we want to know. And if you want to speak, lead a program, share your expertise, or elevate your profile within the profession, we want to help create those opportunities. Our goal is to support individual growth while strengthening the collective.

2. Cross-Engagement Beyond the Legal Community

We aim to expand engagement with business leaders, government officials, and policymakers - both to increase opportunities for our members and to elevate SABA-NJ's visibility more broadly. At the same time, we want leaders outside the legal profession to better understand and utilize the extraordinary talent, experience, and resources within our community. This mutual engagement benefits our members and strengthens SABA-NJ's role as a connector.

3. Expanding Our Membership Across New Jersey

Although our membership and outreach has historically been concentrated in Central Jersey, New Jersey is a large and diverse state. Talented South Asian attorneys and allies are making an impact across every region, and many are not yet connected to SABA-NJ. Expanding our statewide reach will not only grow our community, but also create stronger pathways for mentorship and generational giving back - by connecting junior attorneys with influential leaders and established professionals across the State who are positioned to open doors, share experience, and invest in the next generation.

4. Collaboration with Affinity Bar Allies

We will continue to strengthen partnerships with our affinity bar associations through shared programming, collaboration, and mutual support. Our values align, and we are strongest when we lift one another.

5. Advocacy and Leadership

We will continue to lead with advocacy, supporting causes that affect the South Asian and broader community and using our collective voice where it matters. We will engage thoughtfully, speak up when appropriate, and lead when opportunities arise.

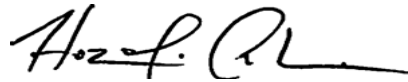
None of this would be possible without the leaders who came before me. I am grateful to the past presidents, board members, and volunteers whose dedication elevated SABA-NJ to where it stands today. I am especially thankful to my predecessor, **Mishita Jethi**, for her outstanding leadership and for guiding this organization with integrity and purpose. I am honored to build on that foundation.

Of course, I will not be doing this work alone. I am excited to serve alongside President-Elect **Navdeep Tucker** and a fantastic Board - a group of dedicated leaders who will be instrumental in advancing our shared vision.

I'll end where I started: SABA-NJ is only as strong as the people who power it. When you show up, you bring energy - and that energy is contagious. It fuels ideas, builds community, and creates momentum.

I look forward to working alongside each of you in the year ahead. Thank you for the opportunity.

With gratitude and excitement,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hozaifa Y. Cassubhai', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hozaifa Y. Cassubhai
President, SABA-NJ