

SAAJCO

SOUTH ASIAN AMERICAN
JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE



Pro Bono Program

www.saaajco.org

Building National Civil Rights Infrastructure for South Asian Communities

The **South Asian American Justice Collaborative (SAAJCO)** is a national nonprofit fighting for the civil and human rights of the South Asian diaspora in the United States through legal advocacy, community engagement, and narrative power.

Why this Work is Needed

6+ Million

South Asians live in the United States, with rapid growth over the last decade.

630,000

Undocumented South Asians are estimated to live in the U.S.

97,000

Border encounters involving Indians occurred in 2023, a fivefold increase over prior years.

115%

Increase in anti-South Asian hate rhetoric and violence between 2023 and 2025.

\$100K

Presidential proclamation attacking H-1B visas, a primary employment based immigration pathway for South Asian communities.

125+ Years

Promise of birthright citizenship for immigrant children now at risk.

Our Approach

Collaborative Mobilization

As attacks on immigrant communities and constitutional protections intensify, SAAJCO works collaboratively with partners across the civil rights ecosystem to help strengthen legal and community infrastructure serving South Asian communities nationwide.

Key Strategies

- Community engagement and Know Your Rights initiatives
- Legal resource development and referrals
- Coalition building and civic participation efforts
- Impact litigation and amicus advocacy



Our Work in Action

Recent Impact Litigation Cases (2025-2026)

saajco.org/programs/impact-litigation/

H-1B Visa \$100,000 Presidential Proclamation Challenge

Co-Counsel

Global Nurse Force v Trump, (N.D. Cal.)

Birthright Citizenship Amicus Brief

Co-Counsel

Trump v Barbara (Supreme Court)

Mail-In Ballots Executive Order Restriction Amicus Brief

Co-Counsel

Trump v California (Supreme Court)

Discriminatory Immigration Benefits & Asylum Freeze Challenge.

Co-Counsel

Dorcas v USCIS (RI Dist. Ct.)



Religious Land-Use Discrimination

Signatory / Amicus Curiae

Perez v San Antonio (Supreme Court)

Habeas Petitions for South Asian detainees in Texas in partnership with Texas A&M Law Center

Co-Counsel

Various

Texas Redistricting

Signatory / Amicus Curiae

Lulac v Abbott (Western Dist. TX)

Prolonged Detention Amicus Brief

Co-Counsel

Genalo v Black (Supreme Court)

Community Infrastructure & Engagement



SAAJCO's Engaged Communities Series

Developed in partnership with SAAPRI, convened monthly sessions on topics such as Know Your Rights, Unpacking Hate, and Civic Participation, connecting community members with trusted partners and accessible legal information.

<https://saaajco.org/programs/community-engagement/ecs/>



What We're Building

Expanding access to legal information through publicly available **resource guides** and the continued development of our Resource Line.

Launching ***Belonging is Our Resistance***, an initiative focused on narrative change, community engagement, and democracy protection.

Resource Line

SAAJCO operates a Resource Line connecting community members with legal information, referrals, and culturally responsive support, informed in part by community based models such as APALRC.



Know Your Rights & Legal Education

Through partnerships with local organizations, SAAJCO delivered Know Your Rights programming on the ground and online, and developed practical role-play guides to equip community members for real-life scenarios.



Pro Bono Opportunities

Litigation & Legal Advocacy

Impact Litigation & Amicus Advocacy

Contribute to litigation, amicus briefs, and legal research on **immigrant and civil rights, voting rights and democracy, hate and discrimination, trafficking and labor violations, and religious freedom.**

Ideal for: Federal litigators, appellate attorneys, and attorneys interested in legal research and writing.

Habeas Petitions in Texas

Help challenge unlawful immigration detention through federal habeas petitions for people detained in Texas.

Ideal for: Federal civil litigators. Prior immigration law experience is not necessary.

Resource Line

Intake Volunteers

Help community members share their concerns, gather key information, and identify matters for legal consultation or referral.

Ideal for: Attorneys, paralegals, and law students with strong listening and interviewing skills.

Legal Consultations

Provide 25-minute consultations to help community members understand their options and next steps in immigration, civil rights, family law, or criminal law matters.

Commitment: 1–2 hours, once a month.

Ideal for: Attorneys with experience in one or more of these practice areas.

Community Education

Lead virtual or in-person workshops

Provide 1-2 hour workshops that help communities understand their rights and navigate legal challenges. SAAJCO provides the materials.

Ideal for: Attorneys who enjoy making legal information accessible and engaging.

Contact Us

Call or email us with any questions:

(408) 550-9230 | contact@saaajco.org

SAAJCO

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**Together, we can build a more just and equitable society
for all South Asians in America.**

SAAJCO is a registered 501(c)(3) Public Charity · EIN 99-4022727

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