

ARAB AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DAYS

Washington, D.C. | April 27-28, 2017

#ArabAmericansLead



ADAM BATES, Cato Institute @AdamTaylorBates

Adam Bates is a policy analyst with Cato's Project on Criminal Justice. His research interests include constitutional law, the War on Drugs, the War on Terror, police militarization, and overcriminalization. Bates received a BA in Political Science from the University of Miami, where he also walked onto the Miami Hurricanes football team, and both an M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies and a J.D. from the University of Michigan. He is a member of the Oklahoma bar.



GREGORY CHEN, American Immigration Lawyers Association @GregChenAILA

Gregory Chen is Director of Advocacy for the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Prior to joining AILA in 2010, Greg worked for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants. He came to Washington, D.C. after spending five years in San Francisco at Legal Services for Children representing children in immigration matters as well as child welfare, juvenile delinquency, and education law proceedings. He is a graduate of Harvard College and NYU Law School and clerked for the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. Greg has testified before the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and is regularly quoted in major print media or on national news broadcasts.



DIMA KHALIDI, Palestine Legal, Center for Constitutional Rights @pal_legal

Dima Khalidi is the founder and Director of Palestine Legal and Cooperating Counsel with the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR). Her work includes providing legal advice to activists, engaging in advocacy to protect their rights to speak out for Palestinian rights, and educating activists and the public about the repression of Palestine advocates. Dima has a JD from DePaul University College of Law with a concentration in International Law, an MA in Comparative Legal Studies from the University of London – School of Oriental and African Studies, and a BA in History and Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan.



JOHNATHAN SMITH, Muslim Advocates @MuslimAdvocates

Johnathan Smith serves as legal director at Muslim Advocates. Most recently, Johnathan served as senior counsel to the Assistant Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, where he helped manage the department's work on religious discrimination, LGBT rights, employment discrimination, housing discrimination, and appellate matters. Prior to his tenure at the Civil Rights Division, Johnathan served as a staff attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund's Economic Justice Practice, working on matters involving employment discrimination, housing discrimination, and environmental justice. He served as a member of many litigation teams, including *Davis v. City of New York*, a class action challenge to the NYPD's trespass enforcement and "stop and frisk" practices in public housing; and *Scott v. Schelder*, a NVRA challenge to Louisiana's failure to adequately provide voter registration opportunities.



JEN SMYERS, Church World Service @cws_global

Jen Smyers serves as the Director of Policy and Advocacy for the Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program, and has been with CWS for more than ten years. A graduate of American University with a B.A. in Law and Society, B.A. in Public Communication, and Masters in Public Policy, Ms. Smyers has previously worked with Border Action Network in Tucson, Arizona and the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, D.C.