

MBA NEWS



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MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION SHOWS SOLIDARITY FOR LAWYERS IN PAKISTAN

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association is proud to support the National Lawyers Guild, which has called for demonstrations at Pakistani Consulates in Boston, New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles in solidarity with lawyers in Pakistan at 1 p.m. Nov. 13. The Boston protest will take place at the Statehouse.

On Nov. 3, Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf issued an emergency declaration, Provisional Constitutional Order No. 1 of 2007, which suspends Pakistan's Constitution. This declaration includes suspension of the right to life and liberty, freedom of speech, assembly and association, and equal protection of the law, all of which are guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

“The purpose of a constitution is to establish citizens' basic rights and liberties, and by suspending his nation's constitution President Musharraf has usurped the rule of law,” MBA President David W. White Jr. said. “The MBA joins other bar associations across the country in support of our international colleagues' mission to reinstate Pakistan's constitution and restore order.”

White will be attending the demonstration, and encourages MBA members and their colleagues to join him and the rest of the Massachusetts legal community. They will be rallying in support of the immediate release of all those detained after the declaration of a "state of emergency," the immediate reinstatement of the Supreme Court and Provincial High Courts, the immediate revocation of Provisional Constitution Order No. 1 of 2007 and the scheduling of fair and free general elections monitored by international observers.

To view the official Pakistan constitution, visit: www.pakistani.org/pakistan/constitution/

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.