

NASABA Announces Outreach Project with Local Chapters to Educate Convenience Store Operators

April 21, 2006 -- The North American South Asian Bar Association (NASABA) is proud to announce that Chicago's Indian American Bar Association (IABA) will host the first of many educational outreach programs for convenience store owners and operators. The program, which is a NASABA and Chicago IABA partnership, will focus on educating and creating awareness among convenience store owners and operators about the sale of methamphetamine pre-cursors and other issues specifically facing that industry.

"NASABA wants to educate convenience store owners and operators about how the sale of harmless products can be used to make drugs, how not to be exploited by those who use convenience stores to purchase those products, and the legal issues facing today's convenience store industry" said Habib F. Ilahi, Co-Chair of NASABA's Criminal Justice Committee."

Although originally conceived as a partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) known as the C-Store Outreach Project, NASABA's educational outreach program will go forward independent of any affiliation with DEA. "As prosecutions of scores of South Asian convenience store owners and operators continue in Georgia as part of 'Operation Meth Merchant,' we have concluded that the program's objectives are best advanced without any DEA involvement until all matters are resolved," noted Paul Grewal, NASABA President-Elect. NASABA will, however, proceed to partner with its own chapters, like the Chicago IABA.

The NASABA/IABA Outreach Program will be held on May 21, 2006 at the Indo American Center in Chicago, IL.