

Class Actions

▶ **PROFILE** Saraa Basaria '12

Paving the Way

“Diverse lawyers need a network they can rely on so they can succeed in the profession, be promoted and, in turn, become a resource for tomorrow’s diverse law students,” says Saraa Basaria, who is completing her second term as president of the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (SABA GB).

As a law student, Basaria co-chaired the South Asian Law Students Association. When she graduated from Northeastern, it was only natural to continue her involvement promoting diversity inclusion in the legal profession by joining SABA GB.

“The South Asian legal community is young — mostly first-generation Pakistani and Indian lawyers,” says Basaria, who practices in the commercial litigation group at Todd & Weld. She was also among the inaugural class of the Massachusetts Bar Association’s Leadership Academy, which gives up-and-coming legal leaders the training and resources to succeed.

Under her leadership, SABA GB expanded its popular “Know Your Rights” program to reach more in the South Asian community. She has also worked to increase networking among other local affinity law groups. “Our first affinity mixer event had more than 100 people,” she says. “It’s been incredibly fulfilling to get to know so many others in the legal community. SABA GB has opened a lot of doors for professional growth for me.”

“SABA GB has only been around for 13 years. We have such a dedicated board, and I’m proud of the work that we’re doing,” Basaria concludes. “In a short time, we’ve become on par with long-standing affinity bar associations.”

— *Maura King Scully*