



# **UNITED SIKHS**

## **16th Annual Sikh Summit Report**

**July 13, 2026-July 17, 2026**

**Issued: July 31, 2026**

**By: UNITED SIKHS, International Civil & Human Rights Advocacy (ICHRA) Directorate**

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**Anuneet Kaur, Project Analyst**

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**Kuljeet Kaur, Law Student intern**

**Siriaadi Kaur, Legal Intern**

**Nikhil Malhotra, Legal Intern**

**Bipanpreet Kaur, Law Student intern**

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## FOREWORD

If success is measured in robust and honest dialogue, this year's SIKH SUMMIT was a resounding success! Hundreds of hours went into preparing for the Summit, bringing together an extraordinary coalition of legislators, government agency officials, partner organizations, law firms, law school professors, community leaders, and dedicated staff. From opening remarks by UNITED SIKHS' Founder, Hardayal Singh, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Gurpreet Singh and Chief Legal Officer (CLO), Wanda Sanchez Day, Esq., to critical examinations of human rights, this year's dialogue addressed the most pressing challenges of our time.

The Summit confronted modern civil rights issues head-on, featuring briefings on AI and privacy concerns led by Professor Arjun Sethi, rising hate and immigration challenges by Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, humanitarian relief efforts in Ukrainian, Pakistan, Puerto Rico, India and in other parts of the world detailed by Kamaljeet Singh Kahlon and UNITED SIKHS' International Humanitarian Aid Director, Gurvinder Singh. Legislative solutions were presented by Congressman Tom Suozzi alongside Congressional Legislative Aid, Tejkaran Kaur Bains. Participants also gained invaluable institutional insights from federal and state leaders, including FEMA's Miriam Gelo on voluntary agency coordination and Rick Sawyer, Chief of the NYS Attorney General's Civil Rights Bureau, on diverse community enforcement challenges. Discussions on non-domiciled commercial driver rule changes and CDL litigation were led by Sundeep Singh and the Texas Civil Rights Project attorneys, and employment rights updates were heard from the U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) leadership, Monica Colunga, and the New York Division of Human Rights.

The Summit also invested heavily in the next generation of advocates through panels on law school survival, international civil rights leaders, as presented by Mani Singh Kang, on human rights analyses as applicable to gender-based politics spanning the Ukraine context with Professor Sophia Mushrashkovsky Romma, to grassroots organizing led by the Espinosa family at FIEL Houston. Through community programs presented by UNITED SIKHS Community Liaison, Inderjeet Singh, workshops on workplace Kirpan protections with Valerie Daniele, immigration and criminal law updates by Jaspreet Kaur Narang and Tejinder Singh Bains, and inspiring calls to courage and philanthropy by Kanwaljit Singh and Bhupinder Kaur, the Sikh community reaffirmed its commitment to justice. As closing remarks by leadership emphasized, those who are continuously disenfranchised must never stop using their voices. Sikhs and marginalized groups must be able to freely practice their faith and live with dignity as envisioned by the First Amendment.

## **I. BRIEF HISTORY**

UNITED SIKHS was established in 1999 by Sikhs in New York City, Queens in an effort to empower and advocate on behalf of taxi drivers and new immigrants.

Today, it is the largest Sikh organization in the UNITED STATES and in 2026, has reached over 733,000 followers on social media, increasing from 113,300 in 2017. That number continues to grow exponentially.

Through its International Civil & Human Rights Advocacy (ICHRA), Community Education & Empowerment Directorate (CEED), and SIKHAID programs and its dedicated volunteers and supporters, it has become a unique non-governmental, international and United Nations affiliated, civil society Sikh organization that provides advocacy, humanitarian aid, and tools for empowerment and education to communities world-wide, regardless of race, gender, nationality, gender orientation, ability, creed, and/or religion.

The efforts of UNITED SIKHS staff and volunteers in chapters in the United States, the United Kingdom (through its UNITED HUMANITARIAN SIKH AID Chapter), in India, Malaysia, France, Belgium, Australia, Japan, and other parts of the world aim to provide hope to those who have been impacted by man-made and/or natural disasters. UNITED SIKHS lends its voice to improve quality of life for all.

## **II. THE 2026 16th ANNUAL SIKH SUMMIT & ADVOCACY & HUMANITARIAN AID ACADEMY (AHAA)**

The 16th Annual Sikh Summit is the Sikh community's opportunity to have a dialogue with leaders in Congress about issues affecting the community and to inform and educate the public about Sikhism.

It takes place in conjunction with the UNITED SIKHS' Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA), a creation of UNITED SIKHS' International Civil & Human Rights Advocacy (ICHRA) Directorate. Each year, AHAA accepts and educates law students, high school students, college students, and young professionals to become strong and articulate civil and human rights advocates and leaders.

The Academy is led by an accomplished faculty of government officials, civil rights advocates, educators, attorneys, members of Congress, legislative aides, professionals, and respected leaders of the Sikh community. Together, they provide students with practical knowledge and real-world perspectives on today's most pressing civil rights and public policy issues.

Before the Summit begins, students participate in a two-day orientation led by UNITED SIKHS staff, where they learn about the organization's mission, advocacy strategies, and community programs. They then put the skills learned into practice by engaging directly with expert

speakers, discussing current legal and policy challenges, and participating in the advocacy process. This hands-on experience helps students develop the knowledge, confidence, and leadership skills needed to become effective advocates for their communities.

### **III. UNITED SIKHS LEADERSHIP & STAFF DIRECTORY**

Hardayal Singh — Director of Programs & UNITED SIKHS Co-Founder  
Gurpreet Singh — Chief Executive Officer  
Gurvinder Singh — International Director of SIKHAID  
Wanda Sanchez Day, Esq. — Chief Legal Officer & National Legal Director  
Bhupinder Kaur — Director of Operations & UMEED Helpline Manager  
Kamaljeet Singh Kahlon — Regional Director For SIKHAID, Texas  
Inderjeet Singh — Community Relations Officer, NY  
Jagjit Kaur — Community Relations Officer, NJ  
Cristina Jimenez — Human Rights and International Engagement Lead  
Jaspal Kaur — Philanthropy Officer  
Anuneet Kaur — Project Analyst  
Siriaadi Kaur — ICHRA Intern  
Nikhil Malhotra — ICHRA Intern  
Bipanpreet Kaur — ICHRA Legal Intern  
Kuljeet Kaur — ICHRA Legal Intern

### **IV. 2026 SUMMIT SPEAKERS**

UNITED SIKHS thanks the members of Congress, government officials, partner organizations, law firms, professors, and community leaders who shared their expertise and participated in the 2026 Summit:

#### ***Congress Members & Staff***

U.S. Congress Member Zoe Lofgren, California District 18

U.S. Congress Member Grace Meng, New York District 6

U.S. Congress Member Tom Suozzi, New York District 3

Tejkaran Kaur Bains, Legislative Assistant, Congress Member Tom Suozzi's Office  
Officials

#### ***Government Officials***

Harmeet Dhillon, U.S. Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

Monica Colunga, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs, DC

Rick Sawyer, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Bureau, Office of the Attorney General Letitia James

Valerie Daniele, Deputy General Counsel, New York State Division of Human Rights

Miriam Gelo, Training Lead, Voluntary Agency Coordination Unit, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

### **Partner Non-Profit Organizations**

Eileen Ma, Asian Law Caucus

Kate Gibson Kumar, Esq., Staff Attorney, Texas Civil Rights Project

Denni Arnold, Esq., Staff Attorney, Texas Civil Rights Project

Aura Espinosa, FIEL, Houston, Texas

Maria Espinosa, FIEL, Houston, Texas

Abraham Espinosa, FIEL, Houston, Texas

### ***Partner Law Firms & Private Practice***

Sundee Singh, Esq., Riley, Cates, LLC, Indiana

Karishma Shah Page, Esq., Partner, K & L Gates

Tina Sodhi, Esq., Alternate Public Defender

Jaspreet Kaur Narang, Esq., Immigration Attorney

Tejinder Singh Bains, Esq., Bains Law Firm, Queens, NY

### ***Law School Professors***

Professor Arjun Sethi, Georgetown University School of Law

Professor Sophia Mushrashkovsky Romma, Touro School of Law

### ***Community Leaders***

Kanwaljit Singh (II), Gurbani Counsellor

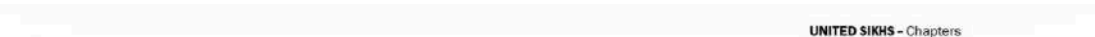
Mani Singh Kang, Writer and Historian

Amritpal Singh, Advocate and Legal Aid Counselor

Gurmohan Preet Singh, Strategic Cum Legal Advisor, UNITED SIKHS

| Responsibility     | Percentage |
|--------------------|------------|
| Current government | 75%        |
| Opposition         | 15%        |
| Both               | 10%        |

## Amended 7/13/2026, 11:10 AM EST



## BRIEF HISTORY

### UNITED SIKHS - Chapters

A world map illustrating the global distribution of United Sikhs chapters. The map is color-coded by continent: North America (blue), South America (green), Europe (yellow), Africa (orange), Asia (red), and Australia (purple). Numerous locations are marked with small icons and labels, indicating the presence of chapters. Labels include: Canada, USA, Mexico, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. The map shows a high concentration of chapters in North America and Europe, with a more sparse distribution in other regions.

Through its International Civil & Human Rights Advocacy (ICHRA), Community Education & Empowerment Directorate (CEED) and SIKHAID programs and its dedicated volunteers and supporters, it has become a unique non-governmental, international and UNITED NATIONS affiliated Sikh organization that provides advocacy, humanitarian aid and tools for empowerment and education to communities world-wide, regardless of race, gender, gender orientation, ability, creed and/or religion.



UNITED  
NATIONS

## READY TO JOIN?

Click the link below:

[UNITED SIKHS:](#)

[2026 SIKH SUMMIT AND  
ADVOCACY AND  
HUMANITARIAN AID  
ACADEMY \(AHAA\)](#)

Scan the QR Code:



AGENDA- 2026 Sikh Summit and Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA)



## UNITED SIKHS - ICHRA / SIKHAID / CEED STAFF

**Hardayal Singh** - *Director of Programs & UNITED SIKHS Co-Founder*  
**Gurpreet Singh** - *Chief Executive Officer*  
**Gurvinder Singh** - *International Director of SIKHAID*  
**Wanda Sanchez Day, Esq.** - *Chief Legal Officer & National Legal Director*  
**Bhupinder Kaur** - *Director of Operations & UMEED Helpline Manager*  
**Kamaljeet Singh Kahlon** - *Regional Director For SIKHAID, Texas*  
**Inderjeet Singh** - *Community Relations Officer, NY*  
**Jagjit Kaur** - *Community Relations Officer, NJ*  
**Cristina Jimenez** - *Human Rights and International Engagement Lead*  
**Jaspal Kaur** - *Philanthropy Officer*  
**Anuneet Kaur** - *Project Analyst*  
**Siriaadi Kaur** - *ICHRA Intern*  
**Nikhil Malhotra** - *ICHRA Intern*  
**Bipanpreet Kaur** - *ICHRA Legal Intern*  
**Kuljeet Kaur** - *ICHRA Legal Intern*

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## Guest Speakers

### CONGRESS MEMBERS & Staff

U.S. Congress Member **Zoe Lofgren**, California District 18  
 U.S. Congress Member **Grace Meng**, New York District 6  
 U.S. Congress Member **Al Green**, Texas District 9  
 U.S. Congress Member **Tom Suozzi**, New York District 3  
**Tejkaran Kaur Bains**, Legislative Assistant, Congress Member Tom Suozzi's Office

### OFFICIALS

**Harmeet Dhillon** - U.S. Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division  
**Monica Colunga**, Outreach and Training Coordinator, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs, DC  
**Rick Sawyer, Esq.**, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Bureau, NYS Office of the Attorney General Letitia James  
**Valerie Daniele**, Deputy General Counsel NYS Division of Human Rights  
**Lorraine Ortiz Vasquez**, Communications Lead, Voluntary Agency Coordination Unit  
**Miriam Gelo**, Training and Lead, Voluntary Agency Coordination Unit

### PARTNER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

**Aisa Villarosa**, Attorney, Asian Law Caucus  
**Kate Gibson Kumar, Esq.**, Staff Attorney, Texas Civil Rights Project  
**Denni Arnold, Esq.**, Staff Attorney, Texas Civil Rights Project  
**Cesar Espinosa**, FIEL, Houston, Texas  
**Aura Espinosa**, FIEL, Houston, Texas

### PARTNER LAW FIRMS

**Sundeep Singh, Esq.**, Partner, RileyCate, LLC, Indiana  
**Krishma Shah Page, Esq.**, Partner, K & L Gates  
**Tina Sodhi, Esq.**, Alternate Public Defender  
**Jaspreet Kaur Narang, Esq.**, Immigration Attorney  
**Gurmohan Preet Singh**, Strategic Cum Legal Advisor UNITED SIKHS Worldwide

### LAW SCHOOL PROFESSORS

**Professor Arjun Sethi**, Georgetown University School of Law  
**Professor Sophia Mushraskovsky Romma**, Touro School of Law

### COMMUNITY LEADERS

**Kanwaljit Singh (II)**, Gurbani Counsellor  
**Mani Singh Kang**, Writer and Historian  
**Amritpal Singh**, Advocate and Legal Aid Counselor

SPEAKER BIOS ARE LINKED [HERE](#)



## MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026

| Time (EST)                   | Panel                                                                                      | Speakers                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (EST)     | UNITED SIKHS Orientation - Opening Remarks                                                 | <b>Gurpreet Singh</b> , Chief Executive Officer (CEO)<br><b>Wanda Sanchez Day, Esq.</b> , UNITED SIKHS Chief Legal Officer (CLO) & National Legal Director |
| 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (EST)      | CEED: Human Rights and Freedom in the Age of AI                                            | <b>Professor Arjun Sethi</b> , Georgetown University School of Law                                                                                         |
| 2:15 PM - 2:45 PM (EST)      | SIKHAIID: Humanitarian Relief: Pakistan & Puerto Rico                                      | <b>Kamaljeet Singh Kahlon</b> , Regional Director for Sikhaid                                                                                              |
| 3:00 PM (EST) - 4:00PM (EST) | ICHRA: Combating Hate Crime: History of Hate Crime Legislation and the Proposed SACRED Act | <b>Congressman Tom Suozzi</b><br><b>Tej Karan Bains, Esq.</b> , Legislative Aid                                                                            |

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## TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026

| Time (Eastern Standard)   | Panel                                                                                          | Speakers                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:00 Am- 11:45 AM (EST)  | Protecting Civil Rights in an Era of Rising Hate, Immigration Challenges, and Emerging Threats | Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, California, District 18                                                                         |
| 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM (EST) | Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)                                                     | Lorraine Ortiz Vasquez, Communications Lead, Voluntary /Miriam Gelo, Training and Lead, Voluntary Agency Coordination Unit |
| 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM (EST)   | SIKHAIID: Seva Stories from the Field- Florida, Louisiana, Spain, Ukraine                      | Gurvinder Singh, International Director of Sikhaid, UNITED SIKHS                                                           |
| 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (EST)   | Surviving Law School: LSATS, IRAC, Grades, Law Journals and Beyond                             | Bipanpreet Kaur - ICHRA Legal Intern, UNITED SIKHS<br>Kuljeet Kaur - ICHRA Legal Intern, UNITED SIKHS                      |
| 2:30 PM - 2:45 PM (EST)   | History of International Leaders and American Civil Rights Icons                               | Mani Singh Kang, Writer and Historian                                                                                      |
| 3:00 PM-3:45 PM (EST)     | ICHRA: The Politics of the Human Rights of Women & Children: Ukraine Context                   | Professor Sophia Mushrashkovsky Romma, International Human Rights Attorney, Touro University Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center |
| 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM (EST)   | ICHRA: Know Your Rights: I Filed an Employment Discrimination Complaint: What's Next?          | Monica Colunga, Outreach & Training Coordinator, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)                            |

AGENDA- 2026 Sikh Summit and Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA)



## WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026

| Time (EST)               | Panel                                                                                        | Speakers                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:30 AM - 12:00PM (EST) | The Evaporating Truth: What the Censorship of Satluj Reveals                                 | Gurmohan Preet Singh, Strategic Cum Legal Advisor United Sikhs Worldwide.                                                              |
| 12:00 PM -1:00 PM (EST)  | ICHRA: Perspectives on Civil Rights Enforcement: the Challenges Faced By Diverse Communities | NYS Office of the Attorney General Letitia James<br>Rick Sawyer, Esq., Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Bureau                  |
| 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM (EST)  | ICHRA: Non-Domiciled Commercial Drivers: the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Rule Changes       | Sundee Singh, Esq., Attorney, Riley, Cates, LLC<br>Wanda Sanchez Day, Esq., UNITED SIKHS Chief Legal Officer & National Legal Director |
| 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (EST)  | The Era of Policy and Political Volatility & The Critical Role of Advocacy                   | Karishma Shah Page, Esq., Partner, K & L Gates                                                                                         |
| 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (EST)    | Grassroots Organizing                                                                        | Cesar Espinosa, FIEL, Houston<br>Aura Espinosa, FIEL, Houston<br>Maria Espinosa, FIEL, Houston                                         |
| 4:00 - 4:30 PM (EST)     | Civil Rights & Religious Rights Freedoms                                                     | Harmeet Dhillon - U.S. Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division                                   |

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## THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2026

| Time (Eastern Standard)                          | Panel                                                                             | Speakers                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM (EST)                        | Community Rights Briefing: Turning Rapid Response Into Democracy Defense On-Ramps | Aisa Villarosa, Asian Law Caucus                                                                                   |
| 12:30 PM - 1:00PM (EST)                          | CEED: UNITED SIKHS Community Programs                                             | Inderjeet Singh, Community Liaison, UNITED SIKHS<br>Jagjit Kaur, UNITED SIKHS                                      |
| 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (EST)                          | ICHRA:Breakdown of Sikh Rights: Kirpans in the Workplace                          | Valerie Daniele, Deputy General Counsel, NY Division of Human Rights                                               |
| 2:15 PM - 3:15 PM (EST)                          | Topics in Criminal Law and Immigration Law                                        | Tejinder Bains, Bains Law Firm, Queens, NY/ Jaspreet Kaur, Immigration Attorney                                    |
| 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (EST) (2:30 PM- 3:30 AM (CST)) | ICHRA:Anti-Immigrant State Law Challenges: Texas SB4 and CDL Downgrades           | Kate Gibson Kumar, Esq. & Denni Arnold, Esq.<br>Staff Attorneys, Beyond Borders Program Texas Civil Rights Project |

AGENDA- 2026 Sikh Summit and Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA)



## FRIDAY JULY 17, 2026

| Time               | Panel                                                            | Speakers                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:15 AM- 11:45 AM | Human Rights Violations                                          | Amritpal Singh, Advocate and Legal Aid Counselor                                                                                                                           |
| 12:00 PM 1:00 PM   | Hate Crimes                                                      | US Congress Member Grace Meng, New York District 6                                                                                                                         |
| 1:15 PM- 2:00 PM   | Pathway to Becoming a Lawyer and Beyond:                         | Tina Sodhi, Esq., Alternate Public Defender, N.Y.                                                                                                                          |
| 2:15 PM -3:00 PM   | Finding My Voice: Courage, Responsibility and Shelter in Gurbani | Kanwaljit Singh, Gurbani Counselor                                                                                                                                         |
| 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM  | Seva in Action: Sustaining the Mission                           | Jaspal Kaur, Philanthropy Officer, UNITED SIKHS<br>Bhupinder Kaur, Director of Operations & UMEED Manager, UNITED SIKHS                                                    |
| 4:15 PM - 4:30 PM  | UNITED SIKHS- Closing Remarks                                    | Gurpreet Singh, Chief Executive Officer<br>Hardayal Singh, Director of Programs and Co-Founder<br>Wanda Sanchez Day, Esq., Chief Legal Officer and National Legal Director |

AGENDA- 2026 Sikh Summit and Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA)



## **VI. STUDENTS 2026 ADVOCACY & HUMANITARIAN AID ACADEMY (AHAA)**

### **STUDENTS**

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Dakshdeep Singh | - USA                      |
| Gurgina Toor    | - British Columbia, Canada |
| Kuljeet Bhele   | - California, USA          |
| Simran Rathur   | - Ontario, Canada          |
| Amrik Gill      | - Texas, USA               |
| Suneha Romana   | - California, USA          |
| Damandeep Gill  | - Michigan, USA            |
| Pardip Kaur     | - New Jersey, USA          |

### **VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS**

|                     |                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Amneet Sadana       | - California, USA                    |
| Mabbina Kaur Sandhu | - North Carolina, USA                |
| Sadat Choudhary     | - Brampton, Ontario, Canada          |
| Manmeet Singh       | - Saskatchewan, Canada               |
| Sungita Gupta       | - East Greenville, Pennsylvania, USA |
| Gavia Grewal        | - Fremont, California, USA           |
| Jita Sangha         | - California, USA                    |
| Harinder Singh      | - USA                                |
| Kamaljit Kaur       | - USA                                |

## **VII. 2026 - 16th Annual Summit: Learning, Leadership, and Action**

The 2026 Summit and AHAA brought together an extraordinary group of leaders, attorneys, educators, policymakers, humanitarian workers, and community advocates for five days of learning, discussion, and practical training. Rather than focusing only on legal theory, the Summit explored how civil rights are protected, or challenged, in everyday life and how ordinary people can become effective advocates for their communities.

Throughout the week, participants examined some of the most important issues facing our society today. National leaders discussed the growing challenges of hate crimes, religious freedom, immigration policy, workplace discrimination, disaster response, criminal justice, and the impact of artificial intelligence on civil rights. Legal experts explained how federal and state laws affect communities, while experienced advocates shared practical strategies for organizing, educating, and creating lasting change.

Humanitarian leaders from SIKHAID highlighted relief efforts in communities affected by disasters and conflict, demonstrating how *seva* (selfless service) continues to provide hope in places ranging from Puerto Rico and Florida to Ukraine and Spain. Government officials from agencies such as FEMA, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, state civil rights offices, and the U.S. Department of Justice discussed how public institutions can better protect the rights of all Americans.

The Summit also emphasized the importance of education and professional development. Law students, attorneys, and public servants offered practical guidance on preparing for legal careers, navigating law school, understanding employment rights, and building careers dedicated to public service. Historians and scholars connected today's civil rights movement to the broader struggles for justice throughout history, reminding participants that meaningful progress is built through persistence, education, and collective action.

One of the Summit's central themes was that advocacy is most effective when communities are informed, organized, and engaged. Sessions on grassroots organizing, legislative advocacy, community response, and policy development equipped participants with the tools to move from concern to action.

## **VIII. Developing the Next Generation of Leaders**

A hallmark of the Academy is investing in emerging leaders. The 2026 AHAA cohort included law graduates, law students, medical students, undergraduate students, high school students, and community volunteers who demonstrated a commitment to public service and civil rights. Their diverse educational backgrounds reflected the Academy's belief that leadership can emerge from every profession and that lasting change requires collaboration across disciplines.

These students participated alongside experienced attorneys and national leaders, gaining firsthand exposure to legal advocacy, public policy, humanitarian service, and civic engagement while preparing to become the next generation of advocates for justice.

## **IX. Building a National Civil Rights Agenda**

Beyond education, the Summit served as a working policy forum. Participants collaborated on a comprehensive Integrated National Syllabus for Legislative and Institutional Reform that organized civil rights priorities into ten interconnected areas.

These areas addressed strengthening constitutional protections for Sikh Americans, improving hate crime reporting and enforcement, protecting immigrant workers, expanding religious accommodations in schools and workplaces, ensuring equal access to military service, reducing bias in the criminal justice system, addressing discrimination in artificial intelligence and digital platforms, expanding legal access and language justice, improving equitable disaster response, and strengthening coordination among federal and state agencies.

Each topic moved beyond discussion by identifying practical policy proposals, legislative frameworks, and institutional reforms designed to improve fairness, accountability, and equal opportunity. The emphasis throughout the curriculum was on translating legal knowledge into practical solutions that communities and policymakers can pursue together.

## **X. Summit Outcomes**

The work during the Summit culminated in the 2026 National Civil Rights Integration Agenda, a unified framework designed to strengthen civil rights protections through coordinated legislative and institutional reform.

The agenda integrates recommendations across multiple areas, including modernizing civil rights enforcement, strengthening religious freedom protections, improving due process in military and administrative systems, reducing bias within the criminal justice system, expanding protections for immigrants and workers, and addressing emerging civil rights challenges posed by digital technologies and artificial intelligence.

More than a conference, the 2026 AHAA Summit demonstrated that meaningful change begins with informed citizens, collaborative leadership, and a shared commitment to justice. By bringing together experts, public officials, students, and community members, the Summit helped build a stronger foundation for protecting civil rights and advancing equality for future generations.

## **XI. NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS INTEGRATION AGENDA : EXTRAPOLATING 2026 ISSUES & POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE CORRECTIVE ACTION**

To address the complex matrix of legal, structural, and emerging challenges surfaced throughout the 2026 Summit modules and expert panels, UNITED SIKHS recommends the following targeted corrective actions:

### **1. AI, Digital Privacy, Data Governance & Consumer Rights**

As technology continues to evolve, protecting consumer privacy has become an increasingly important civil rights issue. Personal information is routinely collected, shared, and sold by businesses and data brokers, often without consumers fully understanding how their data will be used. This widespread commercialization of personal information raises serious concerns about privacy, transparency, and individual control over sensitive data.

The use of consumer data also has significant economic consequences. Companies may use personal information to engage in individualized pricing, targeted advertising, or other practices that result in consumers paying different prices for the same goods or services based on their online behavior, purchasing history, location, or other personal characteristics.

**Recommendations:** Congress and regulatory agencies should strengthen consumer data privacy laws by requiring clear, informed consent before personal information is collected or sold; provide consumers with the right to access, correct, delete, and opt out of the sale of their data; increase transparency in automated pricing and algorithmic decision-making; prohibit the use of personal data for unfair or discriminatory pricing practices; require regular audits of artificial intelligence and data systems for bias and consumer harm; and establish meaningful enforcement mechanisms, including civil penalties and private rights of action, to hold companies accountable for violations.

### **2. Reforming Restrictive State Anti-Immigrant and Commercial Driver Licensing Laws**

Restrictive state immigration enforcement measures and evolving commercial driver licensing policies have created significant uncertainty for immigrant workers and the industries that depend on them. In 2026, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) implemented a final rule that substantially narrowed eligibility for non-domiciled Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs), limiting eligibility to certain employment-based immigration categories and requiring states to review and, where necessary, revoke non-compliant credentials issued under prior standards.

While governments have a legitimate interest in promoting highway safety and ensuring licensing integrity, policy changes should not result in the unfair targeting or scapegoating of Sikh Americans or other immigrant communities.

Thousands of Sikh and other truck drivers have built successful careers while helping sustain the nation's transportation and supply chain infrastructure. Public policy should be guided by objective evidence, individualized due process, and equal protection, not assumptions based on religion, national origin, ethnicity, or immigration status.

Because a commercial driver's license is often essential to a family's livelihood, the suspension, downgrade, or revocation of a CDL should include meaningful procedural safeguards. Workers should receive timely notice, a fair opportunity to respond, and access to independent administrative review before losing credentials that directly affect their ability to earn a living.

**Recommendations:** Congress should establish uniform federal due process standards governing the suspension, downgrade, or revocation of commercial driver's licenses and other occupational credentials. The U.S. Department of Transportation and the FMCSA should strengthen oversight to ensure that state licensing agencies comply with federal civil rights laws and apply licensing standards consistently and fairly. Federal agencies should also monitor implementation of the 2026 FMCSA rule to prevent discriminatory impacts, provide clear guidance to states and affected drivers, and ensure that enforcement actions are based on lawful eligibility requirements rather than stereotypes or generalized assumptions about immigrant or Sikh communities. Policymakers should reject efforts to scapegoat Sikh Americans or other immigrant workers for broader challenges facing the transportation industry and instead pursue evidence-based reforms that protect public safety while preserving fairness, due process, and equal opportunity for all qualified drivers.

### **3. Institutionalizing Workplace and Public Accommodations for Articles of Faith**

Religious freedom is a fundamental constitutional right, yet many individuals continue to encounter barriers when practicing their faith in the workplace, schools, government facilities, transportation systems, healthcare settings, and other public accommodations. Sikhs and members of other faith communities are too often required to choose between their religious obligations and opportunities for employment, education, or public participation because of inconsistent policies, misunderstanding, or unnecessary restrictions on articles of faith and religious appearance.

Although federal and state laws generally require reasonable religious accommodations, implementation remains uneven. Employers, government agencies, and public institutions often lack clear guidance on accommodating articles of faith such as the kirpan, as well as religious grooming practices including unshorn hair, beards, and turbans. Inconsistent enforcement can result in unnecessary administrative burdens, workplace disputes, exclusion from public services, and avoidable litigation.

**Recommendations:** Congress and federal agencies should strengthen and standardize religious accommodation policies across public institutions and private workplaces by issuing uniform guidance and model standards for compliance.

Employers and government agencies should be required to provide reasonable accommodations for sincerely held religious beliefs unless doing so would create a demonstrable undue hardship or legitimate safety concern supported by objective evidence. Federal agencies should expand training for employers, educators, law enforcement officers, transportation officials, and public employees on religious rights and accommodations, while encouraging alternative safety measures that respect both public safety and religious liberty. Clear administrative complaint procedures, timely enforcement, and meaningful remedies should be established to ensure that individuals are not subjected to discrimination, arbitrary restrictions, or administrative harassment because they wear or carry articles of faith or maintain sincerely held religious beliefs.

#### **4. Combating Hate Crimes and Strengthening Civil Rights Infrastructures**

A strong civil rights system depends on accurate reporting, effective enforcement, and meaningful accountability. Yet hate crime data collection in the United States continues to face significant challenges, including widespread underreporting, inconsistent classification of incidents by law enforcement agencies, limited public awareness of reporting resources, and insufficient representation of smaller religious and ethnic communities in federal data systems. When communities are missing from the data, policymakers and law enforcement agencies cannot fully understand the scope of bias-driven harm or develop targeted strategies to prevent and address it.

Federal initiatives, including legislative efforts such as the SACRED Act, represent important steps toward strengthening protections for religious communities and improving responses to hate crimes. However, lasting progress requires a coordinated national approach that improves collaboration among federal, state, and local agencies; strengthens law enforcement training; and builds trusted partnerships with community organizations that have direct experience supporting affected populations.

**Recommendations:** Congress should advance comprehensive hate crime legislation, including the SACRED Act and related measures, to strengthen prevention, reporting, investigation, and accountability mechanisms. Federal agencies should modernize hate crime data collection systems by expanding demographic categories, improving reporting consistency, and ensuring greater visibility for religious minorities and communities that have historically been underrepresented in government datasets. The U.S. Department of Justice should expand training for law enforcement agencies on identifying, investigating, and prosecuting bias-motivated crimes, including those targeting Sikh Americans and other communities vulnerable to religious and identity-based discrimination.

State and local governments should establish accessible, multilingual reporting systems and develop stronger partnerships with community organizations to improve awareness, increase reporting, and build trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. A comprehensive national strategy is essential to ensure that every victim of a hate crime is recognized, every incident is properly documented, and every community receives equal protection and support under the law.

## **5. Ensuring Equity in Disaster Relief and Global Crisis Response**

During times of disaster and humanitarian crisis, every community deserves equal access to emergency assistance, recovery resources, and protection. However, minority, immigrant, and religious communities can face unique barriers during emergencies, including language challenges, lack of culturally appropriate services, limited access to government resources, and insufficient recognition of religious and cultural needs in disaster planning.

Effective emergency response requires more than providing assistance, it requires understanding the communities being served. Faith-based organizations, community groups, and humanitarian partners often play a critical role in reaching vulnerable populations because they have established trust and firsthand knowledge of local needs. Experiences from disaster response efforts in places such as Ukraine, Puerto Rico and Pakistan demonstrate the importance of collaboration between government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders to ensure that relief efforts are accessible, respectful, and effective.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other emergency management institutions have developed partnerships with voluntary organizations to strengthen disaster response. These partnerships should continue to expand by ensuring that minority and immigrant communities are represented in emergency planning, response coordination, and recovery efforts.

**Recommendations:** Federal, state, and local emergency management agencies should strengthen inclusion requirements within disaster preparedness and response frameworks by ensuring meaningful participation from minority, immigrant, and faith-based organizations. FEMA and other agencies should expand culturally competent training for emergency responders, improve multilingual communication systems, and incorporate religious and cultural considerations into shelter operations, food distribution, medical assistance, and recovery programs.

Government agencies should establish stronger partnerships with trusted community organizations to improve outreach before disasters occur and ensure equitable access to resources after crises. International humanitarian efforts should also adopt inclusive response models that recognize the role of community-based organizations in delivering aid effectively and respectfully. A coordinated, culturally informed approach will help ensure that disaster relief reaches all communities with dignity, fairness, and compassion.

## **6. Addressing Transnational Repression and Protecting Communities in the United States**

Transnational repression, the use of intimidation, surveillance, harassment, threats, or other forms of coercion by foreign governments or their agents against individuals living outside their borders, represents an emerging challenge to civil rights, public safety, and

democratic participation. Individuals and communities in the United States should be able to exercise their rights freely without fear that their speech, advocacy, religious identity, or engagement in civic life will result in retaliation from foreign actors.

Members of diaspora communities, including religious and ethnic minority groups, may face unique vulnerabilities because of their connections across borders. Tactics associated with transnational repression can include online harassment, threats against individuals or family members abroad, attempts to silence community advocacy, misuse of personal information, intimidation of community leaders, and efforts to interfere with lawful participation in American public life. These actions can create fear, discourage civic engagement, and undermine the ability of communities to advocate for their rights.

Protecting communities from transnational repression requires a careful balance between national security, individual privacy, and constitutional protections. Responses must focus on unlawful conduct and credible threats while ensuring that legitimate political expression, peaceful advocacy, religious practice, and community organizing remain protected under U.S. law.

No individual or community should be targeted, surveilled, or intimidated because of their identity, beliefs, heritage, or lawful exercise of civil rights.

**Recommendations:** Federal agencies should strengthen coordination to identify, investigate, and respond to credible cases of transnational repression while protecting constitutional rights and due process. The Department of Justice and relevant federal agencies should expand community outreach programs to educate diaspora communities about available protections, reporting mechanisms, and resources for individuals facing threats or intimidation. Law enforcement agencies should receive specialized training to recognize transnational repression tactics and distinguish legitimate national security concerns from protected speech and civic activity.

Congress should support stronger safeguards against foreign interference, including protections for individuals who report threats, harassment, or intimidation linked to foreign actors.

Federal agencies should improve transparency regarding patterns of transnational repression while protecting sensitive information and individual privacy. Community organizations, civil rights groups, and government institutions should work together to build trust, strengthen resilience, and ensure that all people in the United States can participate freely in democratic society without fear of retaliation from abroad.

## **7. Protecting Digital Civil Rights: Social Media Account Access, Content Moderation, and Intellectual Property Rights Affecting Sikh Communities**

Social media platforms have become essential tools for civic engagement, religious education, humanitarian outreach, and civil rights advocacy. For Sikh communities and other historically underrepresented groups, digital platforms provide an important avenue to share information, preserve cultural history, document human rights concerns, organize community responses, and reach audiences that may otherwise have limited exposure to their experiences.

The modern reality of public communication is that access to social media platforms has become closely connected to access to public participation. For many communities, especially smaller religious and ethnic minority groups, online platforms are no longer simply private communication tools; they are essential spaces for education, advocacy, fundraising, humanitarian coordination, and community representation. When access to these platforms is restricted or removed without adequate explanation or review, the impact can extend beyond an individual user and affect an entire community's ability to participate in civic life.

Increasing concerns have emerged regarding account restrictions, content removals, permanent account closures, and inconsistent enforcement of platform policies. When digital platforms remove content or disable accounts without clear explanations, meaningful appeals, or timely responses, individuals and organizations may lose access to years of educational materials, community communications, historical records, and advocacy resources. For marginalized communities that rely heavily on digital platforms to amplify their voices, these actions can deepen existing barriers to representation and participation.

A significant concern involves the protection of intellectual property and ownership rights. Nonprofit organizations, community advocates, educators, and humanitarian groups invest substantial resources in creating original content, including educational videos, historical materials, public awareness campaigns, religious programming, and documentation of humanitarian efforts. When an account is suspended or closed, users may lose access to years of original work, copyrighted materials, archives, and digital records. In many cases, users receive limited or unclear explanations regarding the reason for account restrictions, insufficient notice before removal, and inadequate opportunities to recover their content or challenge the decision.

The absence of transparent procedures creates serious consequences for communities already facing barriers to representation. Account closures without specific notice or accessible appeal mechanisms can prevent organizations from protecting their

intellectual property, recovering original materials, or continuing essential public-interest work. For Sikh organizations and other minority communities engaged in civil rights advocacy and humanitarian service, the loss of digital platforms can significantly reduce their ability to educate the public, preserve community history, and respond to misinformation.

Content moderation systems, including artificial intelligence-based enforcement tools, create additional challenges. These systems may not adequately understand cultural, religious, linguistic, or historical context and can mistakenly identify legitimate educational, advocacy, or humanitarian content as violations. When automated decisions are combined with limited human review and unclear enforcement standards, communities with fewer resources to challenge decisions may experience disproportionate harm.

Government policies must also evolve to recognize the realities of the digital age. Many existing civil rights, public participation, and accountability frameworks were developed before social media became a primary means of communication. Policymakers must consider who controls access to digital platforms, how communities depend on these platforms to exercise their voices, and what protections are necessary when private technology companies function as essential gateways to public dialogue. Digital access should be considered as part of modern civic participation, particularly for communities that have historically lacked traditional media access.

The United States should also examine international approaches to digital platform accountability. Countries such as France have developed regulatory frameworks that provide greater oversight of digital communications and media platforms, including mechanisms designed to promote transparency and accountability. While any U.S. approach must respect constitutional protections, Congress should consider legislation establishing stronger transparency, due process, and accountability requirements for major digital platforms.

**Recommendations:** Congress should enact legislation requiring large digital platforms to provide safeguards comparable to international transparency standards, including clear notice of alleged violations, specific explanations for account restrictions, timely appeal processes, and meaningful human review. Legislation should require platforms to protect users' ability to access and recover lawful intellectual property, including copyrighted educational, religious, humanitarian, and advocacy materials, when accounts are suspended or terminated.

Federal agencies and policymakers should update existing digital rights frameworks to reflect the realities of modern communication and ensure that communities are not effectively excluded from civic participation because of opaque platform decisions. The government should encourage standards that protect transparency, accountability, privacy, intellectual property rights, and equal access to digital spaces while preserving lawful expression and constitutional protections.

Social media platforms should establish clear, consistent, and accessible procedures for account restrictions, suspensions, and closures. Users should receive specific written explanations identifying the policy allegedly violated, the content at issue, and the steps required to appeal or correct the decision. Platforms should provide timely human review of appeals, particularly when account closures affect nonprofit organizations, civil rights advocates, educators, journalists, and community groups.

Platforms should also recognize users' intellectual property rights by providing reasonable mechanisms for account recovery, content export, and preservation of copyrighted materials when accounts are restricted or terminated. Users should not lose access to their original work without a transparent process that protects ownership rights and allows lawful recovery of content.

Digital access has become a critical component of modern civil rights participation. Protecting fair access to online platforms, ensuring transparency in content moderation, and safeguarding intellectual property rights are essential to preventing further disenfranchisement of communities that have historically struggled for visibility and representation. Every community should have the ability to preserve its history, share its experiences, and participate in public dialogue without unnecessary barriers created by opaque digital systems.

## **XI. CONCLUSION: Building a Future of Equal Rights, Justice, and Inclusion**

The challenges addressed throughout this Summit reflect the evolving nature of civil rights in the United States and around the world. From protecting religious freedom and combating hate crimes to addressing digital discrimination, immigration barriers, disaster inequities, and transnational repression, each issue demonstrates the need for a stronger, more responsive, and inclusive civil rights framework.

True progress requires more than recognizing challenges, it requires coordinated action among government institutions, community organizations, legal professionals, educators, and engaged citizens. Strong civil rights protections depend on accurate

data, fair enforcement, meaningful accountability, and policies that ensure every person can participate fully in society without fear of discrimination, exclusion, or retaliation.

The 2026 National Civil Rights Integration Agenda provides a roadmap for advancing these goals by connecting policy reform with community empowerment. It calls for modernizing civil rights enforcement, strengthening religious liberty protections, expanding access to justice, protecting vulnerable communities, ensuring fairness in emerging technologies, and creating systems that recognize and address the needs of diverse populations.

The work ahead requires sustained commitment, collaboration, and leadership from every level of society. By investing in education, advocacy, and equitable policies, communities can help build a future where rights are not only protected in law but experienced in everyday life. The pursuit of justice is an ongoing responsibility, and together, we can strengthen the foundation of equality, dignity, and opportunity for future generations.



# **2026 SIKH SUMMIT and Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA) SPEAKERS LIST**



# UNITED SIKHS INTERNAL STAFF

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## Wanda Sánchez Day, Esq.

**Chief Legal Officer & National Legal Director, UNITED SIKHS**

Wanda Sánchez Day, Esq., is a public interest attorney, nonprofit executive, and nationally recognized civil and human rights advocate with more than two decades of experience in nonprofit governance, constitutional law, public policy, and complex litigation. Throughout her career, she has advised mission-driven organizations, government agencies, and community leaders on legal strategy, organizational governance, ethics, compliance, and the protection of civil and human rights.

Ms. Sánchez Day serves as Chief Legal Officer and National Legal Director of UNITED SIKHS, a global 501(c)(3) civil and human rights organization

headquartered in New York. Since 2016, she has led the organization's legal affairs, corporate governance, compliance, government relations, and public policy initiatives while overseeing legal operations across multiple jurisdictions. She advises the organization's leadership on nonprofit governance, international humanitarian operations, employment matters, litigation, and advocacy strategies, with a particular focus on constitutional rights, religious liberty, anti-discrimination, and humanitarian law.

Previously, she served as General Counsel and Senior Policy Counsel for Organización Latino Americana (OLA), where she directed legal affairs, government relations, policy advocacy, and community-based initiatives supporting immigrant and refugee communities.

In addition to her nonprofit leadership, Ms. Sánchez Day maintains a private practice representing businesses and individuals in complex civil and criminal matters. She also serves as an Impartial Hearing Officer for the New York State Education Department, adjudicating special education due process hearings under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Earlier in her career, she served as an Administrative Law Judge presiding over Medicaid and public benefits hearings and was recognized for her service as a pro bono mediator in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Ms. Sánchez Day began her legal career with The Legal Aid Society of New York, representing low-income clients in housing litigation, and later served as Vice President of the Association of Legal Aid Attorneys – UAW Local 2325, Civil Division. She also served as Staff Counsel for the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs.

An accomplished speaker and educator, Ms. Sánchez Day has developed Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs, led national advocacy training initiatives, and spoken extensively on civil rights, nonprofit governance, humanitarian assistance, legal ethics, and U.S. territorial policy. Her writing has appeared in the *New York Law Journal*, and her work has been recognized by numerous professional and civic organizations, including the United Nations Committee, which honored her with the 2024 International Women's Recognition Award for her humanitarian advocacy on behalf of women and children displaced by the war in Ukraine.

Ms. Sánchez Day earned her Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law, where she was a Stein Scholar in Ethics and Public Interest Law, received recognition as a Crowley International Law Advocate for her work in Northern Ireland, and was awarded the Archibald R. Murray Public Service Award. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Hunter College of the City University of New York.

She is admitted to practice law in New York, before the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Ms. Sánchez Day's career reflects an enduring commitment to advancing justice, strengthening nonprofit institutions, protecting vulnerable communities, and promoting the rule of law through principled leadership and public service.





**Gurvinder Singh**

Finance Director and International Humanitarian Director for  
UNITED SIKHS

In his long association with UNITED SIKHS, he has responded to and been deployed to multiple disasters worldwide, including tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, typhoons, and earthquakes.

He has also led many humanitarian aid projects, including the massive global Covid-19 response in which over 5 million meals have been served, Guru Nanak food pantry in Kenya, food banks and drive-by food pantries in the United States, vocational training schools in South Asia, and a charity shop in the UK.

He previously served on the board of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Civil Rights Committee. He has done interfaith and cultural sensitivity training for federal, state, and local law enforcement, Fortune 500 companies, the TSA, and educational facilities. He is a certified trainer with the Department of Justice Community Relations Service.

He studied Telecommunications Engineering at UTD and currently owns and operates his own business specializing in construction, real estate and insurance.



**Gurpreet Singh**

*Chief Executive Officer, UNITED SIKHS*

Gurpreet Singh is an accomplished leader with over 30 years of experience in the United Nations in ten countries and the US Federal Government specializing in humanitarian service and public administration.

As the Chief Executive Officer of UNITED SIKHS, Mr. Singh is leading the organization's strategic transformation by strengthening governance, expanding humanitarian programs, and building impactful partnerships with New York City agencies and other stakeholders. Under his leadership, UNITED SIKHS has significantly expanded its global footprint and is establishing its first educational institution in Long Island, New York, reflecting a long-term commitment to education, community development, and public service.

A respected strategist and institution builder, Mr. Singh is recognized for combining visionary leadership with operational excellence. Guided by the Sikh principles of selfless service, integrity, and compassion, he continues to champion initiatives that create lasting social impact, strengthen communities around the world, and inspire the next generation of humanitarian leadership.



**Bipanpreet Kaur** is an incoming J.D. candidate at Temple Law School. She recently graduated from the Schreyer Honors College at Penn State University, earning honors in Biobehavioral Health with a minor in Health Policy Administration. Bipanpreet has also served as a Social Justice Fellow at Georgetown Law, where she developed and taught lessons on human rights and healthcare law to high school students across Washington D.C.

Bipanpreet has also received several awards for her honors thesis research on international human rights, which examined evidence-based approaches to treating PTSD among survivors of human rights violations.

Through her academic research, leadership, and advocacy, Bipanpreet has developed a strong interest in the intersection of law, public health, and human rights. As she begins law school, she hopes to build a career rooted in advancing access to justice and advocating for underserved communities.



**Bhupinder Kaur** serves as the **Director of Operations at UNITED SIKHS**, a U.N.-affiliated international humanitarian aid and human rights organization. She oversees organizational operations across advocacy, humanitarian relief, education, and community engagement, helping lead initiatives that strengthen the organization's impact both nationally and internationally.

Bhupinder has played a key leadership role in coordinating humanitarian response efforts, advancing civil and human rights advocacy, and building strategic partnerships with government agencies, community organizations, and faith leaders. She has led nationwide initiatives supporting immigrant communities, truck drivers, asylum seekers, and individuals facing discrimination, while helping shape advocacy efforts that promote due process, religious freedom, and equal access to justice.

A recognized voice on issues affecting Sikh and underserved communities, Bhupinder has appeared on CNN and has authored opinion pieces published in The Hill, the San Francisco Chronicle, and The Sacramento Bee. She has also traveled to gurdwaras across the United States, engaging Sikh communities on issues of advocacy, civic engagement, humanitarian service, and leadership while encouraging greater community participation in addressing the challenges facing the Sikh community.

Bhupinder also oversees the 24/7 Umeed Helpline, leading a critical support service that connects individuals and families with crisis intervention, mental health resources, legal referrals, social services, and humanitarian assistance. In addition, she has hosted and led podcasts addressing issues that impact Sikh families and communities, including motherhood, men's mental health, and the experiences of Sikh youth as they navigate adolescence, identity, and the transition into high school. Through these initiatives, she works to foster open dialogue, reduce stigma, and connect individuals with the support and resources they need.

Guided by the Sikh principles of seva (selfless service), compassion, and justice, Bhupinder is committed to empowering communities, fostering meaningful collaboration, and ensuring that humanitarian action is paired with sustainable advocacy. Through her leadership, she continues to advance UNITED SIKHS' mission of serving humanity without regard to race, religion, nationality, or background.



**Valerie Daniele** (*she/her*) joined the New York State Division of Human Rights in 2025. She serves as the Deputy General Counsel for Prosecutions, overseeing a team of attorneys who represent the State's interest in litigating complaints of discrimination. Prior to joining the Division, Valerie served as an Associate Regional Counsel for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and as Deputy Director of the Westchester County Human Rights Commission. She holds a B.S. in the Administration of Justice from Rutgers University and a J.D. from Pace University School of Law. She is passionate about ensuring equal access to public education, serving as a trustee and chair of the Special Education Committee of the White Plains City School District Board of Education in White Plains, NY. Valerie enjoys traveling and trying new vegetarian recipes with her husband, three teenage boys, and beloved dog, Thor.

# OFFICIALS

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The Honorable Zoe Lofgren has been a Democratic member of the United States House of Representatives since 1995.

A lifelong Bay Area resident and the daughter of a truck driver, Zoe attended public schools in Palo Alto and attended Stanford University on a scholarship, graduating with a bachelor's degree in political science in 1970. She attended, with the help of a scholarship, Santa Clara University School of Law, graduating cum laude in 1975. She served as a member of Congressman Don Edwards' staff for eight years in both his San Jose and Washington

DC offices. While practicing and teaching immigration law, she was first elected to the San Jose Evergreen Community College Board in 1979. In 1980, she was elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors where she served for 14 years. Following Congressman Don Edwards' retirement in 1994 after 32 years in Congress, Zoe was elected to the House of Representatives.

In 2010, due to her tireless work on the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi presented Zoe with the gavel used to preside over the passage of the bill in the House of Representatives.

Zoe is well regarded for her work on patent reform, copyright issues, digital rights, and net neutrality. She successfully fought to initiate the "e-rate" that provides affordable internet access for schools, libraries, and rural health centers, and she is the author of legislation that would allow the unlocking of cellular phones and other digital devices to give owners more control over their devices. Furthermore, she led a bipartisan effort in the House to decontrol encryption technology. A staunch advocate for digital rights, Zoe was an early opponent of the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and led a successful fight to stop bill in the House Judiciary Committee.

In 2014, Zoe led a bipartisan effort to close backdoor loopholes on unwarranted government surveillance. The Massie-Lofgren amendment to the 2015 Department of Defense Appropriations Act to stop the NSA from searching Americans' private communications collected without a warrant, and to prohibit the NSA from weakening security protections in devices and software for unwarranted surveillance purposes, passed the House by a resoundingly bipartisan vote of 293 to 123.

Zoe has been married to John Marshall Collins since 1978. They have two adult children, Sheila and John.

[www.legistorm.com/person/bio/51490/Susan\\_Ellen\\_Lofgren.html](http://www.legistorm.com/person/bio/51490/Susan_Ellen_Lofgren.html)





**Inderjeet Singh**

*UNITED SIKHS, Community Relations Officer, New York*

Inderjeet Singh serves as the Community Relations Officer for UNITED SIKHS in New York City. A native New Yorker, he has been dedicated to advocacy and community relations with the organization since 2020.

He leads key initiatives under both Community Education and Empowerment Development (CEED), including community food distribution and health-related events, and International Civil and Human Rights Advocacy (ICHRA), which focuses on community legal advocacy. His work reflects a deep commitment to strengthening community resilience and advancing equity.

In recognition of his impact, Inderjeet was honored with the 2026 Award for Community Service & Advocacy by the Queens Borough President's Office.



**Monica Colunga**

*Outreach and Training Coordinator, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs, DC*

Monica Colunga joined the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in August 2010 as a Bilingual Investigator with the San Jose Local Office. After five years in this role, Monica was promoted to Enforcement Supervisor at the Washington Field Office in September 2015. In August 2019, she was further promoted to Outreach and Education Coordinator, where she currently serves.

Prior to her tenure at the EEOC, Monica worked in the federal sector at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Additionally, she gained valuable experience in the private sector, working with Native American and Latino families in California.



### **Tejkaran Kaur Bains**

#### ***Short Bio- Naval War College Fleet Seminar Program***

- I Currently work as a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Tom Suozzi(NY03).
- I handle Animal Welfare, Religious Freedom, the Judiciary, Crime and Law Enforcement, Families, Guns, Health, Housing and Community Development, Homeland Security, Immigration, Law, Veterans Affairs, as well as International Affairs (India, Pakistan, Armenia, the Middle East, China, CAPAC, and Bangladesh).
- Prior to working as a Legislative Assistant, I worked as a Judicial Clerk, to the Honorable Judge Jones Bosier, Superior Court of Washington DC, for a one-year clerkship.
- I started my Hill Career as a Fellow for Congressman Adam Kinzinger.
- Prior to working on the Hill, I worked for United Sikhs as Humanitarian and Civil Rights Counsel.
- I attended CUNY Queens College, where I received a BA in History.
- Then I went to Washington and Lee School of Law, where I received my JD, and Georgetown Law, where I received anLLM in National Security, with a certificate in International Human Rights.
- I spent a year as an extern with the Virginia Capital Case Clearing House, advocating for indigent death row defendants.
- I love to write, and recently published an English translation of the book, “The Journey of Shahadat,” which became an Amazon bestseller on Sikhism.
- I also enjoy swimming and traveling.
- My dream is to become a JAG officer one day.

# CONGRESS MEMBERS AND STAFF

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### **Kam Singh Kahlon - Director United Sikhs (Disaster Management & Relief Services)**

Kam S Kahlon :-A Proven Leader & Dedicated SIKH Sevadkar ( Selfless Service Member of the SIKH Community.

Introduction :- Kam S Kahlon is a highly accomplished professional with over 25 years of global engineering, administrative, and leadership experience. With a Master of Arts in Sociology and a Bachelor degree in Electrical Engineering, Kam brings a rare combination of technical expertise and people-centered leadership.

A retired International Navy veteran, Kam served with honor and distinction, earning decorated service medals and recognition for excellence, discipline, and integrity.

#### **Professional Strengths**

- ✓ Automated Control Systems & Advanced Technical Maintenance
- ✓ Industrial, Oil Rig & Marine Engineering Operations
- ✓ Commissioning, Project Management & EPC Coordination
- ✓ Preventive Maintenance Planning & High-Level Troubleshooting
- ✓ Mentoring, Training & Team Leadership

Kam has led major engineering projects across the USA, Canada, Mexico and internationally—earning repeated recognition for safety, quality, and client satisfaction.

#### **Humanitarian & Volunteer Service**

Kam has dedicated nearly a decade to humanitarian work and disaster relief as :-

- 2025 – Flood Relief & Recovery, Kartarpur SahibG, Punjab, Pakistan
  - 2025 – Flood Relief & Recovery, Kerrville, Texas
  - 2025 – Engineering Support for Flood & Power System Recovery, Punjab,
  - 2021 – Winter Storm Volunteer Recognition, CAPMETRO / MV Transportation
  - 2017 – Hurricane Harvey & Maria Disaster Relief, Texas, Florida & Puerto Rico
  - Helped restore a major water dam serving five mountain towns, active support service with local San Juan churches, recognized for community support
  - Kam has been Honorary hold Appointment from last 7 years as "Director of Engineering & Disaster Management for a UNO-recognized humanitarian organization"
- Kam also acquired & holds a CDL license during Covid-19 Supporting Community Emergency and logistical operations in Texas .

Kam is committed to serving of SEVA Community with:

- Transparency & Accountability
- Safety-Focused Decision Making
- Respectful Communication & Community Unity

His leadership experience, technical background, and dedication to services to communities for humanity services

#### **A Message to the Community**

"I am committed to serving the community for humanitarian services with respect, love for human life, honor, professionalism, and integrity. I respectfully ask for your support and the opportunity to contribute to a stronger, safer, and more united community."

A PRIDE SIKH SEVADAR - Kam Singh Kahlon



**STAFF PROFILE\***

Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division

Harmeet K. Dhillon is the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice. She was nominated by President Donald Trump in December 2024. She was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on April 3, 2025, and sworn in as AAG by Attorney General Pam Bondi on April 7, 2025.

Prior to joining the Division, Ms. Dhillon founded both the Dhillon Law Group, Inc., a successful legal practice with offices in California, Florida, Virginia, and New Jersey; and the Center for American Liberty, a nonprofit organization dedicated to pursuing civil liberties legal claims. Her law practice focused on First Amendment / free speech, civil rights, and campaign and election law issues. Among her many notable cases, Ms. Dhillon brought legal challenges against the University of California, Berkeley over its free speech policy, against an Antifa organization for an assault on a conservative journalist, against several states for their restrictive responses to Covid-19, and against various large tech companies for a host of civil rights issues.

Assistant Attorney General Dhillon was born in Chandigarh, India, and lived in London before moving to The Bronx, New York. Her family ultimately settled in rural Smithfield, North Carolina. After graduating high school at age 16, Ms. Dhillon attended Dartmouth College where she became editor-in-chief of *The Dartmouth Review*. After earning her bachelor's degree in Classical Studies, she attended the University of Virginia School of Law and served on the editorial board of the *Virginia Law Review*. She later clerked for the Honorable Paul V. Niemeyer of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Dates of Service:** 2025 - Present

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U.S. Congresswoman Grace Meng is serving her seventh term in the United States House of Representatives, where she represents New York's Sixth Congressional District. Grace's district is located entirely in the New York City borough of Queens, including west, central, and northeast Queens.

Grace is the first and only Asian American Member of Congress from New York State, and the first female Congressmember from Queens since former Vice Presidential nominee Geraldine Ferraro.

In Congress, Grace serves on the powerful House Appropriations Committee where she is the Ranking Member of its Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies. Grace also sits on the National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs and is New York's senior member of the Appropriations Committee. The House Appropriations Committee is responsible for funding the federal government's agencies, programs and activities. Grace serves as the Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and a co-Chair of the House Bipartisan Taskforce for Combating Antisemitism.

Grace has proudly passed several pieces of her legislation into law. This includes legislation on many important issues affecting the lives of her constituents – from laws supporting religious freedom, making Queens historic sites part of the National Park Service, striking "Oriental" from federal law, protecting public housing residents from insufficient heat, championing improvements to broadband and internet access for students across the country to help close the homework gap and establishing the first step in creating a national museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture. Also signed into law were her measures to assist veterans and members of the military, and provisions to improve consumer protections, excessive flooding and safeguards for children.

Additionally, in order to combat the rise in hate and violence that increased during the coronavirus pandemic, Grace passed the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act into law. Further, she helped reduce long processing times for passports, secured millions of dollars for her congressional district and has worked to combat mail theft. At every turn, Grace has fought to expand opportunities for communities of color, young people, families, small businesses and women.

Prior to being elected to Congress, Grace served in the New York State Assembly. Before entering public service, she worked as a public-interest lawyer. Born in Elmhurst, Queens, and raised in the Elmhurst, Bayside, and Flushing sections of the borough, Grace attended local schools and graduated from Stuyvesant High School. She also attended the University of Michigan (Go Blue) before earning her law degree from Yeshiva University's Benjamin Cardozo School of Law. Grace is raising her family in Queens, where she lives with her husband, Wayne, and their two sons.

Source: <https://meng.house.gov/about-0>

# PARTNER LAW FIRMS

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**Eileen Ma** is Director of the Democracy and National Initiatives program of Asian Law Caucus. She is a graduate of Loyola Law school, and is a community lawyer with decades of experience in campaign management, community organizing, civil rights advocacy, and has worked across a range of issue areas, such as health access, LGBTQ equality, immigrants rights and voting rights.



**KARISHMA SHAH PAGE, PARTNER**

K&L GATES, [WASHINGTON, DC](#)

Based in Washington, D.C., Karishma co-leads the K&L Gates Public Policy and Law practice. Karishma concentrates her practice on federal legislative and regulatory policy. Karishma develops and implements a variety of advocacy strategies. She leads complex, multifaceted policy campaigns incorporating lobbying, coalitions and third-party advocates, grassroots and grassroots strategies, and traditional and new media. In addition, Karishma advises organizations on navigating political and policy volatility to advance opportunities and mitigate risks, consistent with strategic objectives and mission.



### Cesar Espinosa

Mr. Espinosa is a proud immigrant from Mexico. He came to the U.S. in 1991 at the age of five. Currently he is a DACA recipient. He attended the prestigious Michael E DeBakey High School for Health Professions in HISD. He then went on to study at Houston Community College subsequently transferring to the University of Houston where he studied Political Science.

Mr. Espinosa is co-founder and current Executive Director of the largest immigrant-led civil rights organization in Texas named FIEL (Familias Inmigrantes y Estudiantes en la Lucha – Immigrant Families and Students in the Fight).

FIEL is an immigrant-led organization that seeks to empower the immigrant community in Houston, the State of Texas and The United States. Mr. Espinosa has served and is currently serving on a variety of boards at the local, state and national level.

He has also always worked on a variety of issues including, race relations, police reform and a variety of issues uplifting many communities. Mr. Espinosa is an advocate for immigrants' rights, students' rights and human rights.

Source: <https://fielhouston.org/cesar-espinosa-about/>



**Aisa Villarosa (she/they/siya) is an attorney at the Asian Law Caucus**, where she manages the Asian American Leaders Table—a movement network dedicated to strengthening community defense and infrastructure against systemic violence. Aisa implements strategy, visioning, and co-learning amongst Table members, rapid response coordination and development, narrative and policy analyses, and approaches to movement conflict, repair, and healing to help members address issues at local, regional, and national levels.

Licensed in Michigan and California, Aisa draws from experience in immigration law, civil rights litigation, and countering the harms of policing through solidarity. Aisa has roots as an artist and youth organizer, forging collaborations on Ethnic Studies campaigns, Know Your Rights training, and community advocacy for over two decades. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her law degree from Wayne State University.



**Gurmohan Preet Singh**

*Strategic Cum Legal Advisor United Sikhs World Wide*

Advocate Gurmohan Preet Singh stands as a formidable figure within this elite echelon, operating as a seasoned criminologist, a fierce defender of civil liberties, and an expert in intellectual property and complex technological litigation. His practice is defined by a deep understanding of human behavior and systemic judicial mechanics, allowing him to navigate high-stakes, multi-jurisdictional cases that span across India, North America, the Middle East, and Europe. In India, his landmark human rights contributions include securing a pivotal judgment from the Punjab and Haryana High Court to deny bail to individuals inciting communal violence and hate speech against minority communities. Additionally, he has legally spearheaded critical judicial inquiry demands through a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to protect peacefully protesting citizens from heavy-handed and military-grade state force at the borders. In an era where corporate assets and individual freedoms face unprecedented institutional and systemic threats, Singh's legal strategy consistently champions the preservation of human dignity, institutional accountability, and the protection of proprietary innovation on the world stage.



**Sundeep Singh, Esq.**  
*Attorney, RileyCate, LLC*

Sundeep Singh is an attorney with RileyCate, LLC, where he has practiced since 2021. He maintains a broad litigation practice focusing on criminal defense, civil litigation, class actions, and complex legal matters affecting individuals, businesses, and communities. Working alongside the firm's managing partner, Will Riley, Mr. Singh has contributed to numerous class action and mass tort matters while developing a diverse litigation practice.

Born in Carteret, New Jersey, and raised in Fishers, Indiana, Mr. Singh has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to leadership, public service, and advocacy. During law school, he served as Chief Justice of the Moot Court Society and Vice President of the Asian Law Students Association. He also gained valuable experience through judicial externships with the Honorable Steven H. David of the Indiana Supreme Court and the Honorable Grant W. Hawkins of the Marion County Superior Court, as well as through service with the Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunities (ICLEO) program and the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office.

Beyond his legal practice, Mr. Singh has remained dedicated to community engagement and mentorship. Through law school re-entry and community assistance programs, he worked with formerly incarcerated individuals reentering society and advocated for opportunities that promote successful reintegration and reduce recidivism.

As a member of the Sikh-American legal community, Mr. Singh has been engaged in issues affecting immigrant populations, including the impact of federal and state regulations on access to commercial driver's licenses (CDLs), employment opportunities, and economic mobility. His work and advocacy have provided insight into the legal and practical challenges faced by Sikh, South Asian, and other immigrant communities navigating evolving transportation and licensing requirements in the United States.

At the 2026 UNITED SIKHS Summit and Advocacy & Humanitarian Aid Academy (AHAA), Mr. Singh will join his co-speaker, Wanda Sanchez Day, Chief Legal Officer of UNITED SIKHS, for a discussion on the intersection of federal and state commercial driver's license (CDL) regulations and their impact on Sikh and immigrant communities. Together, they will examine recent policy developments, legal advocacy efforts, and the challenges faced by commercial drivers navigating changing licensing requirements, while exploring opportunities for reform and community engagement.

Mr. Singh earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Butler University, where he double majored in Biology and Political Science and minored in Chemistry, and received his Juris Doctor from the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis, Indiana.



**Denni Arnold**

Denni Arnold is an attorney based in the border city of Laredo, Texas. As a Legal Fellow with TCRP's Beyond Borders team and in partnership with the communities they serve, Denni advocates for the rights of immigrants along the Rio Grande and throughout Texas.

Denni's legal advocacy began in 2019, when they joined the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project in Arizona as a Legal Assistant. Through this role, Denni helped detained adults in removal proceedings understand the labyrinthine immigration system and fight against the odds to access humanitarian immigration relief. This experience led them to Stanford Law School, where they graduated in 2024 with Highest Pro Bono Distinction. Denni interned at Texas RioGrande Legal Aid's Laredo office during law school and came back to Laredo after graduation to clerk for United States District Judge Diana Saldaña.

At TCRP, Denni is committed to working in solidarity and community with their Laredoan neighbors and other border Texans.

# PARTNER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

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**Tina Sodhi** began her legal career as a Public Defender and has dedicated nearly two decades to public service. She currently serves as the Alternate Public Defender for Albany County, New York, where she advocates for fairness, justice, and equal access to the legal system. Born in Fiji and raised in California, she is the first in her family to attend law school.

A proud Sikh and community leader, Tina recently won the Democratic primary for Albany County Court Judge. If elected in November, she would become the first Sikh woman elected to a criminal court judgeship in the United States. Guided by the Sikh principles of seva, equality, and compassion, Tina is committed to serving her community with integrity and inspiring future generations.



**Mani Singh Kang**  
*Writer and Historian*

Mani Singh Kang has been active with the California Democratic Party for many years and served as a state delegate from 2009-2023. He was also elected as a delegate/alternate to three Democratic National Conventions (2012, 2016, 2020).

He has written independent articles for different journals and will be writing a book next year on President Kennedy's final year in office and the reforms he was pursuing.

He has connected with elected officials to engage them with the Sikh community and would like to see more Sikhs serve in public office.

# COMMUNITY LEADERS

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# LAW SCHOOL PROFESSORS

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**Amritpal Singh**

Gold Medalist in Master of Laws with a strong foundation in legal research, ethics, and advocacy.

Served as Assistant Professor of Law and currently practicing Advocacy in District courts and also supporting society by providing Free Legal Aid as Legal Aid Counselor at SGGSW University, where I provide pro bono legal services and support access to justice.

Recognized as Best Presenter by the District Legal Services Authority and appreciated for organizing legal literacy camps in rural Punjab.

Certified Leader in the National Interfaith Youth Leadership Program and represented India in the Interfaith Youth Leadership Program in the UK. I have also served as a Certified Rapporteur for university events and as a Judge in National Moot Court Competitions.

Passionate about ethical leadership, youth empowerment, interfaith dialogue, and public service, I am committed to bridging communities and creating impact through law, policy, and inclusive initiatives. Open to collaborations in legal academia, public policy, legal aid, and youth development.



**Dr. Sophia Murashkovsky Romma** is an international human rights attorney, award-winning filmmaker, playwright, and scholar whose work resides at the intersection of law, literature, and cinema. As Chair of the United Nations Committee and the Subcommittee on Ukraine at the New York City Bar Association, she spearheads initiatives addressing humanitarian crises, advancing gender equality, combating racial discrimination, supporting LGBTQ+ rights, confronting police brutality, and promoting access to justice for underserved and marginalized communities worldwide.

A steadfast advocate for human rights and the rule of law, Dr. Romma has devoted her career to amplifying the voices of vulnerable populations and fostering dialogue on some of the most pressing global challenges of our time. Her documentary, *Soul Arbitration: The Architecture of Survival and the Jurisprudence of Resilience in Ukraine*, examines the human consequences of war through the experiences of displaced women, deported children, and civilian survivors, while exploring the legal frameworks governing war crimes, crimes against humanity, and international accountability.

An accomplished playwright and filmmaker, Dr. Romma is the author of sixteen stage plays, including Obie-nominated productions presented at the renowned La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club in New York City. She also wrote and directed the acclaimed feature film *Used and Borrowed Time*, which garnered recognition at forty-eight international film festivals and established her as a distinctive voice in independent cinema. Through both her artistic and legal pursuits, she employs storytelling as a powerful instrument for advocacy, remembrance, and social change.

Dr. Romma holds a Doctorate in Law and a Ph.D. from the Maxim Gorky Literary Institute. She serves as a Legal Writing Specialist at Touro University Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, where she mentors future attorneys in legal analysis, advocacy, and professional writing. Her scholarship, creative work, and public service reflect a lifelong commitment to human dignity, justice, and cross-cultural understanding.



### **Kanwaljit Singh**

*Gurbani Counselor*

A life dedicated to music, healing, and serving humanity

My name is Kanwaljit Singh. My ideal is Guru Nanak, whom I consider the best and biggest psychiatrist. Hence, my life has been shaped by three guiding forces:

spirituality, service, and the desire to ease the suffering of others.

Born in Punjab and shaped by the values of Gurbani's theological discipline, devotion, and compassion, I grew up surrounded by Gurbani, music, and a deep respect for

human connection. Over the decades, life took me through many roles: student, musician, family man, community servant, counselor, and healer.

Through every chapter, my desire to become Sachiar kept growing while one truth remained constant:

ਹਮਰੈ ਮਸਤਕਿ ਦਾਗੁ ਦਗਾਨਾ, ਹਮ ਕਰਜ ਗੁਰੂ ਬਹੁ ਸਾਢੇ।

I have been engraved by HIS brand. I owe such a great debt to my Guru. I am here to serve.

#### **My journey**

For more than seven decades, I have walked a path that blends:

- Gurbani and classical raag music
- Spiritual reflection
- Emotional guidance
- Holistic healing techniques
- Human connection
- Seva (selfless service)

I have taught children and adults, supported families through difficult times, and helped countless individuals find relief from physical pain and emotional heaviness.

My work is not theoretical.

It is lived.

It is felt.

It is sincere.



**Arjun S. Sethi, Adjunct Professor of Law**

Arjun Singh Sethi is a community activist, civil rights lawyer, and writer based in Washington, D.C. He works closely with Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and Sikh communities and is an expert in policing, the war on terror, and racial and religious profiling. He also advises foundations and nonprofits on rapid-response organizing, advocacy campaigns, and public policy. Sethi is particularly active on domestic and international surveillance issues and pre-arrest police civilian encounters, including consensual stops, predictive policing, location tracking, biometric data collection and countering violent extremist programs.

Sethi's work has appeared in numerous national outlets, including CNN, The Guardian, Politico Magazine, USA Today, and The Washington Post, and he has been widely quoted in print, radio and television, including by The New York Times, The Independent, BBC World Radio, and NPR. In the wake of the 2016 presidential election, Sethi traveled the country and met with a diversity of people and documented the hate they experienced in connection with the election. In his book, *American Hate: Survivors Speak Out*, survivors tell their stories in their own words.

Sethi presently serves as co-chair of the American Bar Association's National Committee on Homeland Security, Terrorism, and Treatment of Enemy Combatants and has served as a legal observer across the world. He began his career as a government affairs and litigation associate at the international law firm of Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., where he represented victims of domestic violence, asylum-seekers, national security detainees, and criminal defendants on death row. Sethi is a graduate of New York University Law School and the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

\*Downloaded from website at: <https://law.vanderbilt.edu/bio/arjun-sethi/>

# 2026 SIKH SUMMIT SPEAKERS



**Harmeet K. Dhillon**  
Assistant Attorney General for  
the Civil Rights Division,  
U.S. Department of Justice



**Congresswoman  
Grace Meng**  
U.S. Representative for  
New York, District 6



**Gurvinder Singh**  
UNITED SIKHS  
International Director of  
SIKHAID



**Dr. Sophia Romma**  
International Human Rights  
Attorney



**Tina Sodhi, Esq.**  
Alternate Public Defender



**Bhupinder Kaur**  
UNITED SIKHS  
Director of Operations &  
UNVED Helpline Manager



**Arjun S. Sethi**  
Adjunct Professor of Law  
Georgetown University  
School of Law



**Cesar Espinosa**  
REL Co-Founder and  
Executive Director



**Wanda Sanchez  
Day, Esq.**  
UNITED SIKHS Chief Legal  
Officer & National Legal  
Director



**Denni Arnold, Esq.**  
Staff Attorney  
Texas Civil Rights Project



**Aisa Villarosa**  
Attorney, Asian Law Caucus



**Kamaljeet Singh  
Kahlon**  
UNITED SIKHS  
Regional Director For  
SIKHAID, Texas



**Monica Colunga**  
Outreach and Training  
Coordinator of the U.S. EEOC



**Valerie Daniele**  
Deputy General Counsel,  
New York State Department  
of Human Rights



**Kanwaljit Singh**  
Gurbani Counselor



**Karishma Shah  
Page, Esq.**  
Partner, K&L Gates



**Sundeep Singh, Esq.**  
Partner, Riley & Cates,  
LLC, Indiana



**Amritpal Singh**  
Advocate and Legal Aid  
Counselor



**Mani Singh Kang**  
Writer and Historian



**Miriam Gelo**  
Training and Lead,  
Voluntary Agency  
Coordination Unit, FEMA



**Lorraine Ortiz  
Vázquez**  
Communications Lead,  
Voluntary Agency  
Coordination Unit, FEMA

For more information and registration details, visit:

[unitedsikhs.org/sikhsummit2026](https://unitedsikhs.org/sikhsummit2026)



## 2026 SIKH SUMMIT SPEAKERS



**Hardayal  
Singh**

Director and Co-founder,  
UNITED SIKHS



**Congresswoman  
Zoe Lofgren**

U.S. Representative for  
California, District 18



**Gurpreet  
Singh**

Chief Executive Officer,  
UNITED SIKHS



**Inderjeet  
Singh**

UNITED SIKHS  
Community Relations  
Officer, New York



**Tejkarán  
Kaur Bains**

Legislative Assistant for  
Congressman Tom Suozzi



**Jaspreet Kaur  
Narang, Esq.**

Immigration Attorney



**Gurmohan  
Preet Singh**

Strategic Cum Legal  
Advisor, UNITED SIKHS  
Worldwide

For more information and  
registration details, visit:

[unitedsikhs.org/sikhsummit2026](https://unitedsikhs.org/sikhsummit2026)