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Contact: John Showalter
415.692.1512

Free Seminar Provides NY-NJ Area Mosques & Nonprofits with Legal & Financial Advice on FBI Surveillance, Governance, Charitable Giving

Session will offer leadership skills to comply with state and federal laws

WHO: [Muslim Advocates](http://www.muslimadvocates.org)—a national non-profit organization that offers legal and policy expertise to the Muslim American community—in partnership with the Muslim Bar Association of New York and the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association.

WHAT: Free professional legal and financial assistance to leaders of the metro NY-NJ area's large and diverse Muslim nonprofit community. The **Muslim Advocates Charities Seminar** provides expert advice to assist local Muslim community organizations with questions they may have about such topics as:

- How to protect your mosque if you suspect unwarranted FBI surveillance
- A board member's legal responsibility under state and federal laws
- Sending charity (*zakat*) abroad to support lawful, well-intentioned humanitarian causes, without running afoul of antiterrorism laws

Experts from national law & accounting firms will lead a series of workshops that will strengthen the governance, financial recordkeeping and other management practices of mosques, Islamic schools, youth programs, domestic violence shelters and other groups serving the NY-NJ metro area's community needs. **More information about the seminar, including an agenda, is available at www.muslimadvocates.org.**

WHEN: **Saturday, March 6, from 8 AM to 6 PM at New York Law School, 185 West Broadway, New York, NY 10013.**

WHY: At a time when government scrutiny of Muslim community institutions remains intense and donors hesitant, [Muslim Advocates](http://www.muslimadvocates.org) offers expert advice and the chance to apply for Better Business Bureau accreditation to community-based organizations and religious leaders to help these institutions assist those most in need.

Muslim Advocates (www.muslimadvocates.org), a national legal education and advocacy organization with a network of over 500 attorneys, has launched the Muslim Charity Works program to strengthen Muslim nonprofit institutions and protect the right of Muslim Americans to fulfill their religious obligation of zakat (charity). A major component of the program is a nationwide series of comprehensive, free legal educational seminars that focus on legal compliance, financial accountability, and good governance.