



PRESS RELEASE

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Charleston County Bar Association stands with the American Bar Association and defends the rule of law

CHARLESTON, SC (May 1, 2025) – Ravi Sanyal, president of the Charleston County Bar Association (CCBA), released the following statement today, Law Day, to support the American Bar Association in defending the rule of law and rejecting efforts to undermine the courts and the legal profession, as outlined by the ABA.

“We endorse the sentiments expressed by the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court in his 2024 Year End Report on the Federal Judiciary, ‘[w]ithin the past year we have also seen the need for state and federal bar associations to come to the defense of a federal district judge whose decisions in a high-profile case prompted an elected official to call for her impeachment. Attempts to intimidate judges for their rulings in cases are inappropriate and should be vigorously opposed.’

“We support the right of people to advance their interests in courts of law when they have been wronged. We reject the notion that the U.S. government can punish lawyers and law firms who represent certain clients or punish judges who rule certain ways. We cannot accept government actions that seek to twist the scales of justice in this manner.

“We reject efforts to undermine the courts and the profession. We will not stay silent in the face of efforts to remake the legal profession into something that rewards those who agree with the government and punishes those who do not. Words and actions matter. And the intimidating words and actions we have heard and seen must end. They are designed to cow our country’s judges, our country’s courts and our legal profession.

“There are clear choices facing our profession. We can choose to remain silent and allow these acts to continue or we can stand for the rule of law and the values we hold dear. We call upon the entire profession, including lawyers in private practice from Main Street to Wall Street, as well as those in corporations and who serve in elected positions, to speak out against intimidation.

“If lawyers do not speak, who will speak for our judges? Who will protect our bedrock of justice? If we do not speak now, when will we speak? Now is the time. That is why we stand together with the ABA in support of the rule of law.”

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About the Charleston County Bar Association

The Charleston County Bar Association is a nonprofit organization committed to promoting ethics and education within Charleston County's legal community as well as assisting the public through outreach programs and service projects. It consists of more than 2,200 members.

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