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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### IRANIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Iranian-American Bar Association (IABA) is pleased to announce the recipients of its first annual Scholarship Award. The Award is given to current law school students who have distinguished themselves through an outstanding record of academic and extracurricular achievement, as well as a commitment to the IABA's mission and to the advancement of the interests of the Iranian-American community. As part of its scholarship program, the IABA solicited applications from qualified law students nationwide.

This year's recipients are Sarah Mahdavi and Mani Ahmadi. Ms. Mahdavi is a second-year law student at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, and she received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in Economics and Social Welfare. Mr. Ahmadi is a third-year law student at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, and he received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara in Political Science and Business Economics. The IABA will award each recipient \$1,000 to help fund their law school educations. The Scholarships will be awarded at the IABA Annual Membership Meeting, currently scheduled for May 15, 2005.

IABA is a national, non-profit corporation dedicated to promoting the advancement of Iranian-American attorneys and the Iranian-American community at large. In addition to its scholarship program, the IABA provides mentorship programs to Iranian American law students and young attorneys. The IABA has established the education of Iranian Americans about legal matters of concern to them as one of its principal mandates, and also endeavors to engage policymakers on behalf of the Iranian American community in a constructive fashion with the aim of making meaningful and positive contributions towards the betterment of laws and regulations that may impact our community. Prime examples of such educational activities are the publication in February 2004 of an independent report concerning the detention and treatment of Iranian nationals by the INS in the course of implementing the NSEERS special registration program, and the presentation of the report's findings and IABA's recommendations at two highly successful bi-partisan briefings in the U.S. Senate (July '04) and House of Representatives (October '04). IABA has approximately 180 members in some 20 states, with chapters in Washington, D.C., New York, and Los Angeles. For more information on the IABA, please visit [www.iaba.us](http://www.iaba.us).