



# CITY OF MILPITAS

## OFFICE OF MAYOR RICH TRAN

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MESSAGE from:

**Rich Tran**  
Mayor, City of Milpitas, CA

November 9, 2019

Greetings Dear Friends:

From the City of Milpitas, I send my warmest greetings and congratulations to the **San Francisco Bay Area office of the Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-SFBA)** in recognition of its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on November 9, 2019. Your devotion to defending the First Amendment rights of all Americans strengthens and promotes peace and understanding within our communities.

Throughout its history as the oldest chapter in the country, the past year has seen CAIR-SFBA continue to champion the rights of those affected by discrimination and bias, whether it be related to employment, school bullying, immigration, or other areas of everyday life. CAIR-SFBA saw its civil rights caseload for 2018 rise 38% from 2017 and its immigration caseload increased by 19%. CAIR-SFBA filed and successfully argued many cases in court, providing a strong advocate on behalf of ordinary men, women and children against, in many cases, large and powerful corporations and government entities.

In addition to their work in the courtroom, CAIR-SFBA continued to serve the community through civic engagement, legislative advocacy, community engagement and youth empowerment. CAIR-SFBA advocated for many important issues, including, for example, increased oversight on the use of surveillance technologies to protect the right to privacy and safeguard civil liberties while still ensuring public safety. In their continuing efforts to promote understanding, they also partnered with an unprecedented number of local governments to introduce proclamations in recognition of Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month. Through their numerous workshops, CAIR-SFBA continued to educate communities on a variety of topics, including civil and employment rights. This past year, CAIR-CA held its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Muslim Youth Leadership Program at the State Capitol in Sacramento, where high school students participated in workshops on community organizing, leadership development and public speaking.

As proud home to a highly-diverse population of many cultural backgrounds and faiths, the City of Milpitas recognizes the importance of your work and commends you for your tireless advocacy on behalf of the rights of all Americans. On behalf of the Milpitas City Council and myself, I wish you a wonderful anniversary celebration and many more years of success!

Sincerely yours,

Rich Tran  
Mayor  
City of Milpitas