

UNITED STATES CENSUS 2010: MUSLIM VOICES MATTER

Census 2010. Participate. Be Counted.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

You are invited to attend a once-in-a-decade experience!

Monday, March 8, 2010

6 pm – 7 pm Reception; 7pm - 8:30 pm Speakers w/ Q & A

Lohrfink Auditorium – Rafik B. Hariri Building, Georgetown University;

Event Details: <http://muslimcensus2010.eventbrite.com>

Speakers: Congressman Andre Carson; Imam Johari Abdul-Malik; Philadelphia Regional Director, US Census, Q&A Speakers: Rep. from MPAC, AAI, AMIN

About the Census 2010: Muslim Voices Matter Event:

In an effort to promote and encourage civic engagement and empowerment among the Muslim American community, the event is designed to educate the public about the census, its importance and relevance to the Muslim community, dispel stereotypes and myths about Census information sharing, inspire interest in the process and encourage participation. Although the census asks about race and ethnicity instead of faith and religion, American Muslims come from many ethnically and culturally diverse backgrounds.

Dispelling stereotypes and myths about the Census:

Through diverse speakers and a town-hall style Question and Answer session the event will answer the questions: *Does filling out census affect citizenship status? How is the information obtained by the Census used? How will filling out the Census affect me and/or my community?* In the wake of post-9/11 domestic and foreign policy (including the PATRIOT Act) and fears about information sharing and gathering on Muslim Americans, this event plays a large role in answering some important community questions. The event will encourage people who are present to share information about the census with their host congregations, affiliate groups, and faith communities.

Why the Census should matter to Muslims:

- Every year, the federal government distributes more than \$400 billion to state, local and tribal governments based on the Census.
- Faith-based organization and institutions use census data to apply for grants and determine locations for new facilities
- Census data guide funding decisions for community facilities, such as schools, hospitals, child-care centers, senior centers and more
- Census data affect your voice in Congress, as well as redistricting of state legislations, county and city councils, and voting districts.

About host/sponsor organization: American Muslim Interactive Network

The American Muslim Interactive Network (AMIN) is a non-profit organization committed to fostering a social, cultural, and professional network of civically-engaged Muslims. Through an inviting and diverse array of educational, inter/intrafaith, and volunteer initiatives AMIN strives to increase awareness of Muslims and Muslim communities, highlighting the diversity and multi-dimensional aspects of Muslims and Islam in America. www.amindc.org

Partner and Support organizations:

In partnership with the US Census 2010; With support from American Arab Institute, Council on American Islamic Relations, Georgetown University Muslim Chaplains Office, Muslim Public Affairs Council, Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee.

