

# DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST RASMEA NOW!

In the early morning of Tuesday, October 22nd, 2013, sixty-five year old Associate Director of the Arab American Action Network (AAAN), Rasmea Yousef Odeh, was arrested at her home by agents from the Department of Homeland Security. She was indicted in federal court that same morning, charged with Unlawful Procurement of Naturalization, an allegation based on answers she gave on a 20-year-old immigration application. Rasmea, who has made it her life's work to serve and help empower Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim families, is the victim of another politically-motivated witch-hunt by our federal law enforcement agencies, which continue to violate the civil rights of Arabs and Muslims with impunity, particularly those who are critical of U.S. support for Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people.

Rasmea is a leading member of Chicago's Arab and Muslim communities, and her decade of service in the U.S. has changed the lives of thousands of people, particularly disenfranchised Arab women and their families. She has been with the AAAN since 2004, and is responsible for the management of day-to-day operations and the coordination of its Arab

Women's Committee, which has a membership of nearly 600 and leads the organization's work in the areas of defending civil liberties and immigrant rights. She is a mentor to hundreds of immigrant women, as well as many members of the AAAN's staff and board, and is a well-known and respected organizer throughout Chicagoland, the U.S., & the world.



Earlier this year, Rasmea received the "Outstanding Community Leader Award" from the Chicago Cultural Alliance, which described her as a woman who has "dedicated over 40 years of her life to the empowerment of Arab women, first in her homes of Palestine, Jordan, and Lebanon, where she was an activist and practicing attorney, and then the past 10 years in Chicago."



Rasmea is a community icon who recently completed a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from Governors State University. She overcame vicious torture by Israeli authorities while imprisoned in Palestine in the 70s, and is a proud reminder of the millions of Palestinians who have not given up organizing for their rights of liberation, equality, and return.

Condemn the attack on this important elder, Rasmea Yousef Odeh, as well as the broader pattern of persecuting Arabs and Muslims who are outstanding and outspoken leaders in their communities throughout the U.S. Take action by turning the page!



# I SUPPORT RASMEA.

## ACTION PLAN

- 1 Sign the petition to drop the charges:  
<http://www.iacenter.org/rasmeaodehpetition/>
- 2 Send statements of support and solidarity to [cppr@aaan.org](mailto:cppr@aaan.org).
- 3 Like  **Drop The Charges Against Rasmea Now** and  using **#justice4rasmea**.

### DONATE

To help support Rasmea's defense fund, go to [stopfbi.net/donate](http://stopfbi.net/donate). You must also send an email to [cppr@aaan.org](mailto:cppr@aaan.org), noting the amount and its designation to Rasmea in order for the funds to be allocated correctly.

If you want your donation to be tax deductible, the donation must be in the amount of \$100 or more, and you must pay by check to "**NLG Foundation**" with "**Rasmea Defense Fund**" written on the memo line.

Please mail these checks to: Arab American Action Network  
ATTN: Rasmea Defense Fund  
3148 W. 63rd Street; 2nd Floor; Chicago, IL 60629

- 4 Send us your pictures holding up the following message:  
"I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I SUPPORT RASMEA."

Fill in the blank with a self-identifier (e.g., your name, occupation or any other description). Examples: "I am a youth organizer and I SUPPORT RASMEA!" or "I am a supporter of Palestinian Human Rights and I SUPPORT RASMEA!" Hold the sign up, snap a selfie, and send it to [cppr@aaan.org](mailto:cppr@aaan.org). Then make it your Facebook/Twitter/Google profile picture! Remember, we may use your image in publications or informational pamphlets either online or in distributed hard copies.

[stopFBI.net](http://stopFBI.net)



[uspcn.org](http://uspcn.org)

Stay tuned to [www.stopfbi.net](http://www.stopfbi.net) for updates on the case, and for more information about **United States Palestinian Community Network's (USPCN's) work upholding Palestinian rights to Equality, Self-Determination, and Return**, and defending Rasmea and other Palestinians under attack, go to [www.uspcn.org](http://www.uspcn.org).