



## **Ambassador Luis CdeBaca**

Ambassador-at-Large

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

In May 2009, Ambassador Luis CdeBaca was appointed by President Obama to coordinate U.S. government activities in the global fight against contemporary forms of slavery. He serves as Senior Advisor to the Secretary and directs the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, which assesses global trends, provides training and technical assistance, and advocates for an end to modern slavery.

Mr. CdeBaca formerly served as Counsel to the House Committee on the Judiciary, where his portfolio for Chairman John Conyers, Jr. included national security, intelligence, immigration, civil rights, and modern slavery issues.

At the Justice Department, Mr. CdeBaca was one of the country's most-decorated federal prosecutors, leading the investigation and prosecution of cases involving money laundering, organized crime, alien smuggling, official misconduct, hate crimes, and human trafficking. He was honored with the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award for his service as lead trial counsel in the then largest slavery prosecution in U.S. history, which involved the enslavement of over 300 Vietnamese and Chinese workers in a garment factory in American Samoa. Additionally, he received the Department's highest litigation honor – the Attorney General's John Marshall Award – and the Director's Award from the Executive Office of United States Attorneys. He has received the leading honor given by the national trafficking victim service provider community, the Freedom Network's Paul & Sheila Wellstone Award, and has been named the Michigan Law School's Distinguished Latino Alumnus. He has convicted dozens of abusive pimps and employers, and helped to liberate hundreds of victims from servitude.

Mr. CdeBaca's family settled in New Mexico in the 1500s. He was raised on a cattle ranch in Huxley, Iowa, and attended Iowa State University. Mr. CdeBaca received his law degree from the Michigan Law School, where he was an editor of the Michigan Law Review.



## **Mr. Siddharth Kara**

Author and Fellow

Carr Center Program on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

Siddharth Kara is a Fellow with the Carr Center Program on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. He is recognized as an expert on contemporary slavery and is best known for his award-winning book, *Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery*, the first of three books he is writing on the subjects of human trafficking and contemporary slavery. *Sex Trafficking* was named co-winner of the prestigious 2010 Frederick Douglass Award at Yale University for the best non-fiction book on slavery. The award is generally regarded as the top prize in the field of slavery scholarship, and Kara's is the first book on modern slavery to receive the award. In addition to his books, Kara has authored several academic and law journal articles.

Kara first encountered the horrors of slavery in a Bosnian refugee camp in 1995. Subsequently, he has traveled to twenty-five countries across six continents to research these crimes, interviewing over a thousand former and current slaves of all kinds, witnessing firsthand the sale of humans into slavery, and confronting some of those who trafficked and exploited them.

Kara currently advises the United Nations, the U.S. Government, and several other governments on antislavery research, policy and law. His second book on slavery, *Bonded Labor: Inside the System of Slavery in South Asia* is scheduled to be published in 2012. Kara is a regular contributor to the CNN Freedom Project, and his ongoing research into slavery around the world has been covered by CNN, the BBC, and CNBC.

Previously, Kara was an investment banker at Merrill Lynch, then ran his own finance and M&A consulting firm. He holds a law degree from England, MBA from Columbia University, and BA from Duke University.



**Dr. Mohamed Mattar**

Executive Director  
The Protection Project

Dr. Mohamed Y. Mattar is a Senior Research Professor of International Law and Executive Director of The Protection Project at The Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). His professional expertise is in comparative and international law, especially international human rights and trafficking in persons. For over fifteen years, Mohamed Mattar has worked in more than 75 countries to promote state compliance with international human rights standards and has advised governments on drafting and implementing anti-human trafficking legislation. He teaches courses on “International Trafficking in Persons,” “International Human Rights Clinic,” “International Business and Human Rights,” “Islamic Law,” and “International Contract Law.” He received his Doctor of Juridical Sciences (S.J.D.) and Master of Laws (LL.M) from Tulane University, his Master of Comparative Law (M.C.L.) from the University of Miami, and his License en Droit (LL.B.) from Alexandria University.



**Ms. Neha Misra**

Senior Specialist for Migration and Human Trafficking  
Solidarity Center

Neha Misra is the Senior Specialist for Migration and Human Trafficking at the Solidarity Center, AFL-CIO, an international worker rights NGO based in Washington, DC. Previously, Neha was the Deputy Country Director and Program Manager for the Solidarity Center's Counter Trafficking in Persons Project in Indonesia. She worked in Indonesia for over five years, starting with the Solidarity Center as the Director of its Democracy Project. Before her assignment in Indonesia, she worked in Bosnia and Herzegovina on post-war elections and democracy, and in the United States as a Senior Attorney-Advisor with the U.S. Department of Justice. While at DOJ, she also served as the President of American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 3525. Neha is a member of the Board of Advisors for the Global Workers Justice Alliance. She has a Juris Doctor degree from the Washington College of Law, American University, where she focused her studies on international human rights law, and a Bachelor of Science degree in International Business Economics and Public Policy from Indiana University.



**Ms. Mary C. Ellison**  
Director of Policy  
Polaris Project

Mary C. Ellison currently serves as Director of Policy for Polaris Project where she leads the work to advance state and federal policy related to human trafficking and modern day slavery - creating protections for victims while seeking accountability for human traffickers and others that contribute to human trafficking. In the past two years, Ms. Ellison has contributed to the recently announced policies on federal procurement and victim services, increases in federal appropriations for anti-trafficking programs, a draft uniform state statute on human trafficking, a national legislative coalition of more than 300 advocates and legislators, and passage of more than 40 state laws.

Ms. Ellison represents Polaris Project as a member of the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST), a national coalition of 12 U.S.-based human rights organizations with anti-slavery programs in the U.S. and around the globe. She also serves as an advisor to the American Bar Association Presidential Task Force on Human Trafficking, the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights, and the Uniform Law Commission Drafting Committee on the Prevention of and Remedies for Human Trafficking.

Ms. Ellison has authored a number of publications including:

- Karen Stauss & Mary C. Ellison et. al., *Model Provisions of Comprehensive State Legislation to Combat Human Trafficking* (2010);
- *Sex Trafficking Needs Assessment for the State of Minnesota* (September, 2008); and
- Two components of the legislation module of a *UNIFEM GLOBAL VIRTUAL KNOWLEDGE CENTRE*:
  - *Advocating for New Laws or the Reforming of Existing Laws, and*
  - *Drafting Specific Legislation on Violence Against Women and Girls – Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls.*

Ms. Ellison has provided testimony before the Uniform Law Commission (July 2012); the U.S. Commission on Civil and Human Rights (April 2012), a Congressional Child Welfare Briefing on Building a Strong Response to Child Trafficking held by Congresswoman Karen Bass (October 2011), and a Congressional Briefing on the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act* hosted by Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Scott Brown, and Senator John Kerry (September 2011), and before state legislatures on state human trafficking laws.