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Shobhana Johri Verma serves as liaison to recruit Election Judges and provide language assistance to voters, community groups

## **Chicago Election Board Expands Outreach Programs for Asian-Indian Voters & Community Organizations**

Shobhana Johri Verma is the Chicago Election Board's first-ever liaison with the City's Asian-Indian voters and community organizations.

Ms. Johri Verma's work with the Election Board involves coordinating language-assistance in the polling places for Asian-Indian voters, as well as community outreach to Asian-Indian community groups. Ms. Johri Verma's work involves recruiting bilingual Judges of Election who are fluent in English/Hindi, English/Gujarati and English/Urdu. Under the federal Voting Rights Act, bilingual judges must be available in designated precincts to provide language assistance to voters on Election Day. Ms. Johri Verma's duties also involve promoting voter-registration and providing equipment demonstrations. Ms. Johri Verma also oversees voting-material translations in Hindi for the Election Board.



"Ms. Johri Verma brings extensive experience in outreach, and we are pleased that she has agreed to work with us on expanding voter services in Chicago," said Election Board Chairman Langdon D. Neal.

Ms. Johri Verma may be reached at 312.269.7990 or [hindivote@chicagoelections.net](mailto:hindivote@chicagoelections.net)

Ms. Johri Verma's experience includes defending and promoting human rights, including advocacy for rape victims, legal research to combat human trafficking, and film and print-media work in Chicago, Los Angeles and India on a variety of vital gender issues.

Ms. Johri Verma has a Bachelor's in Biology and Master's degree in Women's Studies from Lucknow University, as well as a Master's degree in Women's Studies from the University of Cincinnati. Ms. Johri Verma also is a parent volunteer in the Chicago Public Schools.

Ms. Johri Verma and her husband, Alok Verma, have two children, Shreyas and Alisha. Ms. Johri Verma joins an Election Board Community Services team that provides language assistance to Chicago's Hispanic, Chinese and Polish communities.

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