



# Asian American Bar Association of Houston

## June 2004 Newsletter

The Asian American Bar Association is dedicated to promoting the Houston society of Asian American lawyers and to addressing the needs and interests of Houston's Asian American community.

### AABA's May Event – Salsa Night

AABA members and law students came out for a night of dancing and mingling on Thursday, May 27, 2004 at the Scott Gertner Skybar. This was a great opportunity for lawyers and students to just kick back and have some fun!!!

### State Bar of Texas Brown v. Board of Education Celebration

In celebration of the Brown v. Board of Education 50th Anniversary, the Racial Diversity in the Profession Committee of the State Bar of Texas hosted a Pioneer Breakfast during the 2004 State Bar Annual Meeting. The Pioneer Breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on June 24, 2004, as the State Bar Annual meeting was held in San Antonio on June 24th and 25th. During the Breakfast, the State Bar of Texas honored minorities identified as the first to attend (post Brown), first to matriculate, and first to make a significant impact on the law school and/or the community at large.

\*AABA was extremely proud that **Mr. William Sim** was honored at the Breakfast and co-sponsored his trip to Austin. Mr. Sim was the first Asian American graduate of the University of Houston Law Center (class of 1969) and a founding member of our organization.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### AABA LECTURE

**"Ensuring Continuity of Government after 9/11 -  
Anticipating the Unthinkable".**

**Presented by James C. Ho, Chief Counsel of the United  
States Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution,  
Civil Rights, and Property Rights  
Chaired by Senator Cornyn**

The Asian American Bar Association and the Asian Law Students Association at the University of Houston College of Law would like to invite you to attend a special speaking event featuring Mr. James C. Ho, J.D. on Wednesday, June 30, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Ho will discuss the federal government's contingency plan in the event of a terror attack. He will explore answers to many questions such as: What if our country suffered a massive assault and such attack took out all leadership in Washington D.C.? Is our country's contingency plan formidable enough to sustain this massive assault? Please also join us for a reception following, in the University of Houston College of Law Heritage room, located at 4800 Calhoun Road.

#### NAPABA Northern California Regional Conference

NAPABA will be hosting its regional conference in San Francisco on Saturday, July 10, 2004. The conference will be held at the Golden Gate University from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. followed by a reception at the Four Seas Restaurant at 5:30 p.m. The invited keynote speaker is U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer. For more information, please contact Ruthe Ashley at [rutheash@aol.com](mailto:rutheash@aol.com).

### Membership

The AABA is always welcoming new members and law students!! We are still in the process of planning more exciting events and lectures for the current year. If you have not done so already, please take a moment to fill out the attached membership application. Membership is at no cost to law students, and ranges from \$ 25.00 to \$ 50.00 annually for attorneys, depending on years of practice.

\*Remember that membership with the AABA includes a free membership to the National Pacific American Bar Association. For more information, please contact Hoang Quan Vu at (713) 546-0518 or by e-mail at [hvu@mayerbrownrowe.com](mailto:hvu@mayerbrownrowe.com).

### Opportunities

**AABA Subcommittees.** If you are interested in serving on a subcommittee related to any of AABA's upcoming events, we welcome you. Please contact Lola Lin at (713) 470-6106 or by e-mail at [lola.lin@sablalaw.com](mailto:lola.lin@sablalaw.com).

**AABA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet.** The AABA will begin actively planning its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet and creating the AABA foundation for scholarships in the near future. If you are interested in serving on the Scholarship and Banquet Committee, please contact Patricia Lin at [patricialin@andrewskurth.com](mailto:patricialin@andrewskurth.com) or (713) 220-4036.

## Opportunities (cont'd)

**Executive Director (Austin, TX).** The executive director is responsible for the operational management of the Political Asylum Project of Austin (PAPA), a non-profit agency that provides low-cost and free legal services to low-income immigrants and asylum seekers. The ED's duties include providing supervision to staff, administrative management of the agency, oversight of agency finances, reporting to the Board of Directors, and community outreach. Five years of non-profit management, fundraising experience is required. Fluency in Spanish preferred. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resumes and inquiries to: [jeannie@travisbar.com](mailto:jeannie@travisbar.com).

**Minority Attorney Needed.** International law firm with a substantial presence in Houston's legal community is committed to promoting diversity within their firm in recognition of the multi-cultural society that it serves. This multi-practice firm, located in downtown Houston, seeks a strong candidate with a desire to expand their professional experience and build their practice by utilizing existing contacts and the valuable business associations that this firm can offer. Their interest is in both partner and associate level practitioners with strong academic and professional experience. For more information, please contact Amanda B. Sheeren with The Alexander Group at 713-993-7900 or [www.thealexandergroup.com](http://www.thealexandergroup.com).

**Labor/Litigation Attorney Needed.** Large, primarily public sector union based in Albany, New York, looking for aggressive, practical attorney with 3 to 8 years litigation experience, preferably in labor/employment area, for in-house position handling administrative hearings, arbitrations, and court proceedings. Exciting opportunity, excellent benefits. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Submit resume, writing sample to Office of General Counsel, CSEA, Local 1000 AFSCME, 143 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

**Additional Job Postings.** MICJob posts additional job opportunities at <http://www.abanet.org/minorities/jobs/home.html>. Everyone is welcome to sign up to receive job posting via e-mail or view job postings on the website.

**WSBA Indian Law Section and NIBA Award \$30,000 in Scholarships.** Native Indian Bar Association (NIBA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1991 and consists of 175 Native Indian attorneys, judges, spokespersons, and students in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, British Columbia, and the Yukon territory. NIBA is committed to increasing the number of Native Indian attorneys in the Pacific Northwest through education and advocacy. WSBA Indian Law Section (Indian Law Section) was formed in 1988 and seeks to develop Indian law in the bar. During 2003, the Indian Law Section and NIBA awarded over \$30,000 in scholarships to aspiring Native American lawyers from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska. NIBA's former president and the current Chair of the Indian Law Section, Gabriel Galanda, emphasized the organizations' commitment to provide the Native Americans with resources to access the legal profession. According to Galanda, Native Americans are the most under represented ethnic group in the nation. The 2000 National Census reported 4.1 million people identify themselves as Native Americans, but there are only 3,000 Native Americans practicing attorneys. For more information about the Indian Law Section or NIBA visit [www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/indianlaw/default1.htm](http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/indianlaw/default1.htm) and [www.nwiba.org](http://www.nwiba.org).

**Let it be known** NAPABA will announce significant job promotions of all Asian Pacific American lawyers in the next issue of its newsletter. Please let us know or contact Yabo Lin at [ylin@blackwellsanders.com](mailto:ylin@blackwellsanders.com) if you know any APA attorney who has been appointed as a judge or promoted to partnership or significant in-house position.

**Minority Bar Leaders' Breakfast.** American Bar Association's Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession is holding a Multicultural Bar Leaders' Breakfast on Friday, August 6, 2004 from 8:00 – 9:30 AM for Presidents, President-Elects, Officers, Board Members and Executive Directors of Minority Bar Associations. The breakfast will be held at the Sheraton Midtown Atlanta Hotel at Colony Square, 188 14th Street, NE, Atlanta, GA in the Ansley Room, Lobby Level. If you are interested in attending, please respond to Regina Smith ([smithr@staff.abanet.org](mailto:smithr@staff.abanet.org)) via email no later than July 16, 2004.

## Community

**OCA National Convention.** The Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) is hosting its National Convention in Boston on July 15, 2004. For more information, please visit [www.oca-houston.org](http://www.oca-houston.org).

**SAABA Mixer Event.** South Asian American Bar Association (SAABA) of Houston is planning a bowling mixer on Sunday, July 18, 2004. For more information, please visit [www.saaba.net](http://www.saaba.net).

**First Annual Toyota Hoops Shoot Tournament.** Toyota is sponsoring the First Annual Hoops Shoot Tournament benefiting the Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas on Saturday, July 17. Registration begins at noon and the tournament begins at 1:00 P.M. For more information, visit <http://houston.ja.org> or contact the Special Events Dept. at Junior Achievement at 713.682.4500.