

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston is a voluntary organization of lawyers of Asian heritage or who have Asian American interests, dedicated to promoting diversity within the legal profession and Houston community.

2012 OFFICERS**Daniel H. Chen**

President

*Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen PLLC***Alice C. Huang**

President-Elect

*Locke Lord LLP***David Hsu Brogden**

Vice President of Community Relations

*Law Office of David S. Hsu Brogden***Sharon Yin**

Vice President of Development

*Lam, Lyn & Philip PC***Cindy Lin**

Vice President of Membership

*Andrews Kurth LLP***Eunice Song**

Vice President of Programs

*Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP***Mai Huynh**

Secretary

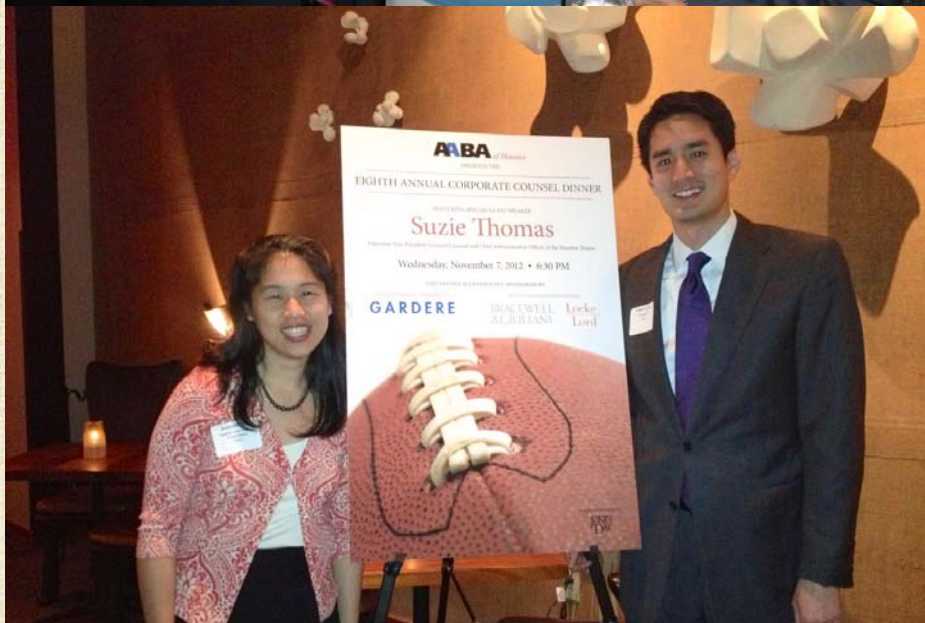
*Texas United Corporation***Jane Nguyen Vuong**

Treasurer

*Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen PLLC***DIRECTORS****Audrey Chang, Chair***Greenberg Traurig, LLP***Todd E. Chen***Winstead PC***Helene Dang***FosterQuan LLP***Vinh Ho***Boat People SOS***Jenny Hyun***Weingarten Realty Investors***Judy Y. Liu***CenterPoint Energy Service Company LLC***Kenneth S. Soh***Lanier Law Firm***Joyce Kao Soliman***Porter Hedges LLP***Catherine Than***Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP***Joseph T. Tung***Law Office of Joseph Tung*

Corporate Counsel Dinner

On Wednesday, November 7, 2012, the AABA held its 8th Annual Corporate Counsel Dinner at Americas. Special thanks to guest speaker Suzie Thomas, GC of the Houston Texans, who provided interesting insights on her highly coveted job. Many thanks to the event sponsors, Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP, and Locke Lord LLP. Thanks also to Corporate Counsel Committee Co-chairs Jennifer Lin, Albert Liou, Carmen Ng, and Daniel Zhang for organizing this wonderful event.



2012
COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

Chris Lee

Targa Resources Corporation

Susan Tran

CTS Law Firm

*Mentorship and Law School Relations
Committee*

Juvie Cruz

Pagel, Davis & Hill, P.C.

Jennifer Fung

Attorney at Law

Gala Committee

Kei Ashizawa

Kilburn Law Firm PLLC

Claire C. Lin

Bracewell & Giuliani LLP

Janine Yee

Porter & Hedges LLP

Corporate Counsel Committee

Jennifer Lin

Attorney at Law

Albert Liou

Jones Day

Carmen Ng

Sysco Corporation

Daniel Zhang

Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Associates

Solo & Small Firm Committee

Kellie Pai

Liu & Associates PLLC

Brendon Singh

CTS Law Firm

Clinton Yu

Givens & Johnston PLLC

Nominations Committee

Alice C. Huang, Chair

Locke Lord LLP

AABA
of Houston

Corporate Counsel Dinner



Corporate Counsel Dinner





2013 Officers & New Director

President

Alice Huang

2013 President-Elect

Helene Dang

Vice President of Community Relations

Clinton Yu

Vice President of Development

Eunice Song

Vice President of Membership

Claire Lin

Vice President of Programs

Sharon Yin

Secretary

Janine Yee

Treasurer

Erick Wang

2013-14 Director

Phillina Lai

*The AABA
wishes you and your family
a wonderful holiday season filled
with warmth and good cheer.*

See you in 2013!





Who's Who in Asian American Communities Awards Harry Gee, Jr. with the LEAP ALL Award

In September 2012, Harry Gee, Jr. was awarded the Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc. (LEAP) ALL Award during the Who's Who in Asian Communities annual Alliance Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

The child of Chinese immigrants, Mr. Gee attended public school in the Houston Independent School District and graduated from Rice University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and Economics in 1960. He enrolled at the University Of Texas School Of Law and attained his J.D. in 29 months when he graduated in January of 1963.

Harry Gee was licensed to practice on April 30, 1963 and began the private practice of law in Houston in 1966. When the State Bar of Texas adopted board certification, he was among the first group of attorneys to be qualified as a Board Certified Specialist in Immigration and Nationality Law in 1979 and subsequently, he chaired the Examination Committee for Immigration Board Specialization for five years. Mr. Gee has been recognized as an authority in the field of immigration law, not only having lectured at seminars and institutes conducted by Rice University, University of Oklahoma, Texas Tech University, University of Houston and the American and the Texas Immigration Lawyers Association but also having chaired two immigration law conferences at his alma mater, The University of Texas.

He is actively involved in numerous legal and civic organizations, and serves on the boards of various other organizations, including the Greater Houston Partnership. He has also served as a member of the Board of Governors of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Chairman of the Texas Chapter of AILA, Chairman of the Immigration and the Law Day Committees of the Houston Bar Association, and as President of the Asian American Bar Association of Houston (AABA). In 2005, the AABA of Houston honored him with its inaugural Impact Award.

His family has established a Presidential Scholarship at the University of Texas in the field of Immigration Law in honor of his parents; a Red Rose scholarship at the University of Houston-Downtown; a scholarship at the University of Texas Health; and a scholarship in honor of his wife, Antje Gee, for Rice women athletes. In 2005, the Houston Bar Association Women's Auxiliary presented Mr. Gee the prestigious Leon Jaworski Award for his significant community service, the first minority to receive this honor. In Chicago, the American Bar Association presented him with the Spirit of Excellence Award in 2006.

In 1999, Mr. Gee was elected as chair of LEAP, a national organization promoting the advancement of Asians into positions of leadership within their companies, educational institutions and communities and instituting research and publication of public policy analysis relevant to the Asian community. He is one of a select few Chinese from Houston to join the prestigious "Committee of 100".

Harry has been happily married to Antje for more than 40 years and they are the proud parents of three children, Andrew, Claudia, and Sonja, who are '97, '99 and '01 graduates of Rice University respectively and are especially proud grandparents of seven adorable grandchildren.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FELLOW

BPSOS is a community based organization with 10 offices in the U.S. and 3 overseas operational locations in Malaysia, Taiwan and Taiwan. Our international initiatives include: combatting human trafficking, defending refugee rights, and developing civil society.

Job Title: Legal Advocacy Fellow

Initiative: Defending refugee rights

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Duration: 1 year minimum

Salary: A living stipend (\$1000 USD per month, plus monthly travel expenses and airfare)

Primary Responsibilities:

- Counsel Vietnamese asylum seekers on UNHCR RSD process, standards, and guidelines.
- Prepare and draft written refugee status applications, appeals and motions to re-open to UNHCR.
- Provide general legal counseling and assistance to Vietnamese asylum seekers, including educating them of Thailand legal framework.
- Provide legal assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees detained in Immigration Detention Center.
- Compile Vietnam country conditions information and draft relevant reports.
- Maintain partnership and build alliance with other legal aid and human rights organizations operating in Thailand to advocate with UNHCR and relevant stakeholders on due process and refugee protection.
- Compile Vietnam country conditions information, including torture, arbitrary arrest and detention, lack of due process...
- Maintain network of overseas pro bono lawyers to assist with legal casework.
- Create public awareness within region and outside region of the plight of Vietnamese asylum seekers, include assisting in fundraising efforts.
- Update legal caseload and activities report on a weekly basis.
- Report to the International Initiatives Manager.

Qualifications:

- A law degree.
- Fluency in Vietnamese or Hmong, both written and oral, highly preferred.
- Minimum 1 year of relevant professional job experience, preferably in the area of refugee protection, human rights or international humanitarian law.
- Strong research and analytical skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to relate to people from a wide range of backgrounds.
- Sensitivity to issues of asylum seekers, refugees and displaced people.
- Team player with demonstrated ability to interact professionally with staff, clients, donors and service providers and to work productively in diverse team settings or independently.

To apply, please send your resume, a writing sample, and three references to Human Resources at hr@bpsos.org. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.

BPSOS is an equal opportunity employer!

Congratulations to Chris Lee, Social Committee Co-Chair, on his recent nuptials. Best wishes to the newlyweds!



Congratulations to Helene Dang and her family on the addition of baby Lucas to their family!

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Caroline Cho

Firm: Rapfogel Waters PLLC (“Rapfogel Law Firm PLLC” effective January 1, 2013)

Practice Areas: Corporate, Mergers and Acquisitions, Securities, and Open Government

If I weren’t an attorney, I would be . . . a dermatologist. I’m a little obsessive about skincare—after all, our skin is our largest organ!

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is . . . Marrakesh or the Maldives.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . reading non-fiction and keeping up with current events online.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is . . . strawberry shortcake or a nice and chewy oatmeal raisin cookie.

The best restaurant in Houston is . . . hard to narrow down to just one, but Kata Robata is excellent. For more casual fare, I love Red Lion Pub.

My favorite movies are . . . too numerous to list. This year, I’ve enjoyed *Prometheus* and *Life of Pi*.

The sports team I root for is . . . the Houston Texans, but I’m admittedly a fair weather fan.

If I won the lottery, I would . . . start an organic farm and support philanthropic organizations like the Korean Kids & Orphanage Outreach Mission (KKOOM).

I recommend reading . . . *The Disappearing Spoon: And Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of Elements* by Sam Kean. You will never look at the periodic table the same way.

Most AABA members probably don’t know that . . . I am an Army brat.

You forgot to ask me about . . . my encyclopedic knowledge of pop culture from the 80’s to the present!

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Gordon Quan

Firm: FosterQuan, LLP

Practice Area: Immigration Law

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a social worker.

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is . . . taking a mini course at Harvard on urban planning.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . watching spy shows on TV.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is . . . my mom's banana pudding.

The best restaurant in Houston is . . . Brennan's for brunch.

My favorite movies are . . . action adventures.

The sports teams I root for are . . . all Houston professional teams.

If I won the lottery, I would . . . create a charitable foundation.

I recommend reading . . . *The Celestine Prophecy*.

Most AABA members probably don't know that . . . my nickname in college was "Cookie."

You forgot to ask me about . . . the women in my life....

Many thanks to our 2012-2013 Major Underwriters!

Diamond Dragon Underwriters

Legal Knowledge. Human Wisdom.

GARDERE

GT GreenbergTraurig

Platinum Dragon Underwriter

**JONES
DAY**[®]

Gold Dragon Underwriters

**BRACEWELL
& GIULIANI** LLP

FULBRIGHT
& Jaworski L.L.P.



It's that time of year again...
Renew your **AABA** membership!



The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2013!

**You may apply for membership online at www.aabahouston.com
or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues.**

If you haven't already applied for membership to the AABA, then you are missing out on all the benefits of membership. Members of the AABA receive significant discounts to all AABA events, as well as invitations to exclusive members-only seminars and programs such as the annual Corporate Counsel Dinner and inclusion in the Attorney Profiles Directory. Become an AABA member today, and gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer!

Another terrific benefit of AABA membership is automatic membership in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA").

The **AABA** welcomes the following
new and renewing members!

Marrick Armstrong, *Adams and Reese LLP*
Juvie Cruz, *Pagel, Davis & Hill, PC*
Helene Dang, *FosterQuan LLP*
Lily Leal, *South Texas College of Law*
Claire Lin, *Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*
Diem Ngo, *Berry Appleman & Leide*
Sang Shin, *FosterQuan, LLP*
Nicholas Shumate, *Vinson & Elkins LLP*
Erick Wang, *DLA Piper LLP (US)*
Clinton Yu, *Givens & Johnston PLLC*

- ☐ \$50 General Member
☐ \$25 Public Interest Attorney • Government Attorney • Judge • Solo Practitioner
☐ \$0 Law Student • Retired Attorney • Transitional Attorney*

Bar Number and Jurisdiction _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Employer _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Office # _____ Home # _____

Fax # _____ E-Mail _____

Area(s) of Practice _____

Law School and Graduation Year _____

Language(s) Spoken _____

Would you like to receive the AABA Newsletter by E-Mail? ☐ Yes ☐ NoWould you like your business contact information published in the 2013 AABA Directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No***By completing this membership application, I hereby consent to the receipt of notice of meeting through electronic means.***

Please give us any comments or programming suggestions you might have: _____

Please indicate any committees on which you would be interested in serving:

- ☐ Gala ☐ Fundraising ☐ Programs ☐ Social/Networking ☐ Community Relations/Pro Bono
☐ Solo and Small Firm ☐ Corporate Counsel ☐ Mentorship/Law School Relations

Make checks payable to **AABA** and submit application and fee to:

AABA
ATTN: Membership
P.O. Box 1554
Houston, TX 77251

Send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to
membership@aabahouston.com,
or contact Cindy Lin at (713) 220-4311.