

## JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER

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 [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com)

 @HoustonAABA

 Asian American Bar  
Association of Houston

### Houston Volunteer Lawyers Saturday Clinic

On Saturday, August 5, members of the AABA and Houston Lawyers Association volunteered to serve the southwest Houston community at the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Saturday Clinic. Volunteers met with and advised 75 individuals on potential pro bono matters for intake into the Houston Volunteer Lawyers case list. Thank you to all who donated their time to this effort, and to VP of Community Relations Nickie Tran for organizing the event. If you are interested in taking on a pro bono case, visit the Houston Volunteer Lawyers website at [www.makejusticehappen.org](http://www.makejusticehappen.org).



### Summer Happy Hour

On July 20, AABA members enjoyed a happy hour at Peli Peli in the Houston Galleria.



## 2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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## NAPABA and Yale Law School Release "A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law"

In July, NAPABA and Yale Law School released a study on the role of Asian Americans in the legal profession. Conducted over the course of several years, the study is the culmination of surveys of over 600 Asian American attorneys and a dozen focus group discussions. Highlights of the study include:

- Asian-Americans attorneys number 53,000 today (5% of all lawyers), an increase from 20,000 in 2000.
- Since 2009, enrollment of Asian-Americans in law school has declined by 28%, reaching a 20-year low in 2016.
- For nearly 20 years, Asian-Americans have been the largest minority group at major law firms, but have the highest attrition rates and the highest ratio of associates to partners of any racial or ethnic group.
- Asian Americans make up only 4 of 2,437 elected prosecutors in the United States, and 3 of 94 United States Attorneys.
- Asian Americans comprise only 3.4% of active Article III judges.

An electronic copy of the study is available at [http://www.napaba.org/resource/resmgr/press\\_releases/2017/7-July/Portrait\\_Project\\_Release\\_Fin.pdf](http://www.napaba.org/resource/resmgr/press_releases/2017/7-July/Portrait_Project_Release_Fin.pdf)

## AABA Upcoming Events

- **Solo and Small Firm CLE: Running Your Own Law Practice**  
Wednesday, August 16, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
Tango & Malbec Restaurant, 2800 Sage Road
- **Texas Minority Counsel Program: Save the Date Reception**  
Thursday, August 24, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
Double Apollo Room, 609 Main Street
- **AABA Annual Gala and Silent Auction**  
Friday, September 15, 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria, 2222 West Loop South
- **AABA Day of Service: Volunteering at the Houston Food Bank**  
Saturday, October 7, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Houston Food Bank, 535 Portwall St., Houston, TX 77029

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Texas Minority Counsel Program (TMCP) *Houston Save the Date Reception*

Prior to the TMCP program in Austin this year, the Houston planning committee is hosting a “save-the-date reception” to spur up excitement for the event and give attorneys the opportunity to meet in advance of the TMCP. TMCP is a client development, networking, and CLE event for diverse attorneys in Texas.

When: August 24, 2017, 5:30-7:30 PM

Where: Double Apollo Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), 609 Main Street, Houston,

Cost: Free

RSVP by Thursday, August 17 at [rsvp.tmcphouston@gmail.com](mailto:rsvp.tmcphouston@gmail.com).

## AABA Day of Service: Volunteering at the Houston Food Bank

Please join us in volunteering with the Houston Food Bank on Sat. October 7, 2017 at the Portwall Location (535 Portwall St, Houston, TX, 77029) from 8am-12pm. This is a family event so please feel free to sign up with your family members and significant others. Please RSVP with Nickie Tran ([ntran@porterhedges.com](mailto:ntran@porterhedges.com)) as soon as possible as we are limited to 20 spots.

## The AABA welcomes the following new and renewing members in July:

Earvin Chionglo

Thanh Le

Joshua Lee

Maliha Mian

Judge Raul Rodriguez

Hector Silva

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*Founded in 1984, the AABA's membership reflects all aspects of Houston's Asian-Pacific legal community. Its mission is to promote the professional development of its members and to serve the Houston community at large.*

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## AABF Community Grants & Student Scholarships—

*Deadlines are Approaching!*

All application materials can be found on the AABF website at

<http://aabfhouston.org/opportunities.php>.

The Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston is seeking applicants for its 2017 community organization grants and law student scholarships.

### AABF Community Organization Grant

Up to **\$5,000 award** to a charitable non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that will impact the Greater Houston Metropolitan Area by:

- (1) expanding the scope of legal services available to the Asian American community;
- (2) increasing the number of Asian Americans working as lawyers or in legal services;
- (3) educating members of the Asian American community of their civil and legal rights;
- (4) stimulating legal discourse by and/or about Asian Americans, the Asian American cultures and Asian American communities; or
- (5) otherwise promoting the interests of Asian Americans.

### AABF Pro Bono Scholarship

Up to **\$4,000 award** to a currently enrolled law student. Recipient is expected to further his/her legal education and training by Houston Volunteer Lawyers (HVL) during a ten week period to be completed by the end of the fall semester of 2017. Recipient is expected to devote his/her part-time efforts to further his/her legal education and training at HVL, equivalent to not less than 10 hours per week.

### Honorable Herbert W. Gee Memorial Scholarship

Up to **\$3,000 award** to a currently enrolled law student who best embodies the spirit of the late Judge Gee who (1) was dedicated to serving the public, (2) supported the Asian American community in the greater Houston area, and (3) exemplified intelligence, generosity and leadership in his everyday life.

Application forms can be found at the end of the newsletter. **Completed applications must be postmarked no later than August 18, 2017.** All grant and scholarship recipients will be honored at the 2017 AABA Gala & Silent Auction.

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## **AABA Project Blueprint Grant Application**

Are you interested in becoming a leader on a nonprofit organization or municipal board or committee? Project Blueprint is a 10-week program of the United Way of Greater Houston designed to prepare emerging and current leaders of diverse backgrounds for leadership roles on nonprofit and public sector boards and committees.

Applications for the 2018 Project Blueprint Program are available on the [United Way's Project Blueprint Page](#). The AABA is awarding a \$500 grant to one member candidate to participate in the program, which will be applied toward Project Blueprint's enrollment fee. Details can be found in the attached grant application. **The deadline to apply is Tuesday, October 10, 2017.**

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cordially invites to you its

# *Annual Gala & Silent Auction*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

at the

ROYAL SONESTA HOUSTON GALLERIA

Reception and Silent Auction

6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Dinner, Keynote Address, and Awards Ceremony

7:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.

*Featuring:* Frank H. Wu, Distinguished Professor at the  
University of California Hastings College of the Law  
*Keynote Speaker*

*and*

*Honoring:* Kenneth G. Eng  
Hon. Timothy K. Seo  
William Y. Sim  
*AABA Impact Award Recipients*

**\*\*\*Tickets are available for purchase at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com) through  
September 8, 2017.\*\*\***

Additional information on sponsorship and advertisement opportunities  
can be found in this newsletter.

[Click here for the web version.](#)

Texas Minority Counsel Program

**November 8-10, 2017** Austin, Texas  
 Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol



# HOUSTON TMCP SAVE-THE- DATE RECEPTION

The State Bar of Texas Minority Affairs invites you to a complimentary networking event!

Thursday, August 24, 2017  
 5:30-7:30 p.m.

609 Main Street  
 2nd Floor, Double Apollo Room  
 Houston, TX 77002

RSVP by Thursday, August 17  
[rsvp.tmcphouston@gmail.com](mailto:rsvp.tmcphouston@gmail.com) or  
[RSVP by Google Form](#)

**SPONSORED BY:**

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SMYSER KAPLAN  
& VESELKA, L.L.P.

**STUART** PC

**SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.**

- Don't forget to bring your business cards
- Must be present to win door prizes
- Suggested attire is business
- Parking is available in the Binz Garage at the intersection of Texas and Main; nearby street parking is free after 6 p.m.

**What is the Texas Minority Counsel Program (TMCP)?** The TMCP is the premier client development, networking, and CLE event for attorneys in Texas. The TMCP was created in 1993 with the mission of increasing opportunities for diverse attorneys. Please join us at this reception to learn more about the program!

Join us November 8-10 in Austin for the 25th Annual Texas Minority Counsel Program

**Register Now**

and discover why the TMCP has become a premier event for attorneys in Texas!

**Connect with us!**



[State Bar of Texas](#) | 1414 Colorado St., Suite 502 | Austin, TX 78701 | [Privacy Policy](#)

Please [go here to opt-out](#) from receiving this mailing from Office of Minority Affairs.



## AABA Project Blueprint Grant Application

The AABA is seeking to promote Asian-American leadership in the Houston community by awarding a **\$500 grant** to an attorney ("Recipient") to attend the United Way of Greater Houston's Project Blueprint program and who is committed to joining the board of one or more nonprofit or public sector organizations in the Houston area.

Project Blueprint is a ten (10) week United Way program running from March to May 2018, designed to prepare diverse leadership candidates to take on impactful leadership roles in nonprofit and public sector boards and committees upon completion of the program. The tuition for Project Blueprint is \$650.00, and the AABA Grant is designed to offset most of the cost. As a representative of the AABA, the Recipient will be expected to use his or her best efforts to attend the full ten (10) week Project Blueprint program, and thereafter actively seek opportunities to join at least one nonprofit board or public sector committee in the Houston area.

The Recipient will receive a **\$500.00** award from the AABA, paid directly to the Project Blueprint program. The Recipient will be responsible for completing the online application for Project Blueprint (available on the United Way website at <https://www.unitedwayhouston.org/nonprofit-connection/leadership-development>), and paying the balance of the Project Blueprint program fee.<sup>1</sup>

Application for the Grant is open to all AABA members in good standing. Consideration will be given for past service to the AABA, AABF and non-profits servicing the Asian and Asian American community.

Please note: To apply for the AABA Grant, submit a completed form by **Tuesday, October 10, 2017.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

State Bar Number \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Legal Experience \_\_\_\_\_

Law School (include Graduation Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Check current practice setting: ☐ Large/mid-size firm ☐ Solo/Small Firm  
☐ In-House Counsel ☐ Government/Public Interest

List Current Practice Areas: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach (1) your resume and (2) a narrative describing any prior service to the AABA, AABF, or other nonprofit organization, and your motivation for attending Project Blueprint. You may also include any relevant information the committee should know.**

**Please mail or e-mail your completed form and the materials above to:**

Albert Liou  
Jones Day  
717 Texas, Suite 3300  
Houston, TX 77002  
E-mail: [aliou@jonesday.com](mailto:aliou@jonesday.com)

<sup>1</sup> The AABA reserves the right to withdraw the Grant award if the Recipient is not admitted into Project Blueprint.





**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**JUDICIAL SPONSORSHIP (for current sitting members of the judiciary only) - \$350**

- ◆ Two tickets to the Gala
- ◆ Quarter page black and white advertisement in the printed Gala program

**SOLO & SMALL FIRM UNDERWRITER (10 OR LESS ATTORNEYS) - \$750**

- ◆ Two tickets to the Gala

**BRONZE LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$2,000**

- ◆ Four tickets to the Gala

**SILVER LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$3,500**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table
- ◆ Logo display in the printed Gala program

**GOLD LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$5,000**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table with underwriter placard
- ◆ Two tickets to the VIP Reception preceding the Gala
- ◆ Logo display in the printed Gala program
- ◆ Underwriter recognition in AABA monthly newsletters for 1 year

**PLATINUM LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$7,500**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table with underwriter placard
- ◆ Four tickets to the VIP Reception preceding the Gala
- ◆ Half page black & white advertisement in the printed Gala program
- ◆ Underwriter recognition in AABA monthly newsletters for 1 year
- ◆ **Recognition as an Underwriter of the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**
- ◆ **Four tickets to attend the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**

**DIAMOND LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$10,000**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table with underwriter placard
- ◆ Six tickets to the VIP Reception preceding the Gala
- ◆ Full page COLOR advertisement in the printed Gala program
- ◆ Underwriter recognition in AABA monthly newsletters for 1 year
- ◆ **Recognition as an Underwriter of the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**
- ◆ **Six tickets to attend the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**

*All Underwriters for the Gala & Silent Auction will (1) receive special mention during the Gala dinner, (2) be named in the Gala slideshow presentation, and (3) be included in all printed promotional materials for the Gala including programs.*

*We sincerely appreciate your support!*



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**CORPORATE AND FIRM UNDERWRITER FORM**

Underwriter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your level of underwriting\*:

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$10,000 Diamond Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$7,500 Platinum Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$5,000 Gold Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$3,500 Silver Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$2,000 Bronze Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$750 Solo & Small Firm Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$350 Judicial Sponsorship\*\***

\*The AABA of Houston is a tax-exempt organization. However, contributions or gifts to the AABA of Houston are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

\*\*For current sitting members of the judiciary only.

Please return your completed form and check made payable to  
"AABA of Houston" by no later than **August 25, 2017** to:

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

*Questions? Feel free to contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com)  
Thank you for your interest and support.*



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

If you or your company are interested in purchasing an advertisement in the 2017 Gala & Silent Auction printed program, please complete the form below.

**THE DEADLINE TO PURCHASE AND SUBMIT AN ADVERTISEMENT IS AUGUST 25, 2017.**

**PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT FORM**

Name of Advertiser: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the size of your advertisement:

_____ Quarter page (4" x 5") black & white advertisement	\$250.00
_____ Half page (8" x 5") black & white advertisement	\$500.00
_____ Full page (8" x 11") color advertisement	\$1,000.00

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please return this form and your check made payable to "AABA of Houston" to:

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

- You will receive a confirmation of your sponsorship via email.
- Advertisement content may be sent via e-mail.
- Questions? Please contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com).



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**Advertisement Format Instructions**

- PDF (portable document format) or TIFF (tagged image file format) files are requested for all advertisement submissions.
- Color advertisement files should be created using CMYK (cyan-magenta-yellow-black).
- Preferred document format/application is Adobe Illustrator or Adobe Photoshop.

Size	Width	Depth
Full Page	8-1/2"	11"
Half Page horizontal	8-1/2"	5-1/2"
Quarter Page	4-1/4"	5-1/2"

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR AD AS A DIGITAL FILE  
BY NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 25, 2017**

**BY EMAIL TO:      [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com)**

**or by submitting the digital file on a CD and mailing it to:**

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

*Questions? Feel free to contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com)  
Thank you for your interest and support.*



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**TICKET RESERVATION FORM**

**You are encouraged to purchase tickets on-line using PayPal at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).**

**If paying by check, please use this form.**

**THE DEADLINE TO PURCHASE TICKETS IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2017.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Law School: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate the number of tickets below:**

**Law Student: \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ AABA Member: \$125 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member: \$150 \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

For nametag purposes, please list the name and affiliation (if any) of each attendee:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether a vegetarian meal is requested: \_\_\_\_\_ (# of vegetarian meals)

Please return your completed form and check made payable to “**AABA of Houston**”  
by no later than **September 1, 2017** to:

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

- You will receive a confirmation of your ticket reservation via email.
- Interested in joining the AABA? Membership forms are available at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).
- Questions? Please contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com). Thank you for your support.




**Many Thanks to the AABA's Top  
Underwriters of 2016-2017!**

**PLATINUM UNDERWITER**

**GARDERE**

**GOLD UNDERWRITERS**

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