

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.

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SEVENTH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL DINNER

On November 3, 2011, the AABA of Houston held the Seventh Annual Corporate Counsel Dinner at Brennan's of Houston, featuring Special Guest Speaker Sherry Williams, Senior Vice President, Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer of Halliburton. Approximately 45 AABA members were in attendance. Special thanks to our Corporate Counsel Committee for making this event a success!



Audrey Chang and Sherry Williams



Audrey Chang, Steve Bae, and Tara Williams

**2011
COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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CORPORATE COUNSEL DINNER



Todd Chen, Judy Liu, and Joyce Kao Soliman



Jennifer Lin and Anna Ha



Eunice Song, Anna Ha, Sherry Williams, and Audrey Chang

CORPORATE COUNSEL DINNER



Kristen Golden and Joy Al-Jazrawi



Dat Tran, Todd Chen, Chris Lee,
Albert Liou, and Daniel Chen



John Tsai and Alex Chae



David Kuo, Carmen Ng, and Erick Wang



Kay-Linh Pham and Mark Lee



The attendees at Brennan's of Houston

Upcoming AABA Events

December

Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive

December 17, 2011

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Palace Lanes

Please see attached flyer.

SideBar

CONGRATULATIONS to AABA member **Helene Dang!** Helene has been named as a partner at Foster Quan.

Job Opening

Litigation Associate

Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, L.L.P. seeks a 2-5 year litigation associate. This position is in our Houston office and requires dual license in Texas and Louisiana. Send resumes to JCarsey@thompsoncoe.com.



2011 NAPABA Annual Convention

AABA members Daniel Hu and Catherine Than attended the 2011 Napaba Annual Convention at the Omni Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. Daniel and Catherine served on the "Sustaining, Renewing, and Growing Your Affiliate's Pro Bono Clinic" panel where they spoke about pro bono efforts of the AABA of Houston.



Jennifer Bensman (*Catholic Charities*), Chris Chan (*D.C.*), Daniel Hu, Catherine Than, and Judge Wong (*Atlanta*).

AABA SILENT AUCTION

Dear AABA Members and Friends,

We are excited to advise you that the AABA Silent Auction raised \$8,027.00 for the AABF this year! Thank you to all our generous donors and bidders for making this possible. A special thank you to all of our Silent Auction volunteers including, but not limited to, Brenda Dang, Lily Leal, Jennifer Fung, Joseph Tung, Catherine Than, Quan Vu, Carmen Ng, Jason Luong, Mai Lu and Nathalie Nguyen. We look forward to seeing you all at next year's event.

Warmest,
Juvie A. Cruz
VP of Development

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary, Jane Nguyen Vuong, at jnv@njclaw.com.



Annual Holiday Party & Toy Drive

***Come join the AABA of Houston in celebrating the holidays at our
Annual Holiday Party & Toy Drive!***



Palace Bowling Lanes
4191 Bellaire Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77025



Saturday, December 17, 2011

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Lunch will be provided!



This event is FREE for AABA Members and their families.
Non-Members will be charged \$20. Children under 12 are FREE.

All attendees are encouraged to bring an unwrapped gift for a child as part of the AABA's traditional toy drive benefiting Asian American Family Services. School and art supplies are also appreciated.



RSVP on www.aabahouston.com by December 16, 2011.

We hope to see you there!

ASIAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

SPRING 2012 INTERNSHIPS

For Undergraduate, Graduate, and Law Students

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF), founded in 1974, is the first organization on the East Coast to protect and promote the legal rights of Asian Americans through litigation, legal advocacy, and community education. For more information about AALDEF, please visit our website at www.aaldef.org.

Spring internships are available for the following program areas (open to all unless otherwise noted):

Economic Justice for Workers: Provide legal advocacy and direct representation on behalf of Asian immigrant workers experiencing wage-and-hour, retaliation, and workplace safety violations in the restaurant, beauty/nail salon, and domestic worker industries, among others. Undergraduate interns will perform research and community outreach.

New Jersey Asian American Legal Project: Community outreach, education, and legal services to Asian Americans in New Jersey, as well as community organizing and litigation on employment-related claims for Asian immigrant workers in New Jersey. Must have Gujarati or Korean language ability.

Educational Equity and Youth Rights: legal services, policy work, community education, research and litigation concerning educational equity, juvenile justice, language access, and anti-Asian harassment.

Housing & Environmental Justice Project: responsibilities include coordinating multi-city land use survey, community outreach, and general support for community planning and anti-displacement projects.

Immigrant Access to Justice: litigation, legal services, and organizing/outreach with communities impacted by 9-11, including special interest detainees, special registration, voluntary interviews by the government, the 9-11 absconder initiative, and local and state enforcement of immigration laws.

Voting Rights: legal research and fact development under the Voting Rights Act and Equal Protection Clause challenging anti-Asian voter discrimination, advocacy on bilingual ballots, and the redrawing of local, state and federal district lines; produce reports and organize public forums; assist in organizing legal trainings.

Description of Internships:

Interns are supervised by attorneys and/or AALDEF staff in specific program areas. These internships are not paid positions, but academic credit can be arranged. Interns work anywhere between 8 to 25 hours per week. Internships usually commence with the start of classes (end of January) through late April/early May.

To Apply:

Any bilingual ability should be stated in the resume. Bilingual ability is helpful but not required. Applications should also state the number of hours the intern is able to work per week and which program area(s) you are interested in. Email applications are accepted. Deadline **December 1, 2011**, applications received after deadline will be considered on a rolling basis. Send a resume and cover letter (law students should include a writing sample) to:

AALDEF Spring Intern Search
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)
99 Hudson Street, 12th floor, New York, New York 10013-2815
Fax: 212-966-4303 or Email: info@aaldef.org

For more information, contact Jennifer Weng at 212-966-5932, ext. 212 or jweng@aaldef.org.

SPRING 2012 INTERNSHIP - DEFENDING ASIAN AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS for Undergraduate, Graduate, and Law Students

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) protects and promotes the civil rights of Asian Americans through litigation, advocacy, and community education. Spring internships are available for college, graduate, and law students in AALDEF's Voting Rights Program.

In prior elections, Asian Americans faced a series of barriers in exercising their right to vote; for example, ballots have been mistranslated listing Democratic candidates as Republicans and vice versa, lack of interpreters, denial of language assistance, and rude/hostile poll workers. AALDEF's Voting Rights Program aims to enhance the political participation of Asian Americans and guard against anti-Asian voter discrimination.

Voting Rights Interns work on the following:

Legal research and writing on Asian American voting rights, under the Voting Rights Act and Help American Vote Act, and 14th Amendment. Advocate for full compliance with the Voting Rights Act and federal Constitution, by analyzing election monitoring reports. The Voting Rights Act mandates Chinese and Korean language voting assistance and forbids anti-Asian voter discrimination. This includes legal research and writing, fact pattern development, and working with clients and witnesses for possible litigation. Legal research and writing on minority representation in the redrawing of voting district boundaries for City Council, State Legislative, and Congressional districts. Review monitoring reports from past elections in NY, NJ, TX, MA, PA, IL, GA and NV to document the use of bilingual ballots. Assess local elections compliance with settlements reached in voting rights lawsuits in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and other states. Registering new voters after citizenship swearing-in ceremonies. Conduct research and advocacy on local, state and federal election reform proposals.

Description of Internships:

Supervision: Interns are supervised by attorneys through regular meetings and trainings.

Compensation: These internships are not paid positions, but academic credit can be arranged.

Hours: Interns work anywhere between 12 to 25 hours per week in the office.

Duration: Spring internships usually follow the spring semester, commencing with the start of classes (end of January) to the first or second week of May.

To Apply:

Bilingual ability is helpful but not required. Students with language ability in Korean, Bengali, Urdu, Punjabi, or Chinese are especially welcome to apply and languages (if any) should be stated in the resume. Applicants should also state the number of hours they can work per week and a possible schedule.

Send a resume and cover letter to:

Voting Rights Spring Intern Search
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)
99 Hudson Street, 12th floor
New York, New York 10013-2815
Fax: 212-966-4303
Email: info@aaldef.org

For more information, contact Glenn D. Magpantay at 212-966-5932, ext. 206 or gmagpantay@aaldef.org.

Join us for a Legal Round-Up

NCVAA 2012

Houston, Texas, May 18 -19, 2012



The National Conference for Vietnamese American Attorneys 2012 (“NCVAA”) is pleased to announce that this year’s conference will be held **May 18-19, 2012** in **Houston, Texas**. On behalf of the conference committee, we ask for your support.

This year’s conference, based on the theme “Legal Round-Up,” marks the sixth occasion Vietnamese American attorneys from all over the nation will convene to discuss issues and experiences of interest to the Vietnamese legal community. This is the first time the NCVAA will be held in Texas.

The Houston Conference Committee is thrilled to show southern hospitality to our colleagues and friends. The conference will commence with a Welcome Reception on the evening of May 18. The full-day conference will take place on May 19 at Norris Conference Centers, City Centre, 803 Town and Country Blvd., Suite 210, Houston, Texas 77024 and will feature a series of esteemed speakers and panelists. A block of rooms are on hold on a limited basis with Hotel Sorella, 800 Sorella Court, Houston, Texas 77024, which is immediately adjacent to the Norris Conference Center, for conference attendees and guests.

The conference will conclude with a Banquet Dinner at Fung’s Kitchen, 7320 Southwest Freeway, Suite 115, Houston, Texas 77074, and two local law students will be presented with scholarships in recognition of their commitment to the Vietnamese American community.

This event provides opportunities to network with prominent judges, attorneys, government officials, and scholars. To learn more about NCVAA, please visit our website at www.ncvaa.org.

We hope you will support NCVAA 2012 and join us for the reception, conference, and/or dinner. The levels of sponsorship are attached for your review. A member of NCVAA will be contacting you in the near future to discuss your potential sponsorship. For your convenience, we have also included a Save the Date and the Conference Registration Package information.

We are very excited about this event, and hope to count on your generous support.

If you would like to be included on the NCVAA ListServ, please e-mail Catherine Than at CThan@bickerstaff.com with your contact information.

Executive Board

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2012 SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Law Firm/Corporation/Org. : _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

YES, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO THIS EVENT!

<input type="checkbox"/> Presenting Sponsor \$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized at Opening Breakfast and Banquet Name recognition on website, conference materials, and dinner program Exclusive opportunity for remarks on stage at conference or dinner; booth space and/or product displays; and radio and media exposure Signage rights and full cover page ad on conference materials and dinner program 10 Tickets to Welcome Reception; 5 Tickets to Conference; 10 Tickets (one table) to Banquet
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Sponsor \$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized at Opening Breakfast and Banquet Name recognition on website, conference materials, and dinner program Full page ad in conference materials and dinner program 6 Tickets to Welcome Reception; 2 Tickets to Conference; 6 Tickets to Banquet
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor \$1,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized at Opening Breakfast and Banquet Name recognition on website, conference materials, and dinner program Half page ad in conference materials and dinner program 4 Tickets to Welcome Reception; 2 Tickets to Conference; 4 Tickets to Banquet
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor \$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized at Opening Breakfast and Banquet Name recognition on website, conference materials, and dinner program Quarter page ad in conference materials and dinner program 2 Tickets to Welcome Reception; 2 Tickets to Conference; 2 Tickets to Banquet
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Sponsor \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized at Opening Breakfast and Banquet Name recognition on website, conference materials, and dinner program 1 Ticket to Welcome Reception; 1 Ticket to Conference; 2 Tickets to Banquet
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Friendship Sponsor \$1,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Tickets (one table) to Banquet Recognized at Banquet </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Sponsor \$500 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Tickets to Banquet Recognized at Banquet </div> </div>	

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

☐ A check is enclosed for: \$_____. ☐ A check for \$_____ will be mailed by _____ [date].

☐ We cannot commit as a sponsor at this time, but we'd like to enclose a donation for: \$_____.

Please make checks payable to: "NCVAA" and mail to: NCVAA, c/o Duy Thai, 351 California St., Suite 550, San Francisco, CA 94104.

Our Federal Tax ID # is 27-3630527. Reservations held at the door; tickets will not be mailed.
 For more information, please contact Catherine Than, (713) 395-1681/cthan@bickerstaff.com
 Please visit www.ncvaa.org for the Program Schedule and Ad submission requirements and instructions.

INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICES		General	Government; Nonprofit; Students
Early Registration Package (by March 30, 2012) (1 ticket to Welcome Reception, Conference, and Banquet)		\$225	\$175
Regular Registration Package (after March 30, 2012) (1 ticket to Welcome Reception, Conference, and Banquet)		\$285	\$225
Individual Tickets			
	Welcome Reception (Friday, May 18, 2012)	\$50	\$40
	Conference (Saturday, May 19, 2012)	\$200	\$150
	Banquet (stand alone ticket)	\$75	\$60
	Banquet (companion ticket for Package Registrant)	\$60	\$60

GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!



Name: Samantha Tung

Firm: Major, Lindsey & Africa

Practice Areas: In-House Practice Group

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

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . cheese flavored crickets...certainly not to be confused with Cheetos.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . eating, watching the Food Network, cooking/baking, festivals, kickboxing, traveling/road trips and hanging out with friends and family.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . "Road to Hana"

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . Philippe's...and Star Snow.

The coolest store in Houston is . . . The Container Store. I have no idea why empty boxes intrigue me.

The sports team(s) I root for is/are . . . Dallas Cowboys and Mavericks.

My decade for music is the _____ and my favorite song is . . . I love music from all decades so it really just depends on my mood.

My favorite quote is . . . "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the things you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."
—Mark Twain

Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . am abnormally strong for a person my size.

You forgot to ask me about . . . my infatuation with food trucks. I would probably eat anything off a truck.

Many thanks to our 2011-2012 Major Underwriters!

Platinum Dragon Underwriter



Gold Dragon Underwriters



BRACEWELL
& GIULIANI

PORTER
HEDGES LLP

BAKER BOTTS LLP



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



The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2011 and 2012!

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!

Zack S. Huang
Lin & Valdez, LLP



www.aabahouston.com

Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2011 Membership Application/Renewal

- ☐ \$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 ☐ No

Would you like your business contact information published in the 2011 AABA Directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I hereby consent to the receipt of notice of meeting through electronic means. ☐ Yes ☐ No

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 Erick Wang at (713) 425-8423.

*Transitional attorneys refers to those attorneys currently not employed.