

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.

### 2005 AABA Gala & Silent Auction - Hotel Derek August 26, 2005

The AABA proudly celebrated its 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary with a gala & silent auction on August 26, 2005 at the Hotel Derek. Jan Jeffcoat of Fox 26 News graciously served as mistress of ceremonies for the event honoring Houston's legal, corporate and government leaders. Following a cocktail reception, silent auction and banquet dinner, Larry Tu, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Dell, Inc., delivered the evening's keynote speech addressing diversity in the legal profession. Featured guests included Council Member Gordon Quan and Texas State Representative Hubert Vo, who delivered the city and state proclamations.



AABA President Hoang Quan Vu, Mistress of Ceremonies Jan Jeffcoat, Antje Gee, AABA Impact Award Honoree Harry Gee, Jr. and President-Elect Andrea Tran



Senior Vice President and General Counsel Lawrence Tu of Dell, Inc. is presented an award by Gala Co-Chair Warren Huang following his keynote speech.

A highlight of the celebration was the presentation of the inaugural Impact Award to Harry Gee, Jr., one of the founders of the AABA. Over 300 guests attended the 2005 Gala & Silent Auction which proved to be the most successful fundraising event in the history of the AABA. A portion of the proceeds from the event will go to the Asian American Bar Foundation (AABF), dedicated to serving the Asian American and legal communities.



Board Member Joseph Yao, Glenna Yao, NAPABA President Michael Chu, Secretary Emily Kuo and Michael Chu



Asian Chamber of Commerce Secretary Alice Chen, Council Member Gordon Quan and Andrea Tran

## 2005 AABA Gala & Silent Auction



Gala Committee members Steve Bae with wife Maggie, Andrea Tran, Daniel Chen, Emily Nguyen with husband Peter.



Gala Co-Chair Jason Luong with Texas State Representative Hubert Vo



Jason Luong presents the inaugural AABA Impact Award to Harry Gee, Jr.



Treasurer Kristy Ton and Law School Liaison Daniel Chen



Vice President of Networking Jenny Phan and Emily Kuo



Jason Luong, Emily Kuo, Hoang Quan Vu, Lawrence Tu, Andrea Tran, Immediate Past President Lola Lin and Warren Huang

## We thank the following supporters of The 2005 AABA Gala & Silent Auction

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State Bar of Texas  
Team Litigation Company  
The Honorable Randy Wilson  
Westlaw  
Ted Wu, Esq.

We also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of

**Co-Chairs Warren Huang and Jason Luong**

**And the 2005 AABA Gala & Silent Auction Committee**

Steve Bae  
Daniel Chen  
Helene Dang  
Lynn Kramer  
Emily Kuo  
Emily Nguyen  
Jennifer Phan

Seema Puri  
Catherine Than  
Kristy Ton  
Andrea Tran  
Joseph Tung  
Hoang Quan Vu

## OPPORTUNITY

Nokia Inc. - Legal Counsel (Irving, TX) -  
This position will provide legal support for the corporate procurement business group, Americas region. ORS manages Nokia's relationships with its suppliers for Nokia's indirect sourcing transactions. The support will primarily consist of drafting and negotiating commercial agreements, providing advice on a variety of commercial legal issues, and providing client training. General Requirements include 3-5 year attorney with a broad range of experience in commercial transactions, ideally with exposure to high-technology transactions, product support matters, telecommunications law, software licensing, basic employment law, and intellectual property issues in a commercial transaction context.

**Skill and Educational Requirements:**  
Experience drafting, negotiating contracts for a variety of commercial transactions, including licensing, consulting services, temporary labor, and outsourcing. Excellent verbal, written, and interpersonal communication skills. Ability to interface with outside and opposing counsel and internal clients. Ability to function and thrive as part of a cross functional team. Ability to work independently. Ability to develop and maintain strong working relationships with business clients. Good understanding of purchasing law. Basic understanding of intellectual property issues as they apply to software and information technology transactions. Understanding of the fundamentals of employment law. Ability to analyze issues and propose solutions. Ability to efficiently manage large volume of transactions. Good time management, prioritization and organizational skills. Computer literate and proficient with Microsoft Word. Three to five years in a firm and/or corporation, preferably working in a fast paced corporate legal/transaction group for a telecommunications or technology company. J. D. from an accredited law school. Admission to and in good standing with a state bar.

To apply on-line, go to:  
[www.careers.nokia.com](http://www.careers.nokia.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 11, 2005 (Sunday) - Wills Writing Clinic

Chinese Community Center  
9800 Town Park  
1:00-4:00 P.M.

Contact: Joseph Tung at [jtung@seyfarthshaw.com](mailto:jtung@seyfarthshaw.com) or  
713.225.2344

September 15, 2005 (Thursday) - AABA/NAAAP Mixer

### AABA/NAAAP

### Joint Networking Mixer at



911 Franklin Street  
(between Travis & Main St.)  
Houston, TX 77002 • 713.228.2990

Thursday, September 15, 2005  
6:30 PM

Complimentary appetizer buffet and  
happy hour drink prices provided

Please RSVP with Jenny Phan  
Tel: 713.241.2208 or  
Email: [Jennifer.Phan@shell.com](mailto:Jennifer.Phan@shell.com)

September 18, 2005 (Sunday) - Living Wills Seminar

VN Teamwork  
11210 Bellaire, Suite 118  
2:00-4:00 P.M.

Contact: Helene Dang at 713.625.9283 or  
e-mail [hdang@quanlaw.com](mailto:hdang@quanlaw.com)

## COMMUNITY

**HBA Katrina Disaster Relief Effort.** As we learn more of the devastation Hurricane Katrina has caused and continues to cause our Gulf Coast neighbors, the AABA, Houston Bar Association (HBA) and the Houston Bar Foundation (HBF) believe it is imperative we act swiftly and in unity to reach out with help to our colleagues and their communities. The AABA is joining with the HBA to collect funds to deliver to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund designated specifically for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Please forward your (tax deductible) check payable to the Asian American Bar Association with the notation "ARC" or "American Red Cross" to P.O. Box 1554, Houston, Texas 77251. Along with contribution from its members, the AABA will also make a donation to the relief effort. Additionally, we would like to solicit volunteer bilingual attorneys, including Vietnamese speaking attorneys, to offer legal advice to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. If you would like to offer such pro bono services, please contact Daniel Hu at Daniel.Hu@usdoj.gov. Please visit [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org) to learn about the many ways you can assist the HBA in the citywide relief effort.

**Openings on Texas State Bar Committees.** The Texas State Bar is looking to diversify its various State Bar Committees with Asian American attorneys. There are apparently a number of Committees with openings (please check [www.texasbar.com](http://www.texasbar.com) for a listing of current openings). If you would like to be considered this year for appointment to a Texas State Bar Committee, including the Immigration Committee, please contact Ray Cantu at [rcantu@texasbar.com](mailto:rcantu@texasbar.com).

**Cities in Transition: Asian/Pacific Islander American Conference.** Partners for Livable Communities has teamed up with the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), the City of Houston and all of the conference co-sponsors to build a platform that showcases the Asian Pacific Islander American Community as an asset to America's future. The conference will be held on September 21-23, 2005 at the Hilton Americas. For details, visit [www.livable.com/prgms\\_ongoing/apia.htm](http://www.livable.com/prgms_ongoing/apia.htm) or contact Laura Tan (202.887.5990) at [ltan@livable.com](mailto:ltan@livable.com).

**Aloha Fest 2005.** The fourth annual Polynesian Festival in Clear Lake will take place on October 1, 2005 at the Landolt Pavilion in Clear Lake Park, Nasa Rd. 1 (or also known as Nasa Parkway). The Aloha Fest features Polynesian entertainment with music and dances from Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti and New Zealand. Several Polynesian Revue groups will be coming from Bedford, San Antonio, Tomball, Spring, Houston and Sugar Land to perform the island dance art for you. Concession stands and craft booths will have island style foods and merchandise. Festival will open from 10:00am to 6:00pm. Admission is \$4.00 per person, children 10 years and younger are free. Come share the "Spirit of Aloha" and spend the day on the "Island of Houston". For more information, please log onto [www.alohafesttexas.com](http://www.alohafesttexas.com). Eddie Bruss may also be contacted about this event at 281.332.0360 or [alohafest@earthlink.net](mailto:alohafest@earthlink.net).

**13th Annual TMCP.** The Texas Minority Counsel Program (TMCP) is a client development and CLE event that promotes diversity in the legal profession. The conference will take place on October 13 and 14 at the Doubletree Downtown Hotel in Houston. Register and take part in the informational interviews with representatives of major companies seeking attorneys who can provide legal counsel to their respective companies. By participating in the program, you can also earn up to 9.5 hours of MCLE credit (including 5.00 hours of ethics). Additional networking opportunities in the form of luncheons, receptions, and free-time periods are scheduled over the day-and-a-half long event. For more information about the Texas Minority Counsel Program, including registration forms, a schedule of events (including CLE topics and speakers), and information about the golf tournament and Thursday night networking activity, please visit [www.texasbar.com/tmcp](http://www.texasbar.com/tmcp). If you have any questions, please contact the State Bar Office of Minority Affairs at (800) 204-2222, ext. 2738, or [minorityaffairs@texasbar.com](mailto:minorityaffairs@texasbar.com).

**TSF Charity Golf Tournament.** Charity Golf Tournament benefiting the Students of Texas Scholarship Foundation at Blackhorse Golf Club will be held on Monday, October 24, 2005. All proceeds from this tournament will go towards scholarships and buses for disadvantaged students. For information on how to register or become a sponsor, please contact Lynn Stewart at [lstewart@collierstexas.com](mailto:lstewart@collierstexas.com). Please visit [www.texas scholarshipfoundation.org](http://www.texas scholarshipfoundation.org) for information regarding the Texas Scholarship Foundation.

If you would like to publicize any opportunities, community events or SIDEBAR news, please contact Andrea Tran at 713.767.1598 or by e-mail at [atran@powersfrost.com](mailto:atran@powersfrost.com).



## Annual Convention Highlights

### **Thursday October 20th**

NAPABA/NLF Board Meetings  
NAPABA Bar Leadership Institute  
Welcome Reception  
Leadership Advisory Council Dinner  
Regional Governors/Affiliate Bar Leadership Dinner  
NAPALSA Off-Site Event: Pizza and Pins (bowling, that is)

### **Friday October 21st**

EXPO and Job Fair  
NAPALSA Business Meeting (morning sessions)  
Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition  
CLE Programming  
Unveiling of Clarence Lee's Lunar New Year Stamp Series by USPS General Counsel and Executive Vice President Mary Anne Gibbons  
Friday Luncheon: featured speaker ~ U.S. Senator Barack Obama (IL)  
Trailblazer Awards Program - Chicago Cultural Center  
Partners/In-House Counsel Dinner  
Civil Rights/Public Sector Dinner  
Late Night with Bud

### **Saturday October 22nd**

Women's Leadership Forum Award Program ~ Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan  
Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition - Final Round - IL Supreme Court Courthouse  
EXPO and Job Fair  
CLE Programming  
Committee Meetings  
Saturday Luncheon: featured speaker ~ U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Ilana Rovner (7th Circuit)  
Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition Awards Reception  
Installation Banquet & President's Party

### **Sunday October 23rd**

Plenary Breakfast  
NAPALSA Board Meeting

**Please visit [www.napaba.org](http://www.napaba.org) to learn more about NAPABA or to register for the convention. For more specific information, contact: Amy Lin Meyerson, NAPABA President-Elect at [ameyerson@optonline.net](mailto:ameyerson@optonline.net) or 203.232.4322.**

## 2005 OFFICERS

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## MEMBERSHIP

We are now accepting members for 2006! Please take a moment to download the membership form from [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com) and send it to AABA, Attn: CTT, P.O. Box 1554, Houston, TX 77251. Membership is at no cost to law students and retired attorneys, and ranges from \$ 25.00 to \$ 75.00 annually for attorneys, depending on number of years in practice. We are pleased to introduce an auxiliary membership, at a reduced cost of \$25.00 annually, for attorneys who reside and practice outside the Greater Houston area.

For information regarding membership, please contact Catherine Than at 713.252.7297 or e-mail [membership@aabahouston.com](mailto:membership@aabahouston.com).

The AABA welcomes the following new members

**Linda Bui-Palermo**  
*Daw & Ray, P.C.*

**Christine Nguyen**  
*Attorney At Law*

**Michael Cao**  
*Attorney At Law*

**Anuj Shah**  
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**Trang Tran**  
*Tran Law Firm*

**Joanna Miller**  
*Fahl & Takeuchi*

## SIDEBAR

Alex Chae, trial partner with Gardere, Wynne & Sewell LLP and former AABA President, is running for Vice President of Membership for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) for 2005-2006. Alex currently serves as the Southwest Regional Director of NAPABA.