

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.

ASIAN AMERICAN BAR FOUNDATION LAUNCH PARTY

On July 26, 2006, the AABA and the Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Associates proudly sponsored an evening at Tropicca Tea & Coffee in Midtown to celebrate the establishment of Houston's newest charitable foundation, the Asian American Bar Foundation (AABF). AABF President Patricia Lin announced that the AABF will be awarding a law student scholarship and an Asian American legal access grant at the AABA's annual Gala and Silent Auction on Friday, September 29, 2006. The scholarship and the grant will be awarded respectively to the student and the organization that best embody the AABF's mission to promote Asian American participation in the local bench and bar and to provide legal benefits and services to the Asian American community of the Greater Houston area. For applications, please see the attached forms below or contact Patricia Lin at PatriciaLin@chevron.com.



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AABF LAUNCH PARTY (Continued)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NAPABA is now accepting nominations for this year's "Best Lawyers Under 40" Award. The submission deadline is 8.11.06. For details, contact Jim Goh (Chair, Selection Committee) at jgoh@hollandhart.com or visit <http://www.napaba.org/uploads/napaba/BU402006APP.DOC>.

The Texas General Counsel Forum is seeking nominations in a variety of categories for its first annual Magna Stella Awards, a statewide recognition for in-house counsel excellence. The submission deadline is 8.15.06. For details, visit www.txgcf.org or contact Becky Mayad at bmayad@sbcglobal.net or 214.352.1881.

The Asian American Bar Association of Houston
is proud to announce the official launch of the



The Austin Asian American Bar Association
(AAABA) would like to invite you to attend their
Membership Kick-Off Reception

Thursday, August 17, 2006
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Clay Pit Restaurant
1601 Guadalupe – 512.322.5131

Please RSVP by contacting Hong Tran at htran@texasbar.com or
512.463.1463 ext. 2155.

If you would like to join or be more involved with AAABA, please contact
Lisa Tsai at ltsai@diamondmccarthy.com or 512.617.5200.

AABA *of Houston* & **PEMBERTON LEGAL SEARCH**

PRESENT

THE EMPLOYMENT LAW & FLSA SEMINAR: WHAT SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WAGE & HOUR ISSUES



**Tuesday, August 29, 2006 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Chinese Community Center – 9800 Town Park**

Please join us for a two-hour workshop on critical workplace obligations for employers. The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage & Hour Division intends to step up its enforcement activities in the Houston area. We will begin with a presentation by a representative of the Wage & Hour Division, who will discuss the scope of these activities and the government's priorities for the future. Then, we will present a panel discussion of wage and hour experts, who will discuss the basics of wage and hour compliance, avoidance of common pitfalls, and other compliance tips for employers. Specific topics may include tipping pools, the "working" manager, recordkeeping, penalties for noncompliance, and other questions that may arise during the discussion. We welcome business owners, managers, human resources or payroll professionals, and others who want to make sure that their companies are in compliance with these legal obligations.

Featured Panelists

David Quan - Law Office of David J. Quan

Trang Q. Tran – Tran Law Firm LLP

Nancy Bush – Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

Michael J. Muskat – Muskat, Martinez & Mahoney, LLP

Moderated by: Michelle Cash, Pemberton Legal Search

For more information, please contact Lynn Kramer at 713.222.4020 or lkramer@munsch.com

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) and
The Association of Women Attorneys (AWA)

Cordially Invite You to Attend the



AABA/AWA Joint Happy Hour

Wednesday, August 30, 2006 @ 6:00 p.m.

Zake Sushi Lounge
2946 S. Shepherd Dr.

*Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres
Drinks for AABA & AWA members generously provided by*



For questions or to RSVP, please contact Daniel Chen at danielhchen@hotmail.com

2006 AABA GALA & SILENT AUCTION

InterContinental Hotel

September 29, 2006

Keynote Speaker

Catherine Lamboley

**Senior Vice-President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
Shell Oil Company**

2nd Annual AABA Impact Award Recipient

Gordon Quan

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact
Jason Luong at jluong@skv.com or
Judy Liu at Judy.Liu@Centerpointenergy.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

August 9, 2006: The Asian Chamber of Commerce of Houston will be holding its monthly luncheon at the Westin Galleria, 5060 West Alabama, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. The guest speaker will be Harris County District Clerk Charles Bacarisse. Admission is \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. For more information, visit www.asianchamber-hou.org.

August 12, 2006: Asians Against Domestic Abuse, a non-profit organization providing free confidential support to Asian American women and their children in the Greater Houston area, will be holding a masquerade ball, auction, and raffle to benefit the organization. The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Westin Oaks Hotel, 5011 Westheimer. For more information, visit www.aadainc.org or call 713.962.7896 / 832.465.7030.

August 17-20, 2006: The NAAAP will be hosting its 20th Annual National Convention at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Washington. The convention is open to both the general public and NAAAP members. The theme of this year's convention is "Making Waves." The program will spotlight Asian American leaders who continue to make positive waves within their communities through leadership, innovation, and community service. There will be over 18 workshops/seminars/panel discussions, as well as keynote speakers, a National Diversity Career Fair (featuring 50+ corporate sponsors), entertainment events, and city tours and activities. To register for the convention or to find out more information, visit www.naaapconvention.org.

SIDEBAR

Congratulations to AABA member and former AABA President Trang Q. Tran of the Tran Law Firm LLP for his recent unanimous defense verdict in a patent infringement trial (C.A. No. Sa-03-CA-0832-RF, *Kinetic Concepts, Inc., KCI Licensing, Inc., KCI USA, Inc., and Wake Forest University Health Sciences v. Bluesky Medical Corporation, Medela AG, Medela, Inc., and Patient Care Systems, Inc.*; In the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division).

OPPORTUNITIES

SHELL – ATTORNEY/SENIOR COUNSEL – CREDIT CARD (HOUSTON, TEXAS)

Responsibilities: In this position, you will be responsible for providing legal support to the Shell retail credit card business, including both marketing and operational activities. Key responsibilities include: counseling on a range of commercial topics as well as significant contract negotiation, drafting and interpretation activities; collaborating with attorneys in Legal given that the credit card business is an integral part of Shell's wholesale and retail gasoline business; and having some familiarity with consumer credit issues will be helpful.

Requirements: To be considered for this position, you must be licensed to practice law in the State of Texas or able to obtain a license in a reasonable timeframe. You must have top law school academics with approximately 5 years practice experience (preferred). Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Must be able to interface effectively with all levels of management. Self-starter. Able to work independently and within team framework. Ability and readiness to engage with and to develop and sustain a close working relationship with the Credit Card and Retail businesses. Willingness to participate fully in contributing to Shell Legal.

To apply on-line, go to: http://www.shell.com/home/PlainPageServlet?FC=/careers-en/html/iwgen/experienced_professionals/job_search/app_job_search_0912.html. The application deadline is 8.12.06.

LOCAL RETAILER – ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL (HOUSTON, TEXAS)

A large local retailer is looking to hire an Associate General Counsel to handle transactional work, particularly in the area of real estate law, including leasing and financing. The candidate should have approximately 4-7 years of experience. Pay will be commensurate with experience. Interested candidates can fax their resumes to Matthew H. Hartzell, Vice-President and General Counsel for Smith & Associates, at 713.430.3079.

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION – NOTICE TO MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED LAW FIRMS

The ABA has been asked by a multinational law firm to identify minority or women-owned law firms in the U.S. with expertise in the areas of commercial litigation, product liability, government investigations, health care litigation, and/or trial work for the purpose of possible collaboration with this law firm for multinational clients. If you are a part of such a law firm and would like to explore this opportunity further, please have the managing partner contact Sandra S. Yamate at yamates@staff.abanet.org or 312.988.5638.

If you would like to publicize community news, job opportunities, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact Warren Huang at whuang@fulbright.com.

AABA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – JOSEPH A. ACAYAN, GIVENS & JOHNSTON, PLLC



Jay is an attorney at Givens & Johnston, PLLC, where he is an associate specializing in customs law and international trade. Givens & Johnston assists importers and exporters in complying with U.S. regulation of their inbound or outbound international movements of merchandise or equipment. Jay performed his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame, where he graduated in 1998, and received his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center in 2002.

Jay decided to become an attorney after working as a clerk at Givens & Johnston for a year after graduating from Notre Dame. Ultimately, according to Jay, the decision to become an attorney was the product of an even mixture of enjoyment and the desire to pay his rent on time. As to what he likes best about his job, Jay notes the diversity of the clients he represents and matters he handles as well as the travel. He finds the most challenging part of his job to be “divining a workable path through the gray areas of the law” and astutely observes that “[b]eing an advocate for a client is easy” but that “giving the right advice is always hard.” For fun, Jay likes to play golf and tennis and work-out. He enjoys good food in nice restaurants and, spoken like a true Houstonian, also enjoys finding good food in “hole-in-the-walls.”

MEMBERSHIP

Join us for another exciting year! Please take a moment to complete the 2006 Membership Form below and send it to AABA, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 1554, Houston, TX 77251. Our newly revised membership fees are:

- Free – Law Students/Retired Attorneys
- \$25.00 – Attorneys with less than 3 years in practice/In-House Counsel/Auxiliary Members*
- \$50.00 – Attorneys with 3 to 8 years in practice/Judges/Government Attorneys
- \$75.00 – Attorneys with 8+ years in practice

*Auxiliary membership is open to attorneys who do not reside and practice in the Greater Houston area.

Please send all inquiries about AABA membership to membership@aabahouston.com.

We welcome the following new and renewing members:

Bobby Bui
KPMG LLP

Patricia Lin
Chevron

- \$0 Law Student • Retired Attorney
 \$25 Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House Counsel • Auxiliary Member*
 \$50 Attorney with 3 to 8 years in practice • Judge • Government Attorney
 \$75 Attorney with 8+ years in practice

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Employer _____

Address _____

Office # _____ Home # _____

Fax # _____ E-Mail _____

Area(s) of Practice _____

Law School _____ Language(s) _____

How would you like to receive the AABA Newsletter? E-Mail Fax

Would you like your business contact information published in the 2006 AABA Directory? 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 Membership Programs Social/Networking Media Relations
 External Affairs/Community Service Corporate Counsel Law School Relations/Mentorship

Please make checks payable to **AABA** and submit application and fee to:

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

Please send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to
membership@aabahouston.com,
or contact Emily Kuo at (281) 775-4869.

*Auxiliary membership is open to attorneys who neither reside nor practice in the Greater Houston area.

2006 AABA Mentorship Form – Mentor

The Mentorship Program aims to match experienced attorneys with law students and/or attorneys with less than 2 years of experience to provide professional wisdom and guidance. Mentors are encouraged to meet with their Mentee once every month to six weeks. If you would like to participate in this program, please complete the form below.

Name _____

Employer _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____ State Bar Number _____

Law School _____

Year of Graduation _____

Year(s) in Practice _____

Practice Area(s) of Interest _____

Your Goals & Expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Please mail/fax completed forms to:

**Jane Nguyen Vuong
Law Office of Jane D. Nguyen, PLLC
6220 Westpark Drive, Suite 116,
Houston, TX 77057
Email: jnguyen@jdnlegal.com
Telephone: 713.780.4982 / Fax: 713.893.4981**