

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.

AABA HOSTS CLE SEMINAR ON DOING BUSINESS IN CHINA



On March 27, 2008, The AABA hosted its first continuing legal education program of the year on the subject of “Doing Business in China.” AABA members Tom Tong (Tong & Sung, P.C.) and Benjamin Bai (Jones Day) shared their expertise on a wide range of topics, including the general legal framework for doing business in China, the protection of intellectual property rights in China, and the impact cultural factors can have on the practice of law and commerce in China. Special thanks to Joyce Kao Soliman (AABA Vice-President of Programs) for organizing this educational event as well as Mayer Brown L.L.P. for graciously hosting the event and providing lunch for the attendees!

2008 OFFICERS

Catherine Than

President
*Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta,
L.L.P.*

Warren S. Huang

President-Elect
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.

Judy Y. Liu

Vice President of Membership
CenterPoint Energy Service Co., LLC

Joyce Kao Soliman

Vice President of Programs
Porter & Hedges, L.L.P.

Lynn Chuang Kramer

Vice President of Community Relations
Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

Jason Luong

Vice President of Development
Smyser Kaplan & Veselka, L.L.P.

Steve C. Bae

Treasurer
Deloitte

Julie Pi Evans

Secretary
David M. Verbit & Associates, P.C.

DIRECTORS

Hoang Quan Vu, Chair

Mayer Brown LLP

Alexander C. Chae

Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Honorable Theresa W. Chang

District Clerk of Harris County

Harry Gee, Jr.

Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Assoc.

Bruce Hiran

Monks & Hiran, P.C.

Daniel David Hu

U.S. Department of Justice

Emily T. Kuo

M. D. Anderson Services Corporation

Lola F. Lin

Air Liquide USA LLC

David E. Warden

Yetter & Warden, LLP

Honorable Ted H. Wu

Attorney at Law

Joseph D. Yao

Exxon Mobil

AABA CHINESE COOKING CLASS AT CENTRAL MARKET



2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

David Chang
Mayer Brown LLP

Kay-Linh Pham
Mayer Brown LLP

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee

Audrey Chang
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Eunice Song
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Gala Committee

Alison Chen
Andrews Kurth LLP

Sherry Scott
Vinson & Elkins, LLP

Corporate Counsel Committee

Tan Pham
Baker & McKenzie

Steve Wu
Chevron Products Company

Programs Committee

Joyce Kao Soliman
VP of Programs
Porter & Hedges, L.L.P.

Community Service and Pro Bono Committee

Lynn Chuang Kramer
VP of Community Relations
Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

AABA CHINESE COOKING CLASS (Con't)



On March 10, 2008, AABA members gathered at Central Market to learn how to prepare delicious Chinese dishes under the guidance of renowned local chef Dorothy Huang. Members learned, among other things, how to properly fold and pan-fry dumplings, why General Tso's Chicken is called General Tso's Chicken (sorry, you had to be there), and that being a terrific lawyer does not necessarily make you a terrific cook. Special thanks to AABA Social Committee Co-Chairs Kay-Linh Pham and David Chang for organizing this fun (and filling) event!

AABA CAREER NIGHT



**April 21, 2008
South Texas College of Law
Emily Sloan Room
Attendance Is Free**

6:00 P.M. – 6:40 P.M.

Panel 1: Workplace Etiquette and Do's and Don'ts

6:40 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Break-Out Session

7:00 P.M. – 7:40 P.M.

Panel 2: Choosing a Career Path

7:40 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Break-Out Session

As part of its annual Career Night presentation, the AABA is pleased to be hosting panel discussions addressing two significant issues facing law students entering the workplace. The first panel will offer advice on the sensitive but important topic of workplace etiquette as well as things you should (and should not) do to advance your career. The second panel will offer advice on choosing a career path, with advice provided by experienced attorneys practicing in private law firms, corporate law departments, the government, and public interest organizations. Following each panel will be a break-out session during which students can talk one-on-one with practicing attorneys and ask questions.

AABA CLE SEMINAR SERIES:

**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE GRIEVANCE
PROCEDURE AND HOW THEY WILL AFFECT YOUR
LAW PRACTICE**

Featured Speaker:

Robert S. Bennett (Bennett Law Firm)



April 25, 2008

Registration: 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Program and Q&A Session: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Porter & Hedges L.L.P.
1000 Main Street, Suite 36th Floor**

**Free for AABA Members / \$20 for Non-Members
Lunch Will Be Provided, Courtesy of Porter & Hedges L.L.P.**

RSVP Online at www.aabahouston.com

Come learn about some of the common problems facing attorneys that may result in professional misconduct, and hear an overview of the new attorney grievance procedure in Texas. For over twenty years, Mr. Bennett's law firm has represented attorneys and judges in administrative and grievance matters involving professional misconduct. ** Approved for 1.0 hour MCLE Ethics credit **

Visitor parking in the Reliant Energy Plaza parking garage (subject to space availability) will be validated.

SAVE THE DATE!

AABA SOFTBALL GAME & FAMILY PICNIC

**Saturday, April 19, 2008
Meyerland Park (5151 Jason)
Time To Be Announced**

Come join us for a day of fun and games for the whole family!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LEGAL LINES!

The AABA has volunteered to man the phones for the Houston Bar Association's Legal Lines Program on July 16, 2008 from 4:45 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the HBA's offices at 1001 Fannin, Suite 1300. For those of you who may not be familiar with the program, attorney volunteers answer telephone inquiries from the general public regarding a variety of legal issues. Attorneys with expertise in particular areas are available to assist volunteers, and volunteers are not expected to take on representation of any of the callers. We strongly encourage everyone to help with this worthy project. Please contact AABA VP of Community Relations Lynn Chuang Kramer (lkramer@munsch.com) to volunteer or for more information. Thanks!

**STATE BAR OF TEXAS ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER SECTION'S
12TH ANNUAL RETREAT 2008**

*Emerging Legal Issues in an Increasingly
Diverse Business Environment*

**April 26, 2008
10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Hotel Derek (2525 West Loop South)
Houston, Texas**

The Section's 12th annual retreat will be held in Houston this year and will include several CLE panels and a keynote speaker. The evening reception featuring drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be held at Lot 8, the boutique of Project Runway winner, Chloe Dao. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, please contact APIS chair Andrea E. Tran at Andrea.Tran@pwtlaw.com

SIDEBAR

Miranda-Lin S. Bailey, formerly an associate at Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., will be moving in-house to ExxonMobil Corporation's Law Department, Production Section, in Houston, Texas.

Congratulations to the following AABA members on being selected as Texas Super Lawyers – Rising Stars for 2008!

*Rina W. Chang
Gary J. Ilagan
Emily T. Kuo
Judy Y. Liu
Joyce Kao Soliman
Hoang Quan Vu*

*James C. Ho
Natasha Jabbar
Lola F. Lin
Jason Luong
Catherine T. Than*

*Warren S. Huang
Lynn Chuang Kramer
Patricia E. Lin
Ba M. Nguyen
Andrea E. Tran*

OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL COUNSEL OF NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION (PRO BONO)

Description of Position: NAPABA is a national bar association representing the interests of Asian Pacific American attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students. Now in its nineteenth year, NAPABA represents the interests of approximately 50 affiliate organizations and over 40,000 Asian Pacific American attorneys.

NAPABA seeks an experienced attorney to serve a two-year term in a pro bono capacity as General Counsel for the organization. As General Counsel, the individual will be responsible for providing NAPABA with counsel and legal advice on a range of legal matters, including review of contracts into which NAPABA enters, general review of corporate matters pertaining to NAPABA, and other legal issues that may from time to time arise. The General Counsel will report directly to the NAPABA Board of Governors and the Executive Director. The General Counsel will be appointed by the current Board of Governors.

Requirements: J.D. from an ABA-accredited law school; ability to work effectively and cooperatively with the NAPABA Board, Executive Director, and staff; knowledge of non-profit law (especially related to organizations incorporated under 501(c)(6) of the IRS code preferred); and resources (including additional attorneys) for complex questions outside of the General Counsel's areas of expertise preferred.

Contact: Please send a statement of interest and resume to: John C. Yang, Wiley Rein L.L.P., 1776 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Applications also may be sent by fax to (202) 719-7049 or by email to jyang@wileyrein.com.

∞

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Description of Position: NAPABA seeks an experienced individual to serve as its Executive Director in Washington, D.C. to coordinate and to direct the overall operation of the organization. The Executive Director will report to the Board of Governors and supervise four full-time staff, along with additional interns and volunteers. The Executive Director will have the following general responsibilities: (1) Management and administration (supervise NAPABA office staff, provide member services, assess key needs of the organization such as facilities and technology infrastructure to promote highest level of efficiency, assist NAPABA President-Elect with annual national convention planning, assist NAPABA Vice President for Membership with recruitment, assist NAPABA Treasurer with budget development); (2) programs and policy (assist NAPABA Board and Committee Chairs to execute, coordinate, and develop and coordinate NAPABA programs and policy, serve as NAPABA's liaison with other bar associations (e.g., other minority bar associations, the ABA), other Asian Pacific

American organizations, and the media, assist with legislative and other policy efforts; and (3) fundraising (to develop, coordinate, and execute development efforts, maintain donor relationship and sponsorship records, assist NAPABA Vice President for Finance and Development with sponsor relations and work with the NAPABA Law Foundation (NAPABA's charitable and educational affiliate).

Requirements: Outstanding leadership, communication, management, and administrative skills; ability to work effectively and cooperatively with NAPABA Board, committees, members, and the APA community; demonstrated knowledge of and commitment to legal issues affecting the APA community; experience in non-profit fundraising; experience in media/public relations; computer proficiency, including word processing, database usage, and spreadsheets; some travel required (e.g., attendance at NAPABA Board meetings, annual conventions, and regional conferences); J.D. strongly preferred, but not required.

Contact: Position is available on June 1, 2008 and salary is commensurate with experience. The application deadline remains open until the position is filled. Please send a statement of interest, resume, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three work-related references (including at least one from a current or recent supervisor) to: NAPABA Executive Director Search Committee, c/o Nimesh M. Patel, Esq.; Thelen Reid Brown Raysman & Steiner L.L.P., 701 Eighth Street, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20001. Applications also may be sent by fax to (202) 654-3354 or by e-mail to npatel@thelen.com. No telephone inquiries, please.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

April 2, 2008 / "Japanese Cooking for Houstonians" / Japan-America Society of Houston / Williams-Sonoma (711 Highland Village, 4060 Westheimer Road) / 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

The Japan-America Society of Houston will be holding a cooking demonstration. Enjoy the experience of viewing, tasting, and experiencing some terrific Japanese cooking. Attendance is limited to 50 attendees, and an RSVP is required. Admission is \$23 for members of the JASH and \$25 for guests. To RSVP, please visit www.jashouston.org/LCK.htm.

April 2, 2008 / "Avoiding E-Discovery Sanctions" / Association of Corporate Counsel – America, Houston Chapter / Masraff's (1025 South Post Oak Lane) / 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Panel experts will discuss recent developments in e-discovery and best practice methods for collecting and preserving ESI in corporate enterprise environments. Registration before March 31, 2008, Noon is \$20 for ACC members and \$25 for non-members. Registration afterwards is \$25 for ACC members and \$30 for non-members. ** 1 Hour MCLE Credit. ** Register and pay online at Houston.acc.com (no www) or contact fara@amchouston.com or (713) 839-0808.

April 5-6, 2008 / Japan Festival / Japan-America Society of Houston / Hermann Park (Adjacent to Japanese Garden) / Attendance is free

April, 19, 2008 / 13th Annual Gala and Silent Auction / Asian Chamber of Commerce of Houston / Westin Galleria (5060 West Alabama) / 6:00 P.M. (Reception & Silent Auction), 7:00 P.M. (Dinner)

This year's keynote speaker will be John Hofmeister, the President of Shell Oil Company. Individual tickets are \$150 per person. For reservations, more information, or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Faye or Liz at (713) 782-7222 or faye@asianchamber-hou.org.

May 3, 2008 / APAHA Festival / Asian Pacific American Heritage Association / Hermann Park (Miller Outdoor Theater) / 3:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. / Attendance is free

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

GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!



Phillina Lai
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.

1. **If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . .** *running my own business. It has always been a dream of mine to own and operate my own business. Finding the right business is the hard part, but my eyes and ears are always open.*
2. **My favorite vacation was . . .** *my trip to Greece and Turkey. Both are beautiful countries with lots of good food, shopping, nice people and amazing sightseeing.*
3. **The best dessert (or other food) in the world is . . .** *tres leches, especially from Americas!*
4. **In my spare time, I enjoy . . .** *shopping, trying new restaurants, working on my house, watching movies and spending time with my family and friends.*
5. **In my iPod (or other mp3 device) you will find . . .** *lots of 80s music. The new top hits are good too, but I still enjoy the classic 80s music more than anything else.*
6. **Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . .** *parasailed over the tropical rainforests of Brazil for my 27th birthday. Scariest but most exciting thing I have ever done in my life.*
7. **The best restaurant in Houston is . . .** *Uptown Sushi. This is a tough question though because it totally depends on what cuisine. For interesting sushi rolls and good entrees, definitely Uptown Sushi.*
8. **My favorite place in Houston is . . .** *my house! I wish I had more time to just relax and hang out at home.*
9. **The sports team(s) I root for are . . .** *any sports team of Houston or Stanford University!*
10. **If I won the lottery, I would . . .** *build my dream home and spend lots of time in it!*
11. **I recommend reading . . .** *Eat, Pray, Love – light hearted yet insightful and enjoyable read.*
12. **You forgot to ask me about . . .** *my wonderful husband, Barry Zhang, who supports and is always encouraging me to pursue my passions.*

THE AABA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!

Teresa Lee Brown
Mayer Brown L.L.P.

Fan Chen
Alaniz & Schraeder, L.L.P.

Tran Dang
Baker Botts L.L.P.

Heidi Gumienny
Gordon & Rees L.L.P.

Bruce Hiran
Monks & Hiran, P.C.

Amy Ngo Lacy
Attorney at Law

Chi-Ming Ling
South Texas College of Law

Khoa (Steven) Nguyen
Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Don't Forget to Renew Your AABA membership!

The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2008! You may apply for membership on-line at www.aabahouston.com or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues. 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 printed 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!

Many thanks to our 2007-2008 Major Underwriters:

PLATINUM DRAGON UNDERWRITER

GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP

GOLD DRAGON UNDERWRITERS

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP

HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP

SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP

YETTER & WARDEN, LLP



Asian American Bar Association of Houston
2008 Membership Application/Renewal

- Law Student • Retired Attorney
Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House or Non-Profit Counsel • Solo Practitioner • Auxiliary Member*
Attorney with 3 to 8 years in practice • Judge • Government Attorney
Attorney with 8+ years in practice

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) _____

(Next Two Questions for Attorneys Only:)

Would you like your business contact information published in the 2008 AABA Directory? [] Yes [] No

Would you like your business contact information published in the AABA On-Line 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 Programs Social/Networking Community Relations/Pro Bono
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 Judy Y. Liu at 713.207.5465.

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