

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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# Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive

On December 17, 2011, the AABA of Houston held our Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive at Palace Bowling Lanes! Approximately 70 AABA members and their families were in attendance, and the AABA was able to donate plenty of toys to Asian American Family Services. Thanks to everyone who was able to come out and have a great time with the AABA! And a special thanks to Claire Le and Chris Lee for organizing this event!



Anna Ha, Alice Huang, Eunice Song, Audrey Chang, and Judy Liu



Jane Nguyen Vuong and family

2011  
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# Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive



Clinton Yu, Abby Yu, Claire Le, and Howard Lin



Rina Chang and family



Juvie Cruz and family

# Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive



Cynthia Tan and Michael Lu



Mark Lee and family



Bowling!



Dat Tran and family



Jane Nguyen Vuong, Joyce Kao Soliman, Julie Pi Evans, and their families



Donated toys for Asian American Family Services

# Congratulations to the newly elected Officers of the AABA for 2012!

**President**

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**VP of Development**

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Vinh Ho

*Happy  
Holidays!*



*from the*  
**AABA**  
*of Houston*

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](mailto:jnv@njclaw.com).

# 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](http://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](mailto:CThan@bickerstaff.com) with your contact information.

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**2012 SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

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

**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](http://www.ncvaa.org) for the Program Schedule and Ad submission requirements and instructions.

<b>INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICES</b>		<b>General</b>	<b>Government; Nonprofit; Students</b>
<b>Early Registration Package (by March 30, 2012)</b> (1 ticket to Welcome Reception, Conference, and Banquet)		\$225	\$175
<b>Regular Registration Package (after March 30, 2012)</b> (1 ticket to Welcome Reception, Conference, and Banquet)		\$285	\$225
<b>Individual Tickets</b>			
	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:** Sean Joseph Yan

**Firm:** McLane Company, Inc.

**Practice Areas:** In-House/Corporate Law, Labor and Employment, Tax and most recently Food Safety Law

**If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . .** a entrepreneur (if I had money) or a computer programmer (if I needed money).

**The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . .** warm and spicy kimchi flavored tripe...not my favorite.

**In my spare time, I enjoy . . .** traveling with my wife, cooking, reading, photography and snowboarding.

**If my life were a movie, it would be called . . .** "Forever Skeptical: Living Life as an INTJ"...Google Myers-Briggs if this doesn't make sense.

**In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . .** changing everyday...although I do have fond memories of Lai Lai's Dumpling House and Pappasito's.

**The coolest store in Houston is . . .** Ikea!

**The sports team(s) I root for is/are . . .** the Baylor Bears (Sic 'Em) and my Houston Rockets of course.

**My decade for music is the 90's and my favorite song is . . .** "It Is What It Is" by Lifehouse.

**My favorite quote is . . .** "You Can't Believe Most of the Quotes You Read On the Internet."  
—Abraham Lincoln

**Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . .** have searched far and wide to find the best dumplings in the world and I have tried dim sum in 10 countries and 22 cities.

**You forgot to ask me about . . .** my mundane super power – I can change topics seamlessly and without detection at the slightest sign of an argument or impending awkwardness.



# GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!



**Name:** Henry N. Garrana

**Firm:** Garrana Tran, LLP

**Practice Areas:** Intellectual Property

**If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . .** a stock broker (stock trading is my 'hobby').

**The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . .** Haggis (If you don't already know what it is, google it).

**In my spare time, I enjoy . . .** travel and stock trading (see 1 above).

**If my life were a movie, it would be called . . .** "Too Scared to Fail."

**In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . .** Brennan's.

**The coolest store in Houston is . . .** ¼ Price Books on S. Shepherd.

**The sports team(s) I root for is/are . . .** the Astros and the Rice Football team (they all graduate!).

**My decade for music is the 90's and my favorite song is . . .** "Money Talks" by AC/DC.

**My favorite quote is . . .** "Lucky Man Needs No Advice."

**Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . .** am fluent in Arabic and French.

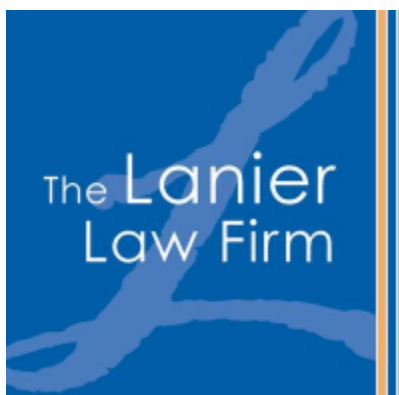
**You forgot to ask me about . . .** dislikes.

**Many thanks to our 2011-2012 Major Underwriters!**

**Platinum Dragon Underwriter**



**Gold Dragon Underwriters**



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



The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2012!

You may apply for membership online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://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!

**Romulo Diaz**  
*Law Office of Romulo B. Diaz, PLLC*

- \$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

***By completing this membership application, I hereby consent to the receipt of notice of meeting through electronic means.***

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](mailto:membership@aabahouston.com),  
or contact Cindy Lin Chen at (713) 220-4311.