

NOVEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

www.aabahouston.com

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 Women Attorneys Retreat

On October 23, 2010, the AABA hosted its second women attorneys retreat at Hotel Indigo. AABA women attorneys discussed topics from career planning to dealing with gender/cultural stereotypes. Special thanks to panelists Lola Lin (Air Liquide), and Morgan Warren (Warren Recruiting), and to moderator Jenny Hyun (Weingarten Realty).









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More photos from 2010 Gala & Silent Auction



2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

Claire Le Bracewell & Giuliani LLP

Eunice Song *Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP*

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee

Rachel Le Morgan Lewis & Bockius

Chris Lee Mills Shirley LLP

Gala Committee

Todd Chen Winstead PC

Aaron Woo *Phillips & Reiter PLLC*

Corporate Counsel Committee

Mai Huynh Texas United Corporation

Lam Nguyen *Schlumberger*

Debbie Yee *Latham & Watkins*

More photos from 2010 Gala & Silent Auction



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, November 10, 2010
 Corporate Counsel Dinner
 6:30 pm
 McCormick & Schmick's -Uptown Park
- Thursday, November 18-21, 2010
 Annual NAPABA Convention
 Los Angeles, CA
 www.napabainspire.org
- Wednesday, December 1, 2010
 CLE Program:
 "Solo Practitioner & Small Firm Event"
 6:30 pm 7:50 pm
 Chinese Community Center
- Saturday, December 11, 2010

 AABA Holiday Party families welcome
 11 am– 1 pm
 Details to come



Asian American Bar Association of Houston

cordially invites you to its

6th Annual Corporate Counsel Dinner

with special guest speaker

Dat Tran

Associate General Counsel of AGL Resources Inc.

Wednesday, November 10, 2010 6:30 p.m. Reception 7:00 p.m. Dinner & Program

McCormick & Schmick's 1151-01 Uptown Park Blvd. Houston, Texas 77056

This event is generously underwritten by Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP.

Invited In-House Counsel: To receive one complimentary ticket, you must RSVP by November 3, 2010 to AABA Corporate Counsel Committee Co-Chair, Mr. Lam Nguyen, at LNGUYEN18@SLB.COM.

AABA Members, Non-Members, and Guests: \$115 per ticket or \$125 per ticket after October 28, 2010.

All tickets must be purchased online at www.aabahouston.com using GoogleCheckout. The deadline to purchase a ticket is November 5, 2010.

The AABA is pleased to present another CLE program for the year:

"SOLO PRACTITIONER & SMALL FIRM EVENT"

Featured Speakers:

Tammy Tran, The Tammy Tran Law Firm Daniel Chen, Nguyen, Jazrawi, & Chen, PLLC Tony Dinh, Dinh & Associates

The seminar will focus on issues and considerations that attorneys face in making the decision to start a solo or small firm practice.

We hope you can join us and take advantage of the wealth of experience and insights our speakers have to share!

Wednesday, December 1st, 2010

6:30 pm: Registration / Networking / Dinner 7:00 pm – 7:50 pm: Panel Discussion and Q&A

Chinese Community Center 9800 Town Park Drive Houston, Texas 77036 (713) 271-6100

Dinner will be provided.

This event is FREE, but we ask and strongly encourage that you RSVP in advance at www.aabahouston.com

Nominations are now being accepted!

AABA 2011 Officer Nominations

The AABA is now receiving nominations for its 2011 Officers and the 2011-2012 Elected Director.

The following positions are open and subject to vote by the AABA membership:

President-Elect
Vice President of Membership
Vice President of Programs
Vice President of Community Relations
Vice President of Development
Treasurer
Secretary
2011-2012 Elected Director

Any current AABA attorney member in good standing may nominate himself/herself or another attorney member for one of the positions listed above, except that each nominee for President-Elect must have served at least one previous term as an Officer of the AABA.

Please send nominations in writing to AABA President Joyce K. Soliman by 5:00 pm on Monday, November 30th by via email at <u>jsoliman@porterhedges.com</u> or via fax at 713-226-6285.

Voting will begin on Friday, December 3, 2010 and will end at 5:00 pm on Friday, December 10, 2010. The election results will be announced no later than Tuesday, December 14, 2010.

Feel free to contact Joyce Kao Soliman (ph. 713-226-6685) or 2010 President-Elect Audrey Chang (ph. 713-374-3537) with any questions regarding the election process or the duties and responsibilities of each Officer.

We hope you will consider getting involved in the leadership of the AABA and making your contribution to our extraordinary organization and legal community.

2011 APABA-DC SWEARING-IN CEREMONY Admission to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court

The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of the Greater Washington DC Area, Inc. (APABA-DC) is pleased to offer members and invited guests a unique opportunity to become members of the Bar of the United States Supreme Court in open court on the morning of Monday, January 24, 2011.

This special event will include a swearing-in ceremony, a continental breakfast, and a curator's lecture about the Supreme Court. A group photo will also be taken in front of the Supreme Court. We are limited to admission of 50 APABA-DC members, to be determined on a first-come, first-served basis. Each person being admitted to the Supreme Court may have one guest accompany them inside the courtroom.

If you are interested in gaining admission to the Supreme Court with APABA-DC members during this special session, please:

- 1) Register by sending an email to education@apaba-dc.org with your name, email address, phone number, confirmation of current APABA-DC or NAPABA affiliate membership, notice of your intent to participate in our group swearing-in ceremony and whether you plan to bring a guest; and
 - 2) Submit for receipt by November 30, 2010, the requisite materials (see below) addressed to:

APABA-DC ATTN: VP for Education P.O. Box 27223 Washington, DC 20038.

An email will be sent to you confirming receipt of these materials. Additional details and instructions will also be provided.

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR RECEIPT BY DECEMBER 3, 2010

Applicants for admission must submit for receipt by the deadline the following materials to APABA-DC:

- A completed <u>Application for Admission to Practice</u>. Forms and instructions can be found at the <u>U.S. Supreme Court website</u>. Because this is a group admission, materials should be sent directly to APABA-DC and not the Court. APABA-DC will collect and submit all applications as a group. Applicants will be admitted in open court and not on written motion, so do not fill out the "Motion for Admission" section of the Application.
- Have on the Application the endorsement of two sponsors who are members of the Supreme Court Bar who know the applicant personally and are not related to the applicant by blood or marriage.
- Obtain a Certificate of Good Standing from the presiding judge, clerk, or authorized official of the
 highest court of the State, Commonwealth, Territory or Possession, or of the District of Columbia in
 which you are admitted. The Certificate should evidence the fact that the applicant has been
 admitted as a member of the Bar of such court for at least three years.
- A check for \$227 made payable to "APABA-DC" to cover the cost for admission to the Supreme
 Court Bar and the continental breakfast. APABA-DC will be submitting one payment for the group. If
 you have a guest joining us for breakfast, please add \$27.

We welcome you to participate in this memorable experience with us. Contact <u>Anh Mai-Windle, VP for Education</u>, with any questions.

For more information: **Contact:** Anh Mai-Windle

Email: education@apaba-dc.org

Microsoft

Women & Minority Law Student IP Summit



Ciótodiphoto.com/5. Greg Feroser

2010 Microsoft Women and Minority Law Student IP Summit

Microsoft is bringing together leading companies and firms from across the country to increase awareness of careers in Intellectual Property (IP), and to share best practices for pursuing a career in this dynamic field of law. The event includes a career discussion with lawyers representing a broad range of paths to IP, as well as a panel focused on what firms and companies

are doing to support IP law career opportunities for women and minorities. The panels will be followed by a networking reception, with food and a hosted bar for law students, law firms and representatives from all of the participating companies and organizations to foster conversation and interest in our industry.

Some of our participating companies and law firms:















Monday, November 8, 2010

Thompson Conference Center at the University of Texas in Austin 2405 Robert Dedman Drive Austin, TX 78713 http://www.ulexas.edu/ce/tcc/

RSVP

Please register via our online registration tool by visiting

http://microsoft.crgevents.com/ IPSummit2010

There is no cost to students to participate in this event

Network through the IP Summit Facebook site at:

http://www.facebook.com/#!/ IPLawSummit

AGENDA

Law student registration begins at 1:30 p.m.

12:00–1:30 PM IP Summit Sponsor and Corporate Counsel Luncheon (by invitation only)

1:30-2:00 PM Registration Opens

2:00-3:30 PM Discussion on Diversity in the Legal Profession

Break

4:15 - 5:45 PM Discussion on Careers in IP

6:00 - 8:00 PM Networking Reception



Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California

Officers

For Immediate Release

Quyen Ta President

November 1, 2010

Ann Nguyen Vice President For questions, please contact

Quyen Ta at qta@kvn.com, (408) 712-8778.

Mai Phan at mai@maiphanlaw.com, (408) 975-9321

Huy Luong Treasurer

VABANC Launches First Ever Year-Long Fellowship to Provide Legal Services

Duyen Nguyen Secretary

SAN JOSE, California.

Committees

Erica Pham Communications

Anhthu Le Christine Pham Lynn Phan Community Service The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California (VABANC) proudly announces the establishment of the *Lan and Mark Beyster Fellowship Program*, a post-graduate fellowship to be provided to a recent law school graduate. *The Lan & Mark Beyster Fellowship Program* will provide \$25,000 to enable a law school graduate to provide legal services to and advocacy for the Vietnamese American community and/or other underserved/underresourced communities.

Minh Hoang Nancy Le Internal Elections

"This is the first fellowship of this kind given by any minority bar organization in the country," noted Quyen Ta, President of the VABANC. "We are very excited by the program. This fellowship builds upon the work VABANC has done to encourage public service," said Ms. Ta.

Thanh Ngo *Judiciary*

Mai Phan *Membership*

Nhung Le Nikki Vo *Mentorship*

Cindy Mader Diane Luong Scholarship

Huy Duong Ngoc Le Sang Nguyen Stacey Chau Social Activities

Josie Nguyen *Website*

1570 The Alameda Suite 212 San Jose, CA 95126 (408) 975-9321 www.vabanc.org This fellowship will be the *largest* fellowship amount offered by a minority bar organization to encourage and provide legal services and *pro bono* work with the Vietnamese American Community. Most Vietnamese Americans came to the United States as refugees. Despite some instances of model-minority accomplishments, many Vietnamese Americans still live in poverty and lack access to the legal system.

For the last 8 years, VABANC has provided two to three scholarships per year to law students to recognize their achievements and commitments to serving their communities and to encourage public service. *The Lan and Mark Beyster Fellowship* builds on VABANC's goals by supporting a recent law graduate who will serve the greater community and whose work will achieve a richer and more inclusive vision of social justice in underserved communities.

For many years, Mrs. Lan Beyster, Mr. Mark Beyster and their family have generously contributed to many philanthropic and educational endeavors. With this fellowship, the Beysters want to encourage public service in the Vietnamese American community and to provide low-income communities with legal services.

To learn more about VABANC, please visit its website at www.vabanc.org

The Lan and Mark Beyster Public Interest Fellowship

The Lan and Mark Beyster Public Interest Fellowship will provide \$25,000 to one law graduate who will work for one year to provide legal services to and advocacy for the Vietnamese American community and/or other underserved, underresourced communities. The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California (VABANC) will administer the Fellowship Program.

The Lan and Mark Beyster Fellowship builds on VABANC's goals by supporting a recent law graduate who will serve the greater community and whose work will achieve a richer and more inclusive vision of social justice in underserved communities.

Fellowship Requirements

Qualifications for applicants:

- J.D. in hand at the beginning of the grant period or awaiting bar results.
- Strong demonstrated interest and commitment in working with the Vietnamese American community and/or social justice work with underserved communities.
- Unique life experience or other experiences in overcoming personal adversity/challenges.
- Overall academic excellence.

Application

- 1. Official Law School Transcript
- 2. Two letters of recommendation
- 3. Resume

4. A proposal no more than 3 pages (12 point, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins) detailing the proposed public interest project, and describing which legal rights the applicant will be enforcing and the project's relevancy in advancing the legal and civil rights of the Vietnamese American community and/or other underserved communities.¹

Please send completed applications by **December 1, 2010**, with a cover letter indicating interest, to VABANC at vabancinfo@gmail.com. For questions, please contact Quyen Ta at qta@kvn.com.

For more information please go to: http://www.vabanc.org/

¹ Please note that the applicant should have secured a host non-profit legal organization who will support his or her work and he or she should describe the legal organization's role in the project.

THE JUDICIAL INTERN

OPPORTUNITY

PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED!

The ABA Section of Litigation will begin accepting applications for its Summer 2011 **Judicial Intern Opportunity Program** on October 4, 2010 for second-year law students and December 1, 2010 for first-year students. The program places minority or economically disadvantaged students with state and federal judges for summer internships.

The American Bar Association Section of Litigation will begin accepting applications for its Summer 2011 Judicial Intern Opportunity Program on October 4th for second-year law students. Applications for first-year law students will be accepted December 1st, in accordance with NALP guidelines. The program is a full-time (32 hours per week), six-week *minimum*, summer internship program open to all first-or second-year minority and/or economically disadvantaged law students.

The mission of the Judicial Intern Opportunity Program is to provide opportunities to students who are members of racial and ethnic groups that are traditionally underrepresented in the profession. The program also provides opportunities to students with disabilities, students who are economically disadvantaged and students who identify themselves as LGBT. To assist you in identifying how you qualify for this program please review the following: http://www.abanet.org/litigation/jiop/placements.html

Students may indicate geographic location preferences on their applications, but may not request particular judges or courts. Interns will receive an award of \$1,500.

Internships for students with an Intellectual Property Law focus will be offered in Chicago, Los Angeles, Texas and Washington, DC. Students can indicate their interest on their application. These specialized spots are limited and any student applying to the program with a request for specialization will also be considered for general litigation internships.

Applications should be submitted by January 7, 2011. Screening interviews will be used to better determine student qualifications. Screening interviews will begin in November and will continue through the application process. Interviews will be scheduled as soon as possible following the processing of applications. We will make every attempt to interview students where they attend school and in person. Students will be contacted by their assigned screener to set up the interview.

Applications and procedures can be found at the JIOP website at www.abanet.org/litigation/jiop. For additional information, contact the program director, Gail Howard at howardg@staff.abanet.org, or at 312-988-6348.

Questions about the program can be directed to the Program Director, Gail Howard, at howardg@staff.abanet.org or 312-988-6348.

Inspire: 2010 NAPABA Annual Convention

When

November 17, 2010 9:00 AM to November 21, 2010 5:00 PM Pacific Time

Where

JW Marriott Hotel 900 W. Olympic Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90015

RSVP

Friday, November 05, 2010

For more information, please visit www.napabainspire.org







The 2010 NAPABA Law Foundation Mercedes-Benz sweepstakes tickets are here! The NAPABA Law Foundation (NLF) has an extensive network of scholarships and programs aimed at strengthening APA attorneys, students, and communities. NLF relies on the proceeds from this sweepstakes to fund all these wonderful programs. When you make your donation, you can feel good about supporting these initiatives and win the car of your dreams!

This year's winner will have the choice of either a 2011 SLK300 or a 2011 C350 Sport Sedan. The winner will be announced at NAPABA's 22nd Annual Convention at the JW Marriott at L.A. Live on November 20, 2010. The theme of this year's NAPABA Convention is "inspire". We hope that you will be inspired by NLF's programs that give thousands of dollars each year to law students that have demonstrated a strong commitment to civil rights and equality in their communities.

Thank you for supporting the NAPABA Law Foundation and their programs that seek to further legal scholarship and education. NLF's programs are critical to helping promote the careers of promising young lawyers throughout the country, and through them, legal education is made more affordable for deserving students.

A donation of \$25 per sweepstakes ticket or \$100 for 5 sweepstakes tickets is recommended. Please contact Emily Kuo at etkuo@yahoo.com or (713) 745-9692 to get your tickets today and help continue NLF's legacy of inspiring bright legal minds! Good luck!





Many thanks to our 2010-2011 Major Underwriters:

PLATINUM DRAGON UNDERWRITER

GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP

GOLD DRAGON UNDERWRITERS

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P. HARRY GEE, JR. & ASSOCIATES

THE LANIER LAW FIRM PORTER & HEDGES, L.L.P.

SIDFBAR

AABA Director and past President, Warren Huang, and his wife, Dr. Monica Huang are proud to announce the arrival of the newest addition to the Huang family, Samuel Yisheng Huang, who was born October 15, 2010 at 19" and 6 lbs, 3 oz.

Congratulations, Warren, on the birth of your son!

Effective November, 1, 2010,

AABA Vice President of Development Juvie Cruz will be joining the firm of Sheehy Ware & Pappas, P.C.

Congratulations, Juvie, on your new position!

Get to Know Your AABA Leaders!



Name: Stephanie Song

Firm: Bracewell & Giuliani LLP

Practice Area: Finance

AABA Position: Director

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . an author or a soap opera actress (because no one expects a soap actress to be any good).

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is . . .a trip around the world.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is . . . Ja Jang Myun – a "Korean/Chinese" noodle dish.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . reading and spending time with my husband and two daughters.

In my iPod (or other mp3 device) you will find . . . Michael Buble, ABBA, No Doubt, Frank Sinatra, Erasure, and other great eighties/new wave music....beginning to show my age...

My favorite movies are . . . haven't seen a movie in a long, long time but I like the classics (Audrey Hepburn, Cary Grant, Katherine Hepburn movies).

The best restaurant in Houston is . . . too many to list.

My favorite place in Houston is . . . my home.

The sports team(s) I root for is/are . . . All Houston teams and my Texas Longhorns.

If I won the lottery, I would . . . put money away for my girls' education, travel the world, take time off to write a novel, and then get back to the practice of law...

I recommend reading . . . "Notes from Underground" by Dostoevsky – it's not an easy read but it really makes you appreciate your life more. For a "lighter" read, Amy Tan's "Bonesetter's Daughter" and "The Joy Luck Club" are great reads, especially for the Asian American female. I also recommend any of Tami Hoag's mystery novels (stay away from her "romance" novel though).

Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . LOVE to watch TV (scripted not reality).

You forgot to ask me about . . . my two wonderful, beautiful daughters, Chloe and Isabelle, and my wonderful, supportive husband, Cliff.

*** Stay tuned for next month's Newsletter where you will get to know more about another 2010 Director or Officer!***

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Jeannie Diep

Firm: Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP

Practice Area: Corporate

If I weren't an attorney, I would be a chef operating out of a food trailer. I make the best sandwiches. Period.

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is Paris. I'd never get tired of visiting it.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is the fried milk, chocolate milk, toasted milk, and iced milk sherbet from Uchiko in Austin, TX. And yes, I am lactose intolerant.

In my spare time, I enjoy yoga, running, traveling, cooking and playing with my dog.

In my iPod (or other mp3 device) you will find an eclectic collection of indie pop, rap, and classic rock.

My favorite movies are Memento, Inception, Moulin Rouge, Gladiator, Sleeping Beauty, Anchorman, and Bring It On (best comedy EVER).

The best restaurant in Houston is Café Rabelais. It has great ambiance and even better French food, even if you have to hover awkwardly over people to read the chalkboard menu. This was a tough question because there are so many great restaurants in Houston and I eat like it's my job. Ask me for a recommendation anytime.

My favorite place in Houston is the Sabine bridge over Buffalo Bayou. A spectacular view of downtown.

The sports team(s) I root for is Rice University baseball. Go Owls!

If I won the lottery, I would travel the world and/or open up a chain of movie taverns.

I recommend reading Sometimes A Great Notion by Ken Kesey.

Most AABA members probably don't know that I have an intense aversion to anything unicornrelated.

You forgot to ask me about the bar exam. I passed yesterday!!!

Stay tuned for next month's Newsletter where you will get to know more about another AABA member!

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN... RENEW YOUR AABA MEMBERSHIP!

The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2011. You may apply for membership online at www.aabahouston.com or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues.

The AABA welcomes the following new and renewing members!

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").

Frances Bourliot, *Texas Defender Service*Farah Kamal, *Kamal Law Firm, PLLC*Jason Wu

Jai Sharma, *Jai Sharma Law*Nandita Anand-Gupta, *Michigan State University 2010*Tim Liu, *Wong Cabello*Tam Vuong, *ARGUS Software*



Auxiliary Member*

o \$0

o \$25

Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2010 Membership Application/Renewal

Asian American Bar Association of Houston

Law Student • Retired Attorney

o \$50 o \$75	, , , ,				
Bar Numbe	er 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)		
Would you	like to receive the AABA Ne	ewsletter by E-Ma	ail? o Yes	o No	
Would you	like your business contact i	nformation publis	shed in the 2010 A	AABA Directory? • Yes • No	
Please give	us any comments or progr	amming suggest	ions you might ha	ave:	
Please indi	cate any committees on wh	ich you would be	interested in sen	ving:	
	o Gala	o Fundraising	o Programs	Social/Networking	
	o Community Relations/F	ro Bono o C	orporate Counsel	o Mentorship/Law School Relations	
	Make che	ecks payable to A	AABA and submit	application and fee to:	

Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House or Non-Profit Counsel • Solo Practitioner

Send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to membership@aabahouston.com, or contact David S. Hsu at (832) 896-6288.

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

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