

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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On Saturday, October 20, 2012, the AABA held its annual Women's Retreat at Locke Lord, LLP. Many thanks to the event speakers, Judy Kim, Shauna Clark, and Allison Arbizu; and the AABA's own Eunice Song, VP of Programs, and Alice Huang, President-Elect, for organizing this wonderful event.



2012
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Locke Lord LLP

AABA
of Houston

Women's Retreat



AABA Annual Holiday Party

**Saturday, December 1, 2012
12:00 noon - 2:00 pm**

**Star Pizza Party Room
3800 S. Shepherd at Norfolk
Houston, Texas 77098**

This event is FREE for AABA Members and their families.

Non-members: \$20 per Adult / Kids under 12 free.

Families are welcome. Activities and treats for the kids.

Please RSVP at aabahouston.com by Friday, November 30th.

**We will be accepting donations of toys, school supplies or art supplies
for the benefit of Asian American Family Services.**





Nominations are now being accepted!

AABA 2013 Officer Nominations

The AABA is now receiving nominations for its 2013 Officers and the 2013-2014 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
2013-2014 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 Daniel Chen by 5:00 PM on Monday, November 19th via e-mail at dchen@njclaw.com (preferred) or via fax at 713.893.4981.

Voting will begin on Wednesday, November 21, 2012 and will end at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 28, 2012. The election results will be announced no later than Friday, November 30, 2012.

Feel free to contact Daniel Chen (ph. 713.780.4982) or 2012 President-Elect, Alice Huang (ph. 713.226.1215) 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.

PROBAR'S CHILDREN'S PROJECT PRESENTS:



Photo courtesy of Michelle Frankfurter

A ***FREE*** CLE:

UNACCOMPANIED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN WITH STATE COURT NEEDS:

The Special Immigrant Juvenile Visa

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2012

FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM

@ DLA PIPER LLP

**1000 LOUISIANA STREET
SUITE 2800**

HOUSTON, TX 77002-5005

Agenda

8:30-9:00 AM	REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN
9:00-9:15 AM	WELCOME
9:15-9:45 AM	WHO ARE THESE KIDS?
9:45-10:15 AM	PROCEDURAL ISSUES IN REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS
10:15-10:45 AM	SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS (SIJS) FOR DETAINED AND NON-DETAINED CHILDREN
10:45-11:15 AM	BREAK OUT INTO SIJS WORKING GROUPS
11:15-11:45 AM	LUNCH (PROVIDED)
11:45-12:15 PM	NAVIGATING THE STATE COURTS
12:15-12:40 PM	WORKING WITH TRAUMATIZED CHILDREN
12:40-1:00 PM	THE PRO BONO EXPERIENCE: WHAT TO EXPECT

*FREE with your commitment to take a ProBAR case within 1 year.

Includes 0.75 hours of ethics credit.

To register, please RSVP to Yasmin Yavar by November 26, 2012 at
yasminyavar@hotmail.com or 713.839.6085.

Thank you!

Volunteer & Change a Child's Life Today

ProBAR is designed to utilize the services of volunteers who are not experienced in immigration law as well as those who are. We welcome volunteer attorneys, recent law graduates, law students and legal assistants. Attorneys need not be licensed in the State of Texas to participate. ProBAR provides malpractice insurance for attorneys working on cases through our office. In addition, law students under the direction of a supervising attorney may be permitted to represent children at their immigration court hearings. There are a number of ways in which you can volunteer with ProBAR's Children's Project:

- ❖ Long-term attorney volunteers stay in South Texas for a period of two weeks, a month, or longer, and handle one or more cases;
- ❖ Short-term attorney volunteers are assigned one or more cases in advance and travel to South Texas to represent detained children;
- ❖ Law students, recent law school graduates, and legal assistants, under attorney supervision, help complete applications, develop supporting documentation and legal memoranda, and prepare applicants to testify at their hearings;
- ❖ Law students intern for a period of no less than ten weeks and are fully integrated into the office, attending legal rights presentations, intakes, court hearings, and handling one or more cases under the supervision of an attorney.

ProBAR Children's Project

119 W. Van Buren Ave., Suite 204
Harlingen, Texas 78550

Tel: (956) 365-3775

Fax: (956) 365-3789

Email: probar@sbcglobal.net

Web: www.americanbar.org/probar

Cover photo © 2011 Michelle Frankfurter

There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul
than the way in which it treats its children. —Nelson Mandela



ProBAR
South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project

Children's Project

A project of the American Bar Association
Fund for Justice and Education

What Is ProBAR?

The South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project (ProBAR) was created in 1989 by the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Texas, and the American Immigration Lawyers Association as a national effort to provide pro bono legal services to immigrants and asylum-seekers detained in remote South Texas by the federal government. ProBAR recruits, trains, and coordinates the activities of volunteer attorneys, law students, recent law graduates, and legal assistants. ProBAR has two offices, both in Harlingen, Texas. One office serves the population of adults in immigration detention at the Port Isabel Detention Center in Los Fresnos, Texas, the other, the population of detained children.

Founded in 2003 with just one staff-person, ProBAR's Children's Project now has a team of attorneys, Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representatives, paralegals, and volunteers. The Children's Project currently serves more than 400 detained, unaccompanied children at shelters in South Texas by providing them with "Know Your Rights" presentations and coordinating their legal representation.

"When I won asylum

I promised myself in my heart, and I promised the Judge from my heart that I would not let her down. From that moment my goal was to give the best of me and do something good with my life. When I won my case with ProBAR, my life changed color. To be there was like the start of a great beginning."

—Claudia, National Honor Society member, granted asylum



Photo © 2011 Michelle Frankfurter

The Children We Serve

Each year in the United States, the Department of Homeland Security detains approximately 8,000 children for immigration violations. The children served by ProBAR's Children's Project are among the most vulnerable individuals in need of legal representation in the U.S. today. They are separated from family and detained in remote facilities while they face removal proceedings in immigration court. They range in age from newborns to 17 year olds. Most do not speak English and have limited educations. They are often victims of violence in their homes, their communities, or during their journey to the United States.

Why Your Help Is Critical

Many of the children we serve are eligible for protection under U.S. law, including the Special Immigrant Juvenile visa, U-visa, T-visa, or asylum. However, due to their youth, language barriers, and the complexity of U.S. immigration law and procedure, these children face insurmountable obstacles to proving their claims for protection before an immigration judge or asylum officer on their own. In addition, the children we serve typically do not have the financial or other means to obtain private representation.

The ProBAR Children's Project provides the means for the legal community to respond, but we need your help. We serve the highest volume of unaccompanied minors in the nation. South Texas is an area with few legal resources and an exceedingly high demand for services. As a result, your time and skills can and will make a huge difference in the life of a child.

Photo © 2011 Michelle Frankfurter



Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Jennifer Lin

Firm: Toshiba International Corporation
(Contract Attorney)

Practice Area: Commercial/Contracts,
Compliance, M&A, Finance,
International

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a licensed counselor or therapist.

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is . . . Portugal or Wales, if going international. For locations a little closer to home, I always love going back to Chicago, Nova Scotia or Seattle.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . knitting, cooking (and, let's be honest, eating), gardening, singing and spending time with family and friends.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is . . . I'm equal opportunity when it comes to desserts. Favorite food right now though is banh mi sandwiches.

The best restaurant in Houston is . . . I plead the 5th on this one. There are so many great restaurants in Houston to choose from!

My favorite movie is . . . *Despicable Me*. Who doesn't love the minions?

The sports team I root for is . . . I don't have any favorite teams, but I'm a champion Olympics viewer and I do love anything hockey-related.

If I won the lottery, I would . . . take some time off to travel the world, set aside enough to help support my family, splurge on a few luxuries... and put the rest in the bank.

I recommend reading . . . *My Grandfather's Blessings* and *Kitchen Table Wisdom*, both by Rachel Naomi Remen. If I've lost perspective, they help me to regain it, and I always learn something new every time I go back to read them.

Most AABA members probably don't know that . . . I studied abroad in St. Petersburg, Russia during college. Ask me about Petya, the python, sometime.

You forgot to ask me about . . . swing dancing! One of my favorite activities although I don't get to dance much anymore. I started dancing in 2005 and also dabbled some in tango and blues dancing.

Many thanks to our 2012-2013 Major Underwriters!

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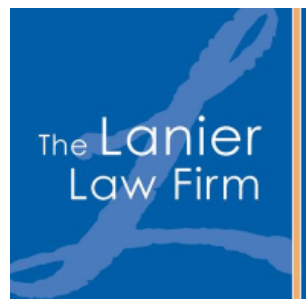
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DAY**[®]

Gold Dragon Underwriters

**BRACEWELL
& GIULIANI** LLP

FULBRIGHT
& Jaworski L.L.P.



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
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!

Thao Griep, *Key Access Institute, LLC*
Yoona Lin
Alicia Matsushima, *Alicia Matsushima, P.C.*

- ☐ \$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 ☐ NoWould you like your business contact information published in the 2012 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,
or contact Cindy Lin at (713) 220-4311.