

JULY 2008 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 HOSTS FIRST BREAKFAST WITH THE GENERAL COUNSEL



On June 18, the AABA hosted its first "Breakfast with the General Counsel" featuring guest speaker Scott Rozzell, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of CenterPoint Energy. CenterPoint Energy, Inc., headquartered in Houston, is the second-largest U.S. electric and gas distribution company, serving nearly 5 million customers in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, and Oklahoma, and also includes two interstate pipelines as well as significant gathering operations. Mr. Rozzell spoke to AABA members about his experiences as both an outside lawyer and a general counsel and offered valuable advice on how to get an in-house job and how outside lawyers can market themselves to potential clients. The AABA thanks Mr. Rozzell for graciously sharing his time and wisdom with the AABA and also thanks Baker Botts LLP for underwriting the breakfast.

2008 OFFICERS

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Joseph D. Yao Exxon Mobil

AABA BAKING EVENT

On Saturday, June 28, 2008, the AABA held its first baking event. Art Yee, avid baker and foodie, introduced AABA members to the secrets of making crème brulee, lemon chiffon cake, and chocolate lava cakes.





2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

David Chang Mayer Brown LLP

Kay-Linh Pham Mayer Brown LLP

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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.

SAVE THE DATE!



Join us for the AABA's next

BREAKFAST WITH THE GENERAL COUNSEL

featuring guest speaker

Laura V. Gilchrist

Vice President and General Counsel

M.D. Anderson Services Corporation

Tuesday, August 12, 2008

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

The Junior League of Houston 1811 Briar Oaks Lane

\$10 for AABA members, \$25 for non-members RSVP online at www.aabahouston.com The Asian American Bar Association and its Underwriters & Sponsors

Cordially Invite You to Attend the AABA's

2008 Gala & Silent Auction Friday, September 26, 2008

Featuring Key Note Speaker



Ellen Summer Secretary and General Counsel of Schlumberger Limited

2008 AABA Impact Award Recipient

Daniel David Hu United States Attorney's Office

6:30 p.m Reception 7:30 p.m. Dinner \$50 Law Students \$75 AABA Members \$100 Non-AABA Members

Please reserve your seats with Sherry Scott at Sherry.L.Scott@ExxonMobil.com

Underwriters & Sponsors:*

Platinum:**

Bronze:

Andrews Kurth LLP Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Centerpoint Energy Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP

Silver:

Mayer Brown LLP Thompson & Knight LLP

*as of July 3, 2008 **Underwriters for the Gala and Corporate Counsel Dinner

Volunteers Still Needed

7/12/08 – Wills Clinic

On Saturday, July 12, 2008, the AABA and the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program (HVLP) are co-sponsoring a Wills Clinic for the Asian community in Houston. The clinic will be held at Radio Saigon Houston, 10613 Bellaire Blvd., Suite 900, Houston, TX 77072 and is currently set between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. We are looking for between 30 and 40 volunteers for this event. While it would be especially helpful to have volunteers (attorneys and/or paralegals) with some fluency in Vietnamese, fluency is not a requirement and should not be considered a barrier to volunteering since translators will be present at the event. Additionally, no prior experience with wills/estates is required. This event is a great opportunity to give back to our community. We hope you'll be able to join us!

7/16/08 - 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.

Land of the Law Project

A few months ago, the AABA undertook to provide Vietnamese translations of legal topics to the Texas Young Lawyers Association for their Law of the Land Project. We had a good response from volunteers, but several of our topics remain in need of translation, and our deadline to deliver the translated documents for publication is fast approaching. Thus, we are again asking for volunteers to provide translations. We urgently need your help to complete this project and make it a success. We have a number of topics still awaiting at least partial translation, including 1) Landlord/Tenant; 2) Wills & Estate Planning; 3) Voting Rights; 4) Jury Duty; and 5) Freedom of Safe Passage. "Law of the Land: The Texas Roadmap to Understanding Your Legal Rights and Responsibilities" is a project designed by TYLA to inform new immigrants and low-income Texans about their legal rights and responsibilities under Texas and federal law. The program is conducted with the intention of educating individuals prior to the need for legal assistance. For instance, a person exposed to this information could avoid potential conflicts by learning about his or her rights and responsibilities as a tenant or, perhaps, as a parent responsible for child support payments. A person who is aware of his or her responsibilities additionally will be in a better position should an actual conflict arise.

Please contact AABA VP of Community Relations Lynn Chuang Kramer (<u>lkramer@munsch.com</u>) or her secretary, Felicia, at 713-222-4029 to volunteer or for more information.

Save the date and join the AABA for a special presentation on

"Fundamentals of Business Development" by Jim Cranston of Hildebrandt International



Friday August 8, 2008

11:30 am: Registration/Networking 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Program by Jim Cranston

> Location: Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP 1000 Louisiana, Suite 3400 Houston, Texas 77002-5011

Jim Cranston is widely recognized as a leading authority on sales and business development in the legal industry. He has developed a unique method for teaching sales skills to lawyers and law firms, which consistently helps professionals win new clients and grow firm revenues through his innovative programs. Jim spends countless hours consulting attorneys nationwide on their business development initiatives. This is a valuable informational program that you cannot afford to miss, whether you are a solo practitioner, newly licensed attorney, mid-level associate or seasoned law firm partner.

There is NO CLE credit for this program

Lunch will be provided.

Cost: FREE for AABA members, \$25 for non-members

OPPORTUNITIES

The ACLU of Texas - Senior Staff Attorney (Racial Justice)

The American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Texas ("ACLU TX") invites applications for the position of senior staff attorney. The ACLU TX Legal Department coordinates all litigation and investigation conducted on behalf of the ACLU TX. Under the direction of the Legal Director, the Attorney's primary responsibility will be the development and administration of an active litigation program addressing systemic patterns of race-based discrimination in Texas. The Attorney will work on issues involving criminal justice, racial profiling, and immigrants' rights, employing strategies involving litigation and general legal advocacy. Applicants for this position must be willing to work beyond the normal work day, including frequent evening and weekend meetings and events. A work week commonly in excess of 40 hours and substantial travel should be anticipated. The Attorney will office in Austin at ACLU TX headquarters.

Qualifications

- Ideally, 4-7 years of experience litigating constitutional issues;
- Experience litigating complex federal class action claims, ideally including police pattern-and-practice and/or prison/jail conditions of confinement claims;
- Broad substantive knowledge of constitutional law and a strong and demonstrated commitment to civil liberties and civil rights;
- Exceptional analytic, research, writing, and oral advocacy skills, including the capacity to research and think quickly under pressure;
- Capacity for administrative work, including the supervision of others and coordinating with others inside and outside the ACLU;
- Licensed to practice law and a member of the State Bar of Texas;
- Ability to work well with a diverse range of strong personalities;
- Spanish speaking and writing ability preferred; and
- Strong consideration will be given to applicants with federal law clerk experience, although such experience is not a prerequisite for submitting an application.

Salary and Benefits

Annual salary of \$60,000. Paid time off in accordance with ACLU of Texas policies and procedures. Additionally, the ACLU of Texas offers excellent medical and dental insurance, disability insurance and a pension plan.

Application Procedure

Applications should include a cover letter, resume, three references, and an ACLU of Texas Employment Application. Two writing samples are also required, at least one of which should be a substantive legal research memo, brief, or article. Applicants who graduated from law school within the past five years should include a law school transcript. Please indicate in your cover letter where you found this job posting.

Applications should be sent electronically in MS Word format or Adobe PDF to: jobs@aclutx.org

Applications accepted until position is filled. The Employment Application can be downloaded at: www.aclutx.org

OPPORTUNITIES

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council (Houston, Texas) - Chief Operating Officer

GOALS:

We are recruiting for the position of Chief Operating Officer, to be filled in August 2008. Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer. Council's Council's the COO directs the process improvement initiative, manages the membership and program functions, and oversees all aspects of the responsibility volunteer management system, with for product sales and camp properties. The COO will be able to assess organizational performance, identifying opportunities for cross-functional supporting collaborative teams and a work environment. as well as overseeing implementation of national initiatives. The candidate will provide assistance to the CEO in planning, organizing, and evaluating the work of the Council, developing budget requests and managing cost centers. The COO participates in preparing the strategic plan, and collaborates with the Chief Financial Officer, the VP of Human Resources, and the VP of Communications and Development in the senior management team.

BACKGROUND:

A minimum of 10 years' comparable management level experience is required, as well as demonstrated leadership skills, and competency across a broad range of executive and managerial functions. We seek someone with excellent interpersonal and communications skills, as well as success in dealing with a variety of people, ideas, and situations. The candidate must have a strong customer focus, and be committed to sustaining partnerships with volunteers, staff members, the board of directors, and the community. The successful candidate will possess a minimum of an undergraduate degree, with advanced education

and training preferred.

For consideration, please email your cover letter and resume, along with salary requirements to:

Mary Jane Wilkie, Senior Consultant Evergreen Executive Source, LLC P.O. Box 412 Haddonfield, NJ 08033-0412 Voice (800) 221 6663 Fax (800) 451 1451 E-mail: evergreen.source@att.net

280th Civil District Court of Harris County - Law Clerk

The 280th Civil District Court in Harris County is looking to hire a new law clerk. Stress free work plus your own office. You must be an attorney and make a one-year commitment. The position is full-time and pays \$11.59 an hour. Prefer that you start on August 12, 2008, but will consider a later start date.

Send Resumes to Andrea Holcomb, Administrative Assistant, 280th Judicial District Court, 201 Caroline Room 833, Houston, TX 77002. Questions? (713)368-6532.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

<u>July 9, 2008</u>: Asian Chamber of Commerce July Monthly Luncheon / Keynote Speaker: Jo Casady, Managing Director Prudential Financial / Westin Galleria, Monarch Room 5060 West Alabama, Houston TX 77056 / 11:30 AM - 1:15 PM / Members: \$30.00 Non-Members: \$35.00

<u>July 11, 2008</u>: The Makaha Sons in Concert / Bayou Theatre - UH Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. / 8:00 P.M. / Tickets are \$27

Enjoy authentic Hawaiian entertainment by the MAKAHA Sons, whose lush musical arrangements and sparkling personalities have helped keep traditional Hawaiian music alive for the past 32 years! Tickets may be purchased online at http://www.sharleneoshiro.com/makahasons/summer.html

<u>July 12, 2008</u>: Asian/Pacific American Heritage Society (APAHA) Bus Tour Series: APA Cuisine -Filipino, Thai, Pakistan, Chinese Dim Sum / Tour Starts at 6220 Westpark Drive (APAHA) Houston 77057 (Free parking in lot area) / 9:30am - 3:00pm

APAHA continues its Bus Tour Series with one of the best ways to learn about a culture: through its food. Join us as we explore the diverse cuisines and flavors of Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam, and China, and learn about various cooking methods and culture-specific dining etiquette. For more information, or if you need help purchasing tickets, please contact Ghazal Qureshi at ghazal@apaha.org or 713-784-1112.

<u>July 17, 2008</u>: National Association of Asian American Professionals-Houston (NAAP) July Mixer / Bronx Bar Galleria (Formerly Buddha Lounge) 2670 Sage Road Houston, TX 77056 / 6:30 to 9:00 PM Get out from under the sun after a hard days work and join us for the July mixer to relax, mingle and socialize.

<u>July 19, 2008</u>: The 6th Annual Tri-Caucus Health Summit / Houston Community College (HCC) 3100 Main Street Houston, TX 77266-7517 / 7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

The organizers of the 6th Annual Tri-Caucus Health Summit invite you to join members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Congressional Black Caucus, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to discuss health disparities among communities of color. This year's Health Summit will bring together local communities, health experts and policymakers to learn from regional and local experiences that can inform national health policies and programs. To address shifting national priorities that accompany changes in presidential administrations, the Tri-Caucus Summit will seek to build consensus on policies that address health disparities, to develop strategies for advocacy at the federal level, and to engage communities of color in legislative action and outreach. Houston was chosen to host the Tri-Caucus Summit because Texas has become a minority majority state; communities of color now constitute 52% of the state's population. Houston is among the top ten U.S. cities with the highest and most diverse Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations. In addition, there are local lessons to be learned related to the health care safety net, particularly in response to disasters (i.e., Hurricanes Katrina and Rita). For more information, please contact Amelia Irmer at (415) 568-3332.

SIDEBAR

The AABA would like to congratulate Jason Luong on his new position as Assistant District Attorney with the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

The AABA would like to congratulate Sherry Scott on her new position as Counsel with Exxon Mobil Corporation's Law Department, Litigation Section.

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary Julie Pi Evans at juliepievans@gmail.com.

Member Spotlight



Alice Chen Huang

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP
1. If I weren't an attorney, I would be mastering culinary techniques in an attempt to fulfill my dream of being the next Food Network star.
2. My fantasy vacation is to holiday in Bora Bora where I'd live in a thatched bungalow and swim in a pristine lagoon alongside the fishies.
3. The best desserts in the world are the vanilla bean flan & cococut cake from Café Berlin in Puerto Rico and the green tea cream brulee from Kubo's in Rice Village.
4. In my spare time, I enjoy playing with Quizno my cat who thinks he's a dog, spending my hard earned money, and concocting inventive recipes for my poor husband to try.
5. In my car you will find an eclectic mix of CDs: Enya, Celine Dion and Chopinto name a few
6. Most AABA members probably don't know that I honestly enjoy drafting complex legal documents but if you were to ask me to face a judge in a courtroom, I would rather retake the Bar exam. Naturally, I'm no litigator.
7. The best restaurant in Houston is I'm undecided; there are too many fabulous ethnic restaurants for me to choose an absolute favorite.
8. My favorite place in Houston is my parents' backyard.
9. The sports team I root for is the Houston Rockets. GO YAO!!!
10. If I won the lottery, I wouldbuy my own tropical paradise (after paying off my law school debt of course).
11. I recommend readingthe Bible.

THE AABA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING **NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!**

Benjamin Bai Jones Day

Todd Chen Thompson & Knight LLP

Linh Dang

James Lee Clark Dean & Burnett, G.P.

Astrid Stimac University of Houston Law Center

Wendy Buskop Buskop Law Group

Sunisha Choksi Buskop Law Group

Jason Dizon South Texas College of Law Fort Bend County Attorney's Office

> Patricia Lin Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

> > **Erick Wang** Winstead PC

Lisa Wang Baker Botts LLP

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:

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YETTER & WARDEN, LLP

ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON 2008 GALA & SILENT AUCTION								
Friday, September 26, 2008 🤝 Hilton Americas Hotel								
Underwriter/Sponsor Name:								
Contact Name:								
Address:								
City/State/Zip Code:								
Telephone: Facsimile:								
E-mail:								
Please select your level of underwriting*:								
\$7,500 Platinum Dragon Underwriter								
\$5,000 Gold Dragon Underwriter								
\$3,000 Silver Dragon Underwriter								
(Self M) State \$1,500 Bronze Dragon Underwriter								
OR, if you are interested in purchasing an advertising sponsorship for the 2008 Gala Program, please select your level of advertising sponsorship:\$1,000 Full page (8" x 10.5") black & white advertisement								
\$500 Half page (8" x 5") black & white advertisement								
\$250 Quarter page (4" x 5") black & white advertisement								
Return this completed form and check made payable to "AABA of Houston" to:								
Sherry Scott, Gala Co-Chair Exxon Mobil Corporation P.O. Box 2180 MS: CORP-EMB-1583K Houston, TX 77252-2180								
Questions? Please contact us at aaba.gala@gmail.com Thank you for your interest and support.								
* Contact us for more information on the benefits of underwriting, which include tickets to the Gala, program advertisements, and more. The AABA of Houston is a tax-exempt organization. Contributions or gifts to the AABA are not								

tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes, however.

September 26, 2008 ⊃ Reception/Silent Auction – 6:30 pm ⊃ Dinner – 7:30 pm Hilton Americas ⊃ 1600 Lamar, Houston, Texas 77010 TICKET RESERVATION FORM ame:		IERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON 2008 GALA & SILENT AUCTION
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Exxon Mobil Corporation P.O. Box 2180 MS: CORP-EMB-1583K Houston, TX 77252-2180	Return this form a	
P.O. Box 2180 MS: CORP-EMB-1583K Houston, TX 77252-2180		
Houston, TX 77252-2180		±
(ou will receive a confirmation of your ticket reservation via email		Houston, TX 77252-2180
		confirmation of your ticket reservation via email.
The deadline to reserve tickets is September 19, 2008.	- You will receive a	serve tickets is September 19, 2008.
Interested in joining the AABA? Membership forms are available at <u>www.aabahouston.com</u> . Questions? Please contact us at <u>aaba.gala@gmail.com</u> . Thank you for your support!	- The deadline to res	•



Law Student • Retired Attorney

□\$0

Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2008 Membership Application/Renewal

□ \$25	Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House or Non-Profit Counsel • Solo Practitioner • Auxiliary Member*								
□ \$50 □ \$75	Attorney with 3 to 8 years in practice • Judge • Government Attorney								
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Last Na	me			First Name					
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Law School and Graduation Year					Language(s)				
(Next Tw	vo Questions f	or Attorneys On	y:)						
Would ye	□ Yes	□ No							
Would ye	ou like your bu	usiness contact i	nformation pu	blished in th	he AABA On-Line Directory?	□ Yes	□ No		
Please g	give us any co	mments or progr	amming sugg	estions you	ı might have:				
Please ir	ndicate any co	ommittees on wh	ich you would	be interest	ed in serving:				
	🗆 Gala	□ Programs	□ Social/N	etworking	Community Relations/Pr	o Bono			
		Corporat	e Counsel	□ Mentorsł	hip/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.