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.
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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.
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

$50 Law Students
$75 AABA Members
$100 Non-AABA Members

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

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*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 (lkramer@munsch.com) 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 Council’s Chief Executive Officer, the COO directs the Council’s process improvement initiative, manages the membership and program functions, and oversees all aspects of the volunteer management system, with responsibility for product sales and camp properties. The COO will be able to assess organizational performance, identifying opportunities for cross-functional teams and supporting a collaborative 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

July 9, 2008: 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

July 11, 2008: 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 MAKAHAS 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

July 12, 2008: 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.

July 17, 2008: 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.

July 19, 2008: 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 juliepieevans@gmail.com.
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 Chopin...to 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 would . . .buy my own tropical paradise (after paying off my law school debt of course).

11. I recommend reading . . .the Bible.
THE AABA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!

Benjamin Bai  
Jones Day  

Wendy Buskop  
Buskop Law Group  

Todd Chen  
Thompson & Knight LLP  

Sunisha Choksi  
Buskop Law Group  

Linh Dang  
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Astrid Stimac  
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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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Telephone: __________________ Facsimile: __________________________

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Please select your level of underwriting*:

____ $7,500 Platinum Dragon Underwriter

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____ $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.
ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON
2008 GALA & SILENT AUCTION

September 26, 2008  ▼ Reception/Silent Auction - 6:30 pm  ▼ Dinner - 7:30 pm
Hilton Americas  ▼ 1600 Lamar, Houston, Texas 77010

TICKET RESERVATION FORM

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Company/Law School: ______________________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________

City/State/Zip Code: ______________________________________________

Primary Phone: ____________________ E-mail: _________________________

Please indicate below the number of tickets requested:

Law Student: $50 _____ / AABA Member: $75 _____ / Non-Member: $100 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: $_________

For nametag purposes, please list the name and affiliation (if any) of each attendee:

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Please indicate whether a vegetarian meal is requested: ______ (# of vegetarian meals)

Return this form and your 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

- You will receive a confirmation of your ticket reservation via email.
- The deadline to reserve tickets is September 19, 2008.
- Questions? Please contact us at aaba.gala@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!
Asian American Bar Association of Houston
2008 Membership Application/Renewal

☐ $0  Law Student • Retired Attorney
☐ $25  Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House or Non-Profit Counsel • Solo Practitioner • Auxiliary Member*
☐ $50  Attorney with 3 to 8 years in practice • Judge • Government Attorney
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Bar Number and Jurisdiction

Last Name ___________________________  First Name ___________________________

Employer ____________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________

City ___________________________  State _____  ZIP ___________________________

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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.