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 SOLO & SMALL FIRM COMMITTEE
NETWORKING RECEPTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014 @5:30

KUU RESTAURANT
947 GESSNER ROAD, #A180
HOUSTON, TX 77024

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A PRIVATE RECEPTION IN THE BAR AND OUTSIDE PATIO AT KUU, A HOT NEW RESTAURANT LOCATED AT GATEWAY MEMORIAL CITY.

SMALL BITES & DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 23RD AT WWW.AABAHouston.COM.

For more information, please contact: Julie Evans at julie@jpelawfirm.com, Catherine Le at catherine@calfirm.com, or Susan Tran at susan.tran@ctsattorneys.com.
The AABA, Houston Volunteer Lawyers, VN Teamwork, and Boat People SOS are hosting the annual Wills Clinic to assist low-income residents of the local Asian-American community.

We are in need of:

- Volunteer Attorneys
- Volunteer Witnesses
- Volunteer Translators (Vietnamese and Chinese)
- Volunteer Notaries

Please contact Tyrone Lin at tyrone.lin@hvlp.org if you wish to volunteer.

Law students are welcome to be witnesses and translators!

**Volunteer Attorney Training**

Wednesday, April 30, 2014
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Porter Hedges LLP
1000 Main Street, 36th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

1.5 hours of CLE credit pending

Lunch will be provided courtesy of Porter Hedges LLP.
Please note that parking is available in the firm’s building, and validation is available at the receptionist’s desk.

Attorneys, please register online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com) by Monday, April 28, 2014.

**Wills Clinic**

Saturday, June 14, 2013
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

VN Teamwork Center
11210 Bellaire Boulevard #118
Houston, Texas 77072

If you cannot attend the training but would like to prepare documents for the clinic, please contact Chris Lee at chris.lee@superiorenergy.com.
Asian Wills Clinic
Saturday, June 14, 2014

Asian Will Clinic Press Release:

Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program (HVLPP), VN TeamWork (VNTW), the Asian American Bar Association of Houston (AABA), and Boat People SOS (BP SOS) will co-host an Asian Wills Clinic on Saturday, June 14, 2014, to assist qualifying applicants in preparing and executing the following estate and incapacity planning documents: Will, Medical Power of Attorney, Directive to Physicians, HIPAA Release, and Declaration of Guardianship. Applicants who are potentially eligible for this program are encouraged to call VN TeamWork and ask for Nhi or Judy at (281) 495-8936 to set up an appointment. The clinic will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (The last available appointment time slots will be 12:00 PM) at the VN TeamWork Center located at 11210 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072.

General Outline and Instructions for the Wills Clinic:

Initial Intake and Questionnaires for Applicants:

1. Applicants must contact VN TeamWork as soon as possible to set up an appointment with VN TeamWork for intake and to fill out an estate planning questionnaire.

2. VN TeamWork will assist the applicant in filling out the Estate Planning Questionnaire. Questionnaires will include both English and Vietnamese translations of each question, but answers must be filled out in English. VN TeamWork will also provide a translator if needed.

3. Applicants will be given an appointment for a time slot between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. (11:00 AM – 12:00 PM reserved for lunch) There will be up to 10-13 appointment time slots every hour, between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, totaling approximately 30-40 applicants. Applicants will be reminded to show up at least 30 minutes before their appointment time on the day of the Asian Wills Clinic (June 14th).

4. VN TeamWork should return the completed questionnaires to HVLP by Monday, April 28, 2014.

5. HVLP will process applications, verify eligibility, and prepare client folders containing completed estate planning questionnaires and HVLP case disposition forms for distribution to volunteer attorneys during the Wills Training Clinic (April 30th).

Wills Training Clinic for Volunteer Attorneys:
(Wednesday, April 30, 2014)

1. Ideally, all questionnaires will be distributed to volunteer attorneys on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, during the Wills Training Clinic, conducted by Peter Bennett at the law offices of Porter Hedges LLP from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM.

2. The remaining questionnaires will be distributed to AABA volunteer attorneys via email. All questionnaires will be assigned to volunteer attorneys no later than Thursday, May 22, 2014. Each questionnaire will also include the client’s scheduled time slot for document execution during the Asian Wills Clinic.

3. The following six documents will be offered at this year’s Wills Clinic: Will, Medical Power of Attorney, Statutory Durable Power of Attorney, Directive to Physicians, HIPAA Release, and Declaration of Guardianship. If an applicant requests any document not provided, please direct the applicant to HVLP for further legal services.
4. Volunteer attorneys will receive an Estate Planning Questionnaire filled out by applicants detailing their wishes as well as sample Estate/Incacity Planning Documents to guide them through the drafting process. Documents should be drafted as accurately as possible with the information provided in the Estate Planning Questionnaire. Client interaction and interviews will not be necessary unless attorney feels comfortable speaking Vietnamese. Of course, not all applicants will want all six above-mentioned documents.

5. HVLP will also provide a packet containing sample estate planning forms to assist volunteer attorneys in drafting documents for their respective clients.

6. Volunteer attorneys should have all documents drafted and completed by Thursday, June 5, 2014. Volunteer attorneys should email copies of drafted documents to Tyrone.Lin@HVLP.org or Christine.Truong@HVLP.org for review.

Asian Wills Clinic:  
(Saturday, June 14, 2014)

Volunteer Attorney Responsibilities:

1. On the day of the Asian Wills Clinic, Saturday, June 14, 2014. Volunteer attorneys should bring both a hard copy of their client’s drafted documents (if no changes are necessary) to place in the client’s folder and a saved copy of the documents on a flash drive.

2. Volunteer attorneys should ideally arrive an hour before their assigned client(s)’ respective time slots. (Volunteer attorneys with 9:00AM appointments may arrive at 8:30 AM.) If assigned volunteer attorney cannot attend, then another volunteer attorney will fill in to review and execute documents (please let Tyrone or Christine know well in advance if cannot attend).

3. Upon arrival, volunteer attorneys should sign-in on a sheet at the intake table, make a name tag with their first name only, and then go to their assigned computer station.

4. Applicants will be escorted to their volunteer attorneys at their assigned computer station to review the drafted documents. If no changes are needed, the volunteer attorney will simply execute their client’s documents at a designated Execution Ceremony Table. If changes are needed, the volunteer attorney may make the necessary changes at their assigned computer station and reprint the documents on printers provided by VN TeamWork, then proceed to the Execution Ceremony Table. (Printers and computers may become backlogged so, ideally, all documents should be completed and ready to execute before the clinic.)

5. There will be five Execution Ceremony Tables, with two witnesses and a notary provided at each table. If possible, the assigned volunteer attorney should help facilitate the Execution Ceremony with the provided Will Ceremony Execution Script, which will be available at each execution table.

6. After the Execution Ceremony, volunteer attorneys will make two copies of the executed documents for HVLP’s client file at the provided copier station. While the copies are being made, volunteer attorneys should complete the HVLP case disposition form, if not already completed, and return the completed form to an HVLP staff member.

7. Volunteer attorneys should provide their client a copy of “Client Information about Documents” (available on the day of clinic), and be available to answer any client questions.

8. Before the end of each appointment Volunteer attorneys should ensure that the client is given both the original and one copy of the executed will, and the other copy to Tyrone Lin or Christine Truong.
AABA VOLUNTEER EVENT FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Date and Time:
May 10, 2014
7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Please arrive at 7:00 a.m. for check-in. Our workdays start at 7:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. We ask volunteers to work the entire shift because we plan the build schedule around 25 volunteers working 7-8 hours, with appropriate breaks and lunch.

Location:
Harrel Park build site:
8229 Laura Koppe Road, Houston, Texas 77028

The subdivision is at the corner of Laura Koppe and Vista Oaks. To navigate to the site using online maps or GPS, please use the following address: 8229 Laura Koppe Road, Houston, TX 77028 (http://goo.gl/maps/zOGo). All available parking will be on Laura Koppe Rd. Habitat representatives will greet and direct you to the Houston Bar Association house.

Check-in:
All volunteers must sign in at the construction site and provide a signed waiver of liability

Weather:
Always check the Worksite & Weather Information Line at 713-671-9993 Opt. 4. This phone message is updated the morning of each build day by 6:00 a.m., and includes driving directions and pertinent weather advisories.

Tools:
Habitat will provide tools for build date, but volunteers are encouraged to bring the tools referenced in the attached volunteer packet.

Food:
Refreshments will be provided each morning and drinking water will always be readily available. There is a lunch hour. Catering arrangements have been made by our generous sponsors to provide lunch for volunteers.

Construction Day Schedule
7:00-7:30 a.m. Registration
7:30-8:15 a.m. Orientation
8:15-11:30 a.m. Morning tasks
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. LUNCH
12:30-2:30 p.m. Afternoon tasks & Clean up

Want to volunteer?
There is a limit of 20 volunteers for this project and availability is on a first come first served basis.

Volunteer Forms:
A "Volunteer Toolkit" can be downloaded on the Houston Habitat for Humanity website (right side column):
http://www.houstonhabitat.org/volunteer

The last two pages of the "Volunteer Toolkit" includes an Adult Waiver and Minor Waiver that will need to be completed. Please have the forms completed prior to your arrival at the site.

Contact:
To volunteer, please contact Albert Liou, Vice President of Community Relations at: aliou@jonesday.com
The Appellate Section is proud to present:

**Minorities in Appellate Law: A View from the Bench**

April 25, 2014, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Harris County 1910 Courthouse, 3rd Floor
301 Fannin Street, Houston, Texas

*Featuring former Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson and former Justice Dale Wainwright of the Texas Supreme Court, and Justice Luz Elena Chapa of the San Antonio Court of Appeals.*

**Register Now!**

Dear Texas Attorney,

You are cordially invited to attend a special CLE luncheon featuring former Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson and former Justice Dale Wainwright of the Texas Supreme Court and Justice Luz Elena Chapa of the San Antonio Court of Appeals. The panel will be moderated by Diana Marshall. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn from these forerunners who paved the way for other minorities in the legal field, as they discuss the importance of diversity to the legal profession and how inclusion can directly benefit you, your firm, and your clients!

The cost of [registration](#) is $10 in advance and $15 at the door. The luncheon will be held in the third-floor courtroom of the beautifully restored Harris County 1910 Courthouse in downtown Houston. Parking is available at several locations near the courthouse.

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Levinger, Chair
Appellate Section

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A special thanks to our sponsors who made this event possible:
- Alexander Dubose Jefferson & Townsend LLP
- Baker Botts L.L.P.
- Beck Redden LLP
- Bracey & Giuliani LLP
- Professor Elaine Carlson, South Texas College of Law
- Hartline Dacus Barger Dreyer LLP
- Haynes and Boone, LLP
- Levinger PC
- Roach & Newton, LLP
- Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.
- Yetter Coleman LLP
Announcing…
A Financial Fitness Mixer
@ The Tasting Room – River Oaks

Please join us on May 14th, 2014
@ The Tasting Room – River Oaks
Located at 2409 W Alabama St. near Kirby
From 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Wine & Hor D’oeuvres provided

Preparing for the next Stock Market Crash!

Kevin Spires, CFA®, FRM
President & CIO
Bellaire Capital Management, LLC

➢ Is it possible to predict a Bear Market with any confidence?
➢ How far could the Stock Market drop next time?
➢ Is it possible to structure your Investment Portfolio to survive the next Bear Market?

The Unique and Powerful Living Benefits of Today’s Life Insurance

Scott A. Graham, CRPC®
President
GRACO Financial Insurance Brokerage

➢ Life Insurance might be the Best Tax-free, Market-based, Low-risk Growth vehicle that you’ve probably never heard about…
➢ Maxed-out on Qualified Plan Contributions… Have You Considered Life Insurance?

Please RSVP by May 9th to insure your spot.
RSVP to:
info@bellairecapital.com
Press Release

March 17, 2014

HOUSTON ATTORNEY MR. HARRY GEE JR. HONORED BY TEXAS BAR FOUNDATION

Mr. Harry Gee Jr. with Harry Gee & Associates, PLLC has been elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows of the Foundation are selected for their outstanding professional achievements and their demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the justice system throughout the state of Texas. Election is a mark of distinction and recognition of Mr. Gee's contributions to the legal profession.

Selection as a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation is restricted to members of the State Bar of Texas. Each year one-third of one percent of State Bar members are invited to become Fellows. Once nominees are selected, they must be elected by the Texas Bar Foundation Board of Trustees. Membership has grown from an initial 254 Charter Fellows in 1965 to more than 7,500 Fellows throughout Texas today.

The Texas Bar Foundation is the largest charitably-funded bar foundation in the country. Founded in 1965 by lawyers determined to assist the public and improve the profession of law, the Texas Bar Foundation has maintained its mission of using the financial contributions of its membership to build a strong justice system for all Texans. To date, the Texas Bar Foundation has distributed more than $15 million throughout Texas to assist nonprofit organizations with a wide range of justice-related programs and services. For more information, please contact Morgan Smith at the Texas Bar Foundation, by telephone (512) 480-8014 or by e-mail at msmith@txbf.org.
12th Annual
Texas Minority Attorney Program

Course benefits include:
- Over 6 hours of CLE for only $90 *(register by deadline)*
- Continental breakfast and lunch included
- Gain valuable CLE and earn ethics credit
- Course materials provided as a PDF download

Topics include:
- Protecting Your Legal Reputation and Practicing Ethically
- Changes to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure
- The Aftermath of the Fall of DOMA
- Judges Panel

LIVE
EL PASO
May 22, 2014

LIVE
HOUSTON
May 30, 2014
The State Bar Office of Minority Affairs presents the 12th Annual

Texas Minority Attorney Program

Cosponsored by the State Bar of Texas
Diversity in the Profession Committee

Thursday, May 22, 2014
U.S. District Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room
525 Magoffin Avenue • El Paso, Texas 79901

4:00 Adjourn

MCLE COURSE NO: 901289121
6.25 Hours (2 Ethics)
 Portions of this CLE activity may qualify for TBLS specialization credit upon request. Please contact TBLS for individual credit in your specialty area.

MCLE COURSE NO: 901289913
6.25 Hours (1.25 Ethics)
 Portions of this CLE activity may qualify for TBLS specialization credit upon request. Please contact TBLS for individual credit in your specialty area.

TMAP El Paso

Thursday, May 22, 2014
6.25 hours including 2 hours ethics

7:45 At-the-Door Registration
8:00 Registered Attendee Check-in
Continental Breakfast Provided

8:25 Welcoming Remarks
Course Director
Lisa J. Soto, El Paso
Clinical Associate Professor
Law School Preparation Institute
The University of Texas at El Paso

8:30 Best Practices in State Court 1 hr
(.5 ethics)
Moderator
Hon. Maria Salas-Mendoza, El Paso
Judge, 120th District Court
Hon. Linda Chew, El Paso
Judge, 327th District Court
Hon. Thomas Spieczny, El Paso
Judge, County Court at Law #7
Hon. Carlos Villa, El Paso
Judge, County Court at Law #5

9:30 Protecting Your Legal Reputation and Practicing Ethically .5 hr
ethics
Moderator
Hon. Annabelle Perez, El Paso
Judge, 41st Judicial District Court

10:00 Break

10:15 Mandatory Minimum Sentences in Federal Criminal Cases .5 hr
Leon Schydlower, El Paso
Attorney at Law

10:45 Prevalent Immigration Law Issues On the Border .75 hr
Melissa M. Lopez, El Paso
Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, Inc.
Carlos Spector, El Paso
Attorney at Law

11:30 Changes to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure: Expedited Trials and Dismissal of Baseless Claims .5 hr
Henry Paoli, El Paso
ScottHulse, PC

12:00 Break for Lunch (lunch provided)

12:30 Keynote Luncheon Presentation: Why Professionalism Matters—Everything Hangs in the Balance .5 hr ethics
Moderator
Hon. William R. Furgeson Jr., Dallas
Senior U.S. District Judge (Retired)
Hon. David Briones, El Paso
Senior U.S. District Judge, Western District of Texas
Hon. Kathleen Cardone, El Paso
U.S. District Judge, Western District of Texas
Hon. Philip R. Martinez, El Paso
U.S. Magistrate Judge, Western District of Texas

1:00 Break

1:15 “What? I’m Really Married?” Common Misconceptions About Common Law Marriage .5 hr
Lisa Aceves Hayes, El Paso
Attorney at Law

1:45 The Aftermath of the Fall of DOMA: A Survey of Same-Sex Marriage Cases and What It Means For Us 1 hr
Shelly Skeen, Richardson
Blume, Faulkner, Skeen & Northam, PLLC
John Treviño, Jr., Plano
Hewlett-Packard Company

2:45 Break

3:00 El Camino in Federal Courts 1 hr
(.5 ethics)
Moderator
Hon. William R. Furgeson Jr., Dallas
Senior U.S. District Judge (Retired)
Hon. David Briones, El Paso
Senior U.S. District Judge, Western District of Texas
Hon. Kathleen Cardone, El Paso
U.S. District Judge, Western District of Texas
Hon. Philip R. Martinez, El Paso
U.S. Magistrate Judge, Western District of Texas

4:00 Adjourn
TMAP Houston
Work Smart: Keys To Practicing Law In Areas You Don’t Usually Practice

Friday, May 30, 2014
6.25 hours including 1.25 hours ethics

8:00 At-the-Door Registration
8:30 Registered Attendee Check-in
Continental Breakfast Provided
8:50 Welcoming Remarks
Course Director
Cynthia Neumann, Richmond
Neumann and Rodriguez, P.C.

Course Director
Keshia Rodriguez, Houston
Sedgwick LLP

9:00 Employment Law .5 hr (.25 ethics)
Daniel N. Ramirez, Houston
Monty & Ramirez LLP

9:30 Family Law .5 hr
Speaker to be announced

10:00 Criminal Law: A Roadmap From Arrest to Trial .75 hr
Hon. Denise Collins, Houston
Judge, 208th District Court

Emily Detoto, Houston
Law Office of Emily Detoto

Veronica Nelson, Houston

11:00 Keynote Presentation .5 hr
Senator Sylvia Garcia, Houston
Texas State Senate: District 6
Harris County Commissioners Court

11:30 Break for Lunch (lunch provided)

11:45 Entertainment Law .5 hr
Ricky Anderson, Houston
Anderson & Smith P.C.

12:15 Break

12:30 A Few Things to Know If One Crosses Over Into Immigration Law .5 hr
Alexandre Afanassiev, Houston
FosterQuan, LLP

Danuta "Danka" Villarreal, Houston
Law Office of Danuta Villarreal

1:00 Successfully Settling a Personal Injury Case Without Filing a Lawsuit .5 hr
Janeri Rivero, Houston
Law Offices of Janeri J. Rivero

1:30 Transactional Law .5 hr
Al Benoit, Houston
Benoit Law, PLLC

2:00 Update on Civil Procedural Rules Changes .5 hr
Keshia Rodriguez, Houston
Sedgwick LLP

Break

2:45 Why and How You Should Do Pro Bono .5 hr ethics
Alissa Rubin Gomez, Houston
Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program

3:15 Judges Panel 1 hr (.5 ethics)
Moderator
David A. Chaumette, Houston
Chaumette, PLLC

Hon. Nancy Atlas, Houston
Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

Hon. Vanessa Gilmore, Houston
Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

Hon. Michael Gomez, Houston
Judge, 129th District Court

Hon. Robert K. Schaffer, Houston
Judge, 152nd District Court

4:15 Adjourn

Friday, May 30, 2014
South Texas College of Law, Garrett-Townes Auditorium
1303 San Jacinto Street • Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 659-8040

Register by May 16 and Save!

MCLE COURSE NO: 901289913
6.25 Hours (1.25 Ethics)
Portions of this CLE activity may qualify for TLBS specialization credit upon request. Please contact TLBS for individual credit in your specialty area.
Register by the early registration deadline and save $10
Early registration ensures sufficient course materials, seating, and refreshments are available. Course materials and seating will be reserved for pre-registrants until the start of the first topic.

Receive discounts by registering five or more from your company
Contact Firm & Group Sales Manager Laura Angle of TexasBarSolutions at 512-250-5575 or laura.angle@texasbar.com.

Active State and Texas-Area Federal Judges and Their Court Staff Attorneys May Attend for Free, Provided:
(1) the course directly relates to the judge’s tribunal’s jurisdiction, (2) the judge is a full-time judge or retired under the judicial retirement system, and (3) space is available for all paying registrants. This privilege does not extend to receivers, trustees, other court staff, or persons serving part-time in a judicial capacity. Actual attendance is required in order to receive course materials.

Parking Information
Parking is subject to change without notice and is not a guarantee of available space. El Paso: Parking lots available on the east side of the courthouse at $2-$3 per day. Houston: Fannin Garage, 1112 Clay Street, $8.00 per day (Early bird special: $6.00 if entering by 8:00 a.m.). Reserved parking for the disabled on floors 5, 7, 9, and 11 near the elevator. Additional parking available in garages and surface lots near the law school.

If You Require Special Accommodations
contact us as soon as possible at 800-204-2222, x1797 to arrange for assisted parking for drivers of handicap-designated vehicles.

Registered But Can’t Attend? Still Earn MCLE Credit
and receive course materials by taking the course online later, in which case you’ll automatically be sent the course materials; see “FREE TO OUR REGISTRANTS!,” below. If you wish to receive a refund instead, mail or fax (512-427-4443) your request so that we receive it at least one business day before the program.

FREE TO OUR REGISTRANTS!
Online Videos and MP3s of the topics, as well as PDFs of course materials, will be available to registrants 6-8 weeks after the course. Provide us your email address when registering and we’ll alert you when these benefits are available and how to access them. (Note: presentation lengths may vary from that which were advertised.) There’s no extra charge; as a registrant, you’re already entitled!

Policy of Impartiality
The State Bar of Texas does not endorse political candidates. When a candidate for public office is included in promotion for or participates in a TexasBarCLE event, the State Bar is not taking a position for or against anyone’s candidacy.
Register me for:

- TMAP El Paso, May 22, 2014 . . . . $100 [1712ELP]
  - Take $10 OFF if registering by May 8*

- TMAP Houston, May 30, 2014 . . . . $100 [1712HOU]
  - Take $10 OFF if registering by May 16*

* If by mail, date of postmark will be the determinative.

I may attend complimentary because:

- I am a qualifying judge or court staff attorney (see p. 4).

Course Materials provided as a PDF download prior to the course. You will receive an email when the download is accessible at TexasBarCLE.com.

I can’t attend. How can I get the course materials?

To order a PDF download of course materials (available 6-8 weeks after the course), search Publications at TexasBarCLE.com.

State Bar of Texas Membership No. ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________
Name __________________________________________________
Company Name  _________________________________________________________________
Street Address for Bar-Related Mail  _________________________________________________
City/State ____________________________________Zip _______________________________
Phone (        ) ___________________________   Fax (        )  _____________________________
Email Address: ___________________________________________________________________

A confirmation of your registration will be sent to the email address you provide. Email address is required to receive the course material PDF download.

My total is $ ___________. I am paying by:

- Check (enclosed) payable to the State Bar of Texas for $__________
- Credit Card:  AMEX  Discover  Visa  MasterCard
  - Account No. ___________________________________________ Exp. Date _______
  - Name on card (Please print) ___________________________________________
  - Signature  ___________________________________________________________________
Job Opportunity

Federal Judicial Vacancy, Southern District of Texas

U. S. Congressman Al Green is seeking names of persons who may be interested in being considered for an anticipated federal judicial vacancy in the Southern District of Texas. The last person recommended to the White House by Congressman Green (Gregg Costa) was eventually nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the Senate. Judge Costa presently presides in Galveston, Texas.

To assist with finding possible judicial candidates, Congressman Green has empaneled a committee to solicit, interview and recommend potential nominees for his consideration. The Congressman will make the final decision on whose name is submitted to the White House, but he requires anyone nominated by his office be reviewed by his Committee.

If you are interested in being considered, or know of members of any of your associations who might be interested in being considered, please have them complete the following questionnaire and email back to all of the following email addresses: bhall@bhalllawfirm.com; dave@matthiesenlaw.com; and jterrell@bhalllawfirm.com.

The deadline to submit completed applications is Wednesday, April 23, 2014. The Committee will interview applicants between shortly after the deadline. Recommendations to the Congressman are anticipated to be made on or before June 1, 2014.
2014 QUESTIONNAIRE

Name:_________________________          DOB:_______________________________

Home Address:_________________________________________________________________

Place of Birth:________________________________________________________________

Q1. Marital Status/Divorces/ Family Information (i.e., children and their ages and education, spouse, etc.):__________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Q2. Your educational training (undergraduate, graduate, law school, etc.) Identify all degrees awarded schools attended, academic honors, your class ranking in each graduating class, your LSAT score, and, if available, provide a copy of your law school transcript:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Q3. Identify all courts, circuits and districts in which you are and/or have been admitted to practice law. State the dates of your first admission to each, any disbarments, disciplinary actions or removals from any bars, the nature of any examinations or tests taken to be admitted, if any, and your present admission status in each:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Q4. Describe your work and professional history since undergraduate college. List all areas of work and academic studies you have undertaken during this period:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Q5. Identify all board certifications and/or specialty licenses you have possessed and identify the dates of possession for each certification and/or specialty:

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________
Q6. (Incumbent judges for more than three (3) years need not answer this question)
Describe your trial experience since graduating from law school:

a) Have you appeared in court regularly, occasionally, or not at all? Please explain:________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

b) What percentage of your court appearances has been in:
   i) Federal courts?
   ii) State courts of record?
   iii) other courts?

c) What percentage of your court appearances has concerned:
   i) civil law matters?
   ii) criminal law matters?

d) State the number of jury cases in courts of record you have tried to verdict or judgment as opposed to settled.
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

e) What number of your trials have you tried to a verdict before a judge only?
________________________________________________________

f) How many appeals have you handled as the primary brief writer? State Courts? Federal Courts? Identify each appeal you handled by case number, court and style of case.
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

Q7. Identify every elective or appointed office you have held or sought and the term you served in each. Also, state in what state or jurisdiction each was pursued or held.
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
Q8. Have you ever been, or are you now engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law or holding judicial or public office? If so, provide the following information: the nature of that other occupation; the name, address and telephone number where such work is or has been performed, and the period of time you have been engaged in such activities:

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Q9. Identify all arrests, criminal charges, trials, arraignments or encounters you have ever had with any federal, state or local law enforcement authorities. (Do not include minor traffic tickets or parking violations.) For each that you identify, provide the date, jurisdiction, charge, outcome and punishment, if any.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Q10. Have you and/or any spouse had a tax lien assessed or filed against you, or have you or your spouse, while married, filed for bankruptcy? If so, provide the date, court and disposition of each. Also state why a lien was filed? Provide the case number and court for each of these that you identify.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Q11. Are you, or have you ever been, delinquent on any Federal or State debt, including student or home loans secured by the government? If so, provide the date of each delinquency, the name of all agencies relevant to the delinquency and the disposition of each delinquency.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Q12. Have you ever been involved in any litigation? If so, identify all cases with the style of the case, the court where the suit was filed or transferred, the cause number of the case, and the name of all judges presiding over the case. Also, state the disposition of each piece of litigation.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Q13. Have you ever been sued by an employee or co-worker for conduct in or related to the workplace? If so, please describe each instance and the disposition of each.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________


______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Q15. Have you ever been a party to any other legal proceeding not otherwise listed herein? If so, describe the nature of each, your status in the proceeding, the allegations in the matter, and the disposition of each.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Q16. Have you ever been charged with or accused of a violation or breach of ethics, contempt of court, unprofessional conduct, reprimanded or sanctioned by any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee or other professional group? If so, describe each and the disposition.

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Q17. Have you ever, as an elected or appointed official, voted for or been a party to the formation of any legislation, statute, regulation, position or policy that could be construed as implicitly or explicitly discriminatory in any way? If so, please explain.
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Q18. Have you ever participated in the legislative processes of any governmental body, either as a member, lobbyist, witness, etc? Please describe all positions you have occupied; identify all legislation you participated in, all committees and the general nature of any testimony you may have provided as a witness, if any.
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Q19. Please outline any voluntary or official participation you have had with any candidate for elective office (excluding your own campaign) and any campaign committee. List the dates of your involvement, any titles you assumed, and a summary of the work you performed. Also, please itemize all financial contributions you have made to any candidate (excluding yourself), any campaign committee, any political party, and any political action committee as well as the dates of each contribution.*
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Q20. Have you ever been a member of any organization (e.g. country club, service organization, fraternity, etc.) whose by-laws, policies, or activities could be construed as implicitly or explicitly discriminatory in any way? If so, please explain each instance and the ultimate action or inaction taken regarding same.*
Q21. Describe your health history:
   a) Current health?
   b) Have you ever been treated for or had any problems with alcoholism or any related condition associated with consumption of alcoholic beverages? If so, give details.
   c) Have you ever been treated for or suffered from any form of mental illness? If so, give details.
   d) Have you ever been hospitalized for any purposes in the last five years? If so, give details.
   e) Is there any other aspect of your health history, which if brought to light during the nomination process, may raise questions about your nomination?*

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Q22. Identify all legal articles, books, briefs and writings you have authored or to which you contributed. Attach copies of same.*

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Q23. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and provide the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups. List also chairmanships, offices, positions and committees you have held in any organizations. Also list any professional honors you have received.*

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Q24. List all organizations other than bar associations or professional associations or societies of which you are or have been a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations. Also indicate all offices held and honors bestowed (e.g., law review, moot court, etc.)*

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Q25. List any honors, prizes, awards, or other recognitions you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school) other than those already provided elsewhere in your responses.*

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Q26. List all organizations and/or causes to which you have ever volunteered your time, resources and/or energies without compensation or pay. Please explain why you did so for each cause or organization you have identified. State the period of time of your services, donations, etc.

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Q27. List any additional information about yourself and your background that you wish to be considered, including but not limited to, any information about your personal history that could cause embarrassment to yourself, the United States, the President, or any member of Congress or the Senate.*

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Respond to the following questions within the space provided (no attachments for these questions).

(Q28)1. What do you view to be the legitimate role of a federal district judge? Explain.

(Q29)2. In your own words, how would you characterize your philosophy of the proper judicial temperament? Please explain?

(Q30)3. What opinion issued by the United States Supreme Court during the last five (5) years do you most disagree with? Please explain.
(Q31). What opinion of the United States Supreme Court during the last five (5) years do you believe to be a significant ruling? Please explain your answer.

(Q32). Why do you want to be a federal district court judge?

NOTE: All nominees will be subject to an exhaustive background investigation by the FBI if nominated.

CERTIFICATION
I certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and are made in good faith.

(Signature of Applicant)  (DATE)

* Denotes questions copied substantially from Senator Hutchinson’s Judicial Candidate Questionnaire.
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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 __________________________________

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