

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.

2014 OFFICERS

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Foster

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Law Office of Joseph Tung

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The Yin Law Firm, PLLC

AABA HOLIDAY PARTY AND JOY DRIVE

On Saturday, December 13th, the AABA held its annual holiday party and joy drive benefiting Catholic Charities at El Tiempo restaurant. Many thanks to the event organizers, Social Committee Co-Chairs Robbie Carman and Brendon Singh, and to the AABA members for their donations to Catholic Charities.



2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

Robbie Carman

Thompson & Knight LLP

Brendon Singh

Corral Tran Singh, LLP

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee

Heaven Chee

*Judicial Law Clerk, U.S. District Court for
the Southern District of Texas*

Sang Shin

Foster

Paul Yin

Thompson & Knight, LLP

Gala Committee

Janet Brown

CEVA Logistics

Jennifer Fung

Rabie Law Firm, LLP

Sandy Huynh

Encore Capital Group, Inc.

Kate Suh

Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

Corporate Counsel Committee

Anna Ha

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Pintail Oil & Gas, LLC

Debbie Yee

Latham & Watkins LLP

Solo & Small Firm Committee

Julie Pi Evans

Julie Pi Evans Law Firm

Catherine Le

Law Firm of Catherine Le PLLC

Susan Tran

Corral Tran Singh, LLP

Technology and Web Committee

David Hsu

David Hsu and Associates

Nominations Committee

Clinton Yu

Givens & Johnston PLLC

Catherine Than

Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

Daniel Chen

Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen, PLLC

Gary Ilagan

Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

Vinh Ho

South Texas College of Law







2015 Officers and New Director

President

Clinton Yu

President-Elect

Chris Lee

Vice President of Community Relations

Janet Brown

Vice President of Development

E. Anna Ha

Vice President of Membership

Jennifer Fung

Vice President of Programs

Albert Liou

Treasurer

David Hsu

Secretary

Kate Suh

2015-2016 Elected Director

Eunice Song

Congratulations to the 2015 AABA Officers and New Director!

Dear AABA Members and Friends:

In late October 2014, we sent a request to our AABA mailing list seeking a local, Japanese-speaking attorney willing to provide pro bono legal assistance to an alleged victim in a pending federal criminal case. Through the assistance of Alex Chae and another local attorney and friend of Mr. Chae's, we were able to quickly locate a Japanese-speaking attorney who graciously volunteered to represent the alleged victim and ensure that her interests were protected. Thank you to the members and friends of the AABA for their efforts to find representation for the alleged victim, and a special thank you to the attorney who volunteered his time and expertise to represent her. If anyone is interested in volunteering for pro bono work, please contact our VP of Community Relations Albert Liou at aliou@jonesday.com.

In response to the assistance provided by the AABA, The Honorable Judge Gray H. Miller sent us the following letter:



CHAMBERS OF
GRAY H. MILLER
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
515 RUSK AVENUE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

TELEPHONE (713) 250-5377
FACSIMILE (713) 250-5189

December 8, 2014

Asian American Bar Association of Houston
c/o Mr. Clinton Yu
President-Elect
Givens & Johnston, PLLC
950 Echo Ln., Suite 360
Houston, TX 77024

Dear Members of the Asian American Bar Association of Houston:

I wanted to thank you for your recent assistance in finding an attorney to represent an alleged victim in a criminal case that was pending in my court. The alleged victim was a Japanese citizen who did not speak English, and in order to ensure that justice was served, I felt it would be beneficial for the alleged victim to be able to speak to an attorney representing only her interests who was able to communicate with her in her own language.

At the suggestion of my law clerk, Anna Archer, who knew Mr. Yu through the Houston Bar Association ambassador program, we contacted Mr. Yu to request the assistance of Houston's Asian American Bar Association. Mr. Yu immediately emailed your membership to inquire if any of your members would be willing to represent the alleged victim, pro bono. Very soon thereafter, one of your members agreed to take the case. Thanks to the pro bono representation provided by this volunteer and the assistance of Mr. Yu and the Asian American Bar Association of Houston, the alleged victim has been apprised of her rights and her voice has been heard.

I always appreciate it when lawyers are willing to volunteer their time to help individuals who otherwise would not have adequate protection of their rights, and I think this is a prime example of not just one lawyer, but an entire community of lawyers, working together to ensure that this happened. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Gray H. Miller
United States District Judge

GHM:ama



CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. HARRY GEE, WHO WAS AWARDED THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, ABA SOLO, SMALL FIRM AND GENERAL PRACTICE DIVISION'S DIFFERENCE MAKERS AWARD AT THE ANNUAL GPSOLO NATIONAL SOLO & SMALL FIRM CONFERENCE, HELD OCTOBER 23-25, 2014 AT THE HILTON PALACIO DEL RIO HOTEL IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.



SAVE THE DATE

2015 GPSolo Spring Meeting and 2015 NAPABA Western Regional Conference

April 16 – 18, 2015

**Moana Surfrider
A Westin Resort & Spa
Honolulu, Hawaii**

For more information about our meeting please visit our
website www.americanbar.org/gpsolo



Solo, Small Firm and
General Practice Division



Join us in Hawaii!

You don't want to miss this Joint Spring Meeting at the beautiful Moana Surfrider, a Westin Resort & Spa in Honolulu, Hawaii. This year, GPSolo will be meeting with NAPABA (National Asian Pacific American Bar Association) Western Regional Conference, which will include lots of exciting CLE and fun networking opportunities.

Hotel Information

Moana Surfrider – A Westin Resort & Spa
2365 Kalakaua Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96815

A special ABA rate of \$265.00 single/double for a Historic Wing City View room has been negotiated. To lock in the ABA hotel rates, book your hotel accommodations before 5:00 p.m. CST on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. Occupancy Tax is currently 13.96% (subject to change)

Non-Hawaii Residents should contact the hotel directly to make reservations at (808) 921-4641 and refer to the 2015 Joint Spring Meeting Presented by ABA GPSolo and NAPABA. The reservations line is staffed Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Hawaiian Standard Time).

You may also use the following website to make reservations.
<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/MMABAM>

Hawaii Residents only will receive the group rate of \$225.00 plus tax per night. They will not be able to book this rate on the website, as they must call-in to book their reservations. They should call the Moana Surfrider Group Reservations Line at (808) 921-4641 and let the agent know they are a Hawaii Resident, so they will be able to book at the \$225.00 rate. They must present a Hawaii ID at check-in to receive the rate.



Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities

Joint Spring Meeting

April 16–18, 2015

**Moana Surfrider — A Westin Resort & Spa
Honolulu, Hawaii**

**Presented by
ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division
NAPABA Western Regional Conference**

About Our Meeting

New this year, GPSolo will be meeting with the NAPABA Western Regional Conference to engage and inform attorneys at all levels of practice. The CLE programming will cover a spectrum of legal topics of interest to solo, small firm and general practitioners. This unique event provides an all-in-one environment for education, networking, and idea sharing.

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities

We offer a \$10,000 and \$5,000 meeting sponsorship package, which can be enhanced with additional opportunities. You must be a Diamond Head or Waikiki Beach level sponsor to be able to take advantage of an enhancement. We also offer an exhibits only or CLE option. All of the options provide exposure to conference attendees and esteemed faculty. Attendance is estimated at 250–300 with meeting delegates from all practice areas coming from across the nation. Details on sponsor levels and a commitment form follow; customized packages are also available. **We hope to see you in Honolulu!**

For more information, please contact: Kimberly Kocian, Kimberly.Kocian@AmericanBar.org or 312-988-5636

Diamond Head — \$10,000 Investment

Exclusive opportunities to add Enhancements

- Entire conference attendee exposure
- A speaking opportunity, if it is a natural fit in the meeting program, will be offered
- Promotion of sponsorship on GPSolo and NAPABA social media
- Verbal recognition at conference
- Logo recognition in all printed conference materials
- Logo recognition on the conference website
- Signage in the conference registration area
- One complimentary vendor table in exhibitor area
- Four complimentary conference registrations
- Sponsor ribbon to be worn on name-tag

Waikiki Beach — \$5,000 Investment

Exclusive opportunities to add Enhancements

- Entire conference attendee exposure
- Promotion of sponsorship on GPSolo and NAPABA social media
- Verbal recognition at conference
- Logo recognition in all printed conference materials
- Logo recognition on the conference website
- Signage in the conference registration area
- One complimentary vendor table in exhibitor area
- Two complimentary conference registrations
- Sponsor ribbon to be worn on name-tag

Exhibit Only — \$1,500 Investment

Enhancements are not available at this level

- Six-foot display table in registration / break area
- Recognition in all printed conference materials
- Recognition on the conference website
- Signage in the conference registration area
- Two conference registrations

CLE Patron — \$500 Investment

Enhancements are not available at this level

- Recognition in printed conference material for one CLE session
- Verbal recognition before CLE session begins
- Signage at the CLE session

Rainbow Enhancements

Welcome Reception — \$5,000 Investment

- Verbal recognition at reception
- Signage at reception
- Ten complimentary registrations for reception

Solo & Small Firm Awards Luncheon — \$5,000 Investment

- Verbal recognition at luncheon
- Signage at luncheon
- One table of ten at luncheon

Breakfast — \$2,500 Investment

- Verbal recognition at breakfast
- Signage at breakfast
- One table of ten at breakfast

Logo on flash drives loaded with course materials — \$1,500 Investment

- Logo recognition on flash drive

Hospitality Reception — \$1,000 Investment

- Verbal recognition at hospitality
- Signage at hospitality

Coffee Break — \$500 Investment

- Signage at coffee break
- Logo recognition on napkins

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Commitment Form

Joint Spring Meeting

Presented by: ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division and NAPABA Western Regional Conference

April 16–18, 2015 🕒 Moana Surfrider – A Westin Resort & Spa, Honolulu, Hawaii

Company/Firm Name (as it should be publicized): _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact Signature: _____

Please Check Your Commitments

Sponsor or Exhibitor Options

☐ Diamond Head — \$10,000

☐ Waikiki Beach — \$5,000

☐ Exhibit Only — \$1,500

☐ CLE Patron — \$500

Rainbow Enhancements*

☐ Welcome Reception — \$5,000

☐ Solo & Small Firm Awards Luncheon — \$5,000

☐ Breakfast — \$2,500

☐ Logo on flash drives — \$1,500

☐ Hospitality Reception — \$1,000

☐ Coffee Break — \$500

* Available to Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach Commitments Only

Payment Information:

☐ Enclosed is a check made payable to the American Bar Association GPSolo for the amount marked above.

☐ Please send me an invoice for the amount marked above.

Form Return:

Please return this form via mail or email. In order to be included in promotional materials, we must receive your signed response form no later than **March 25, 2015**.

Print and Mail Form to:

Kimberly Kocian
American Bar Association
Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division
321 N. Clark Street, 18th Floor
Chicago, IL 60654
Telephone: 312-988-5636
Email: Kimberly.Kocian@AmericanBar.org



Thank you for your support!

GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!



Name:

Jennifer Park

Firm/Company:

Gardere Wynne Sewell

Practice Areas of Interest:

Commercial Litigation

If I weren't an attorney, I'd try to be . . . a bakery owner.

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . fried grasshopper.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . watching Korean soap operas.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . *Getting better everyday.*

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . Sushi Jin.

The coolest store in Houston . . . Costco.

The sports team(s) I root for is . . . Texas Rangers.

My favorite decade for music is the 90's, and my favorite song is . . . "How Am I Supposed to Live Without You."

My favorite quote is . . . "Live each day as if it was your last."

I recommend reading . . . *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court* by Jeffrey Toobin.

Most AABA members probably don't know that . . . I love baking, especially rice cakes.

GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!

**Name:**

Amy Hwan

Firm/Company:

Law Offices of Frank Svetlik

Practice Areas of Interest:

Real Estate/Litigation

If I weren't an attorney, I'd try to be . . . an ESL teacher since I grew up correcting my parent's English. I still do out of habit and my mom simply ignores me.

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . snake soup. My uncle treated us to this Chinese delicacy as part of a farewell dinner for my brother who was leaving to take his first post-college job in Singapore.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . spending time with loved ones, traveling, baking, crafting, reading, shopping, running, watching movies, seeing musicals and operas, blogging, yoga, doing crossword puzzles, hosting events, and trying new things.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . *Lucky Amy*. I'm truly blessed to have grown up in a loving family, which consists of my incredible, highly-educated, down-to-earth parents and my brilliant, talented, supportive younger brother. I'm also grateful to have married the man of my dreams who is the doting father of our 17-month old son: the sweetest, most adorable little boy this world has ever seen.

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . actually in Humble, TX. It's a French restaurant called Chez Nous and is secretly tucked away in a residential area near IAH. We try to schedule a dinner whenever we're picking up or dropping off folks at the airport, but it's closed on Sundays.

The coolest store in Houston . . . Kuhl-Linscomb. Not the best customer service though, which is perfectly fine if you want to browse around and not buy anything.

The sports team(s) I root for is . . . none currently. Last year, it was the Rockets when Jeremy Lin and Chandler Parsons were on the team.

My favorite decade for music is the 80's, and my favorite song is . . . too many to name, but here are a few: New Order's "Bizarre Love Triangle", Cure's "Just Like Heaven", Depeche Mode's "Somebody", Pet Shop Boys' "Go West", Peter Cetera's "Glory of Love", Chicago's "You're The Inspiration", Limahl's "Never Ending Story."

My favorite quote is . . . by Abraham Lincoln: "We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses."

I recommend reading . . . Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*. This was the book that inspired me to go to law school.

Most AABA members probably don't know that . . . I have a motorcycle license.

Many thanks to our 2014 Major Underwriters!

Diamond Dragon Underwriter

GARDERE

Platinum Dragon Underwriters

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

Gold Dragon Underwriters

BRACEWELL
& GIULIANI

FOSTER
Fostering Global Immigration Solutions

JONES
DAY®

Locke
Lord^{LLP}

PORTER
HEDGES^{LLP}

® | 💡 | ©
WONGcabello

It's that time of year again...
Renew your AABA membership!



The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2015!

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").



www.aabahouston.com

Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2015 Membership Application/Renewal

- ☐ \$50 General Member
☐ \$25 Public Interest Attorney
☐ \$25 Government Attorney • Judge
☐ \$25 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 ☐ No

Would you like your business contact information published in the 2015 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 Jennifer Fung at jfung@rabielaw.com or 713-414-5611.

**Transitional attorneys refer to those attorneys currently not employed.*