

[www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com)

Founded in 1984, the Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston is a voluntary organization of lawyers of Asian heritage or who have Asian American interests, dedicated to promoting diversity within the legal profession and Houston community.

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## *AABA 2013 Holiday Party and Toy Drive*

On Saturday, December 14, 2013, the AABA held its annual holiday party and toy drive benefitting Asian American Family Services at The Lakehouse at Discovery Green. Many thanks to the event organizers, 2013 Social Committee Co-Chairs Sandy Huynh and Claudia Gee Vassar, and to the AABA members for their donations to Asian American Family Services.



## 2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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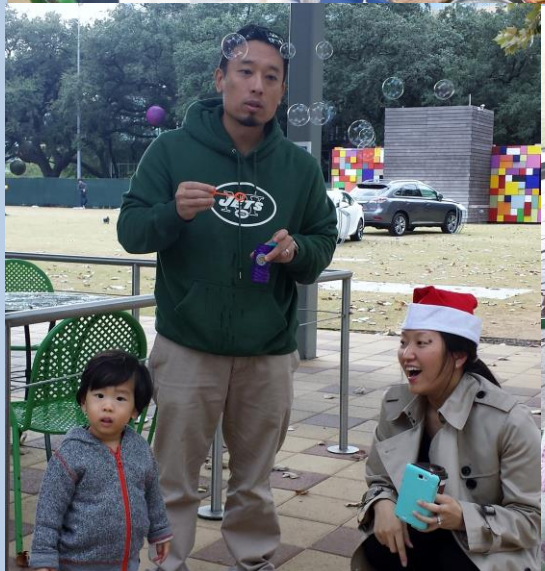
*Boat People SOS, Inc.*

## *AABA 2013 Holiday Party and Toy Drive*





*AABA  
2013 Holiday Party and Toy Drive*





# 2014 AABA Officers, Committee Chairs, & Directors Retreat

On Saturday, January 18, 2014, the Officers, Committee Chairs, and Directors of the AABA met at the offices of FosterQuan LLP and held their annual retreat and planning meeting for the year. During the meeting, Audrey Chang, Brad Chin, Phillip Lau, Judy Liu and Joyce Soliman were appointed to serve as Directors. Special thanks to FosterQuan LLP for hosting this event.





invites you to attend the

## **2014 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING AND KICKOFF DINNER**

Come learn about exciting programs, share your ideas for how the AABA can better serve you and celebrate the New Year with your AABA officers, board members, committee co-chairs, and fellow members.

### **WHERE:**

Maggiano's  
2019 Post Oak Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77056  
(713) 961-3565

### **WHEN:**

Wednesday, January 29, 2014  
6:30 p.m. – Check-In / Reception  
6:45 p.m. – Annual Membership Meeting and Membership Sign-Up  
7:00 p.m. – Dinner Served

### **COST:**

The Annual Members Meeting is no cost.  
Dinner is \$20 for AABA Members / \$40 for Non-Members

### **REGISTRATION:**

Please RSVP by January 27, 2014 at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).  
Space is limited.

Don't forget to renew your membership online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com) or  
at the Annual Members Meeting.

We look forward to seeing you there!



2014

## **2014 Lunar New Year Celebration**

**Join the AABA in celebrating the Year of the Horse!**

**Families are welcome!**

**WHERE:**

**Fung's Kitchen  
7320 Southwest Freeway  
Houston, Texas 77074**

**WHEN:**

**Saturday, February 8, 2014  
12:00 – 2:00 PM**

**COST:**

**\$10/person for AABA members  
\$20/person for non-members  
Free for children 12 and under**

**REGISTRATION:**

**RSVP online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com) by February 1, 2014**

**QUESTIONS:**

**Contact our Social Committee Co-Chairs:  
Brendan Singh at [brendon.singh@ctsattorneys.com](mailto:brendon.singh@ctsattorneys.com)  
Robbie Carman at [robbie.carman@tklaw.com](mailto:robbie.carman@tklaw.com)**

# Law Day Poster Contest

sponsored by

**Houston Bar Association**

**AABA** *of Houston*

You are invited to participate in the 2014 Houston Law Day Poster Contest! Winners in each grade level will receive \$200 (1<sup>st</sup> place), \$90 (2<sup>nd</sup> place), or \$40 (3<sup>rd</sup> place). Selected posters will be displayed in Houston Downtown court houses and office buildings.

A **FREE** poster-making workshop will be held on:



**Saturday, February 22, 2014**

**11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Chinese Community Center  
(Downstairs Activity Room)

9800 Town Park

Houston, Texas 77036

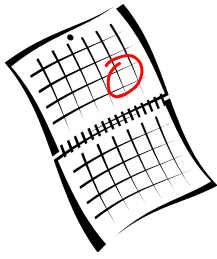
**Grade Levels:** K-8<sup>th</sup> grades may participate.

**Cost: FREE!**

Poster materials, art supplies, and lunch will be provided for all participants. The **special guest speaker** will be **Harris County Criminal Judge Margaret Harris**, who will be speaking about the importance of the American justice system.

The theme for the 2014 Poster Contest is **“American Democracy & The Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters.”** Completed posters will be submitted to the Houston Bar Association for entry into the official Poster Contest.

For questions about this event, please email [aliou@jonesday.com](mailto:aliou@jonesday.com).



## **SAVE THE DATE**

The Asian Pacific Interest Section invites you to join **APIS's FIRST-EVER Corporate Counsel Annual Meeting!**

**KEY PANEL TOPICS** from the perspectives of Asian Pacific American attorneys, including:

- How to deal with outside counsel;
- Career advancement; and
- Diversity within legal departments.

**NETWORKING SESSION** with other in-house counsel.

**DISCOUNT RATES** for the 18th Annual APIS Conference & Retreat, Leaving a Legacy: Shaping Texas Leaders for Tomorrow, featuring:

- Over 6 hours of CLE credits, including ETHICS;
- APIS Gala at the stunning Blanton Museum of Art; and,
- Planned family activities, including FREE passes to the Texas Memorial Museum (with spectacular exhibits, including the largest flying creature ever found—the Texas Pterosaur) and the Bullock Texas State History Museum.

**DATE:** Corporate Counsel Meeting - April 5, 4:00PM  
APIS Conference - April 4 & 5, 2014

**LOCATION:** University of Texas AT&T Executive Conference Center & Hotel

Please direct all questions regarding the meeting and the conference to APIS Chair, Alice Liu Cook, [alice.liu.cook@gmail.com](mailto:alice.liu.cook@gmail.com).



## ***LEARN SPANISH IN JANUARY!***

**Downtown Lunchtime Classes, Central Houston Location in the  
Evenings**

**Discounted price for Asian American Bar Association of  
Houston members**

**Lunchtime Spanish Classes - Downtown Houston**

**Fulbright & Jaworski  
1301 McKinney, 51st floor  
Houston, TX 77010**

**14-week, 14-hour class**

\$275 - members of AABA

\$300 - all others

**TUESDAYS, January 14 - April 14**

Advanced: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Intermediate-2: 12:05 pm - 1:05 pm

**THURSDAYS, January 14 - April 14**

Beginners-1: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Beginners-2: 12:05 pm - 1:05 pm

Intermediate-1: 1:10 pm - 2:10 pm

**Evening Spanish Classes - Central Houston Location**

**7-week, 14-hour class**

\$275 - members of AABA

\$300 - all others

**Certified Appraisers  
10500 Northwest Frwy, Suite 200  
Houston, TX 77092 - ([map](#))**

**TUESDAYS, January 14 - February 25**

Beginners-1: 6:00 - 8:00 pm - [Register](#)

## PERMANENCY WORKSHOP

Every child deserves to grow up in a loving, permanent home – especially children who end up in foster care. If you are a volunteer advocate for foster children, an attorney or judge who works on CPS cases, or a CPS worker, you're invited to a special training to address how to move children from foster care to safe, permanent homes. The free Permanency Values Training is from 1-5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014 at the Child Advocates office, 2401 Portsmouth. Call (512) 610-6130 for more information or visit [www.TexasCASA.org](http://www.TexasCASA.org) and click on the News & Events tab for more information. [Register here](#). Attendees can earn 5.0 MCLEs.

This event is sponsored by Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Child Advocates, Inc.; the Texas Children's Commission of the Supreme Court of Texas, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Appleseed and Casey Family Services.

## LAW DAY POSTER CONTEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AABA is seeking volunteers for the Law Day Poster Contest on February 22, 2014.

If you are interested, please contact Albert Liou at [aliou@jonesday.com](mailto:aliou@jonesday.com).

# 28th Annual Conference on the Prevention of Child Abuse



*Stop The Harm Before It Starts*

## Registration Open

March 3-4, 2014

San Antonio Omni Colonnade Hotel

Presented by



**Prevent Child Abuse  
Texas**

**Registration** is now open for 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Prevention of Child Abuse. To take advantage of the Early-Bird discount rate, you must register before February 7, 2014, at <http://www.preventchildabusetexas.org/nextconference.html>.

Download the **Program Page** for complete program brochure.

### About the Conference

The Conference is designed to offer quality training and information on topics and model programs of interest to leaders in child abuse prevention: social workers, counselors, educators, child care and youth workers, law enforcement personnel, medical & legal professionals, foster parents, child welfare board volunteers, elected officials, and other interested child advocates. Participants may attend their choice of a variety of workshops on child abuse and neglect prevention and educational programs or may select workshops for specialized training credits and professional development.

### Schedule at a Glance

The **Schedule-at-a-Glance** for this year's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Prevention of Child Abuse to be held at the San Antonio Omni Colonnade Hotel, March 3-4, 2014 is available online.

### Reserve Your Housing at the San Antonio Omni Colonnade Hotel

The San Antonio Omni Colonnade Hotel will serve as the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Prevention of Child Abuse hotel. Located at: 9821 Colonnade Blvd.

San Antonio, TX 78230.

Make your hotel reservations now – call 1-800-THE-OMNI (1-800-843-6664) and identify the Conference for special rates good through February 7, 2014. If you would like to register online, please go to:

<http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/SanAntonio/MeetingFacilities/PreventChildAbuseTexas2.aspx>

Conference Rate: The Omni Hotel at the Colonnade offers accommodations at \$119.00 occupancy rates under a block of rooms reserved for the Prevent Child Abuse Texas Conference. Only a limited number of rooms are available at the conference rate so reserve early!

### Sponsorship and Exhibiting Opportunities

Convey your commitment to children! Please support the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Prevention of Child Abuse. Depending on support level, benefits include complimentary meeting registrations and acknowledgement. View information about all of our different **support opportunities**.

Businesses, organizations, and individuals are invited to bring products, materials and services to the attention of those attending the Conference. For information or to reserve a table, visit our web site at <http://www.preventchildabusetexas.org/pdf/28th-exhibitor-form.pdf> or email [Conferences@preventchildabusetexas.org](mailto:Conferences@preventchildabusetexas.org). Deadline is December 31, 2013. Space is limited!

YOU CAN ALSO CUT AND PASTE THE FOLLOWING LINK FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION

<http://www.preventchildabusetexas.org/nextconference.html>





## **Job Opportunities**

### **Applied Optoelectronics, Inc.**

Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. (AOI) seeks corporate counsel with 1-2 years of relevant legal experience, to perform in-house corporate law duties, including legal research and analysis, contract review and providing support for AOI's legal team. The candidate will be responsible for providing in-house legal assistance in the following areas:

- Support the review, negotiation and drafting of various contracts and agreements
- Manage various projects and deadlines
- Research unique legal issues impacting the organization
- SEC filing support
- Support for Board secretarial duties
- Providing general legal support to the General Counsel

Please visit <http://ao-inc.com/contact-careers/careers/corporate-counsel> for more information about this position.

### **Department of Justice Attorney Vacancies**

Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice currently has available job opportunities as Deputy Special Counsel (closing date January 31, 2014) and Student Volunteers.

Please visit <http://www.justice.gov/crt/employment/> for more information.

Individuals interested in applying for these positions should comply with the application procedures and closing dates in the vacancy announcement. The Division does not accept unsolicited resumes or applications (i.e., those not submitted in response to a particular vacancy announcement). If you need more information about a specific Civil Rights Division vacancy, please call the Human Resources Office, Team 1, at (202) 514-3934.

For information about all job vacancies at the Department Justice, please visit <http://www.justice.gov/careers/legal/attvacancies.html>.



# **Job Opportunities**

## **Fort Bend County Associate Judge**

Fort Bend County is seeking an Associate Judge to support the 268th and 434th District Courts sitting at the new Fort Bend County Justice Center, 1522 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond, Texas. The Associate Judge will assist the District Courts in a variety of cases, including civil, family, juvenile, and criminal matters. The closing date for this position is February 15, 2014.

For more information, please visit [www.fortbendcounty.jobs](http://www.fortbendcounty.jobs).

## **Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, LLP**

Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, LLP seeks a 3-6 year Insurance Coverage Litigation Associate in our Houston office. This position principally involves handling litigation matters, including the direct defense of insurance companies in breach of contract and extra-contractual cases arising out of personal lines, commercial property, and liability insurance policies. Candidates should have a working knowledge of state and federal civil procedure as well as experience with depositions, hearings, and insurance coverage. Excellent advocacy and writing skills are a must. Please send resumes to [employment@thompsoncoe.com](mailto:employment@thompsoncoe.com).

## **Federal Trade Commission**

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Southwest Region seeks a qualified General Attorney, at the GS-11-12 grade level. The FTC is seeking a consumer protection attorney to work in its Southwest Region in Dallas, Texas. The Southwest Region carries out the FTC's consumer protection mission, bringing consumer protection actions and handling consumer educational outreach, in the geographical area that includes Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Candidates should have excellent communication skills, excellent legal research and writing abilities, including strong organizational skills and analytical skills in presenting written arguments. Candidates should be able to work effectively with other people, exercise sound judgment, have knowledge of the laws enforced by the Commission and exhibit a strong interest in the work and the mission of the agency. In addition, candidates must have attained a law degree from an accredited law school, and be a member in good standing of the bar of a state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or territory. The salary range is \$61,288.00 to \$95,496.00/per year.

To apply submit resume, by February 5, 2014, to [www.USAJOBS.gov](http://www.USAJOBS.gov). Please refer to Announcement No. SWRO-2014-0001.

For additional information, please call Keyonna Washington at (202)326-2853.



## **SIDEBAR NEWS**

**Congratulations to Anna Ha for becoming  
a partner at Sidley Austin LLP!**

**Congratulations to Alison Chen for  
becoming partner at Andrews Kurth LLP!**



# Get to Know an AABA MEMBER!



*Name:* Paul Yin

*Firm/Company:* Thompson & Knight LLP

*Practice Areas of Interest:* Tax

*If I weren't an attorney, I'd try to be . . .* Lost? I've wanted to be a lawyer since I was a kid.

*The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . .* Snake. It tasted like chicken, obviously.

*In my spare time, I enjoy . . .* Exploring new restaurants and playing basketball to work up my appetite.

*In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . .* Pho Ben. Great service, affordable, and close to where I live.

*The coolest store in Houston . . .* House of Coffee Beans – they offer unique coffee bean flavors.

*The sports team(s) I root for is . . .* Houston Rockets, Houston Texans and Duke Basketball.

*My favorite decade for music is the* 90s, *but my favorite song is . . .*

"Peaches" by New Heights.

*"My favorite quote is . . ."* RTDS – Read the damn statute."

*I recommend reading . . .* Zach Lowe's articles on Grantland.com. I learn something new about playing basketball every time.

*Most AABA members probably don't know that . . .* Won an essay contest in fourth grade and the topic of my choice was - surprise! - tax. I suppose some things are just meant to be.

**Many thanks to our 2014 Major Underwriters!**

**Diamond Dragon Underwriter**

**GARDERE**

**LATHAM & WATKINS<sup>LLP</sup>**

**Gold Dragon Underwriters**



**FOSTERQUAN, LLP**  
THE COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM

**GT** GreenbergTraurig

**JONES  
DAY.**

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**WONG**cabello

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



**The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2014!**

**You may apply for membership online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com)  
or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues.**

**If you haven't already applied for membership to the AABA, then you are missing out on all the benefits of membership. Members of the AABA receive significant discounts to all AABA events, as well as invitations to exclusive members-only seminars and programs such as the annual Corporate Counsel Dinner and inclusion in the Attorney Profiles Directory. Become an AABA member today, and gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer!**

**Another terrific benefit of AABA membership is automatic membership in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA").**

## **The **AABA** welcomes the following new and renewing members!**

Peggy Barber  
Janet Brown  
Justin Chakrabarty  
Audrey Chang  
Janis Chang  
Jennifer Chang  
William Chang  
Faisal Charania  
Daniel Chen  
Brad Chin  
Caroline Cho  
Paul Chung

Sheila Enriquez  
Rea Ferandez  
Jennifer Fung  
Mark Gilbreth  
Shawn Grady  
Dan Hinde  
Ann Ho  
Grace Ho  
James Hu  
Warren Huang  
Loan-Anh Kao  
Jay Karahan

Judy Kim  
Christopher Koa  
Phillina Lai  
Chris Lee  
H. Albert Liou  
Judy Liu  
Eduardo Martinez  
David Nguyen  
Henry Nguyen  
Michele Nguyen  
Tom Nguyen  
Liane Noble

Gary Shiu  
Brendon Singh  
Joyce Kao Soliman  
Eunice Song  
Catherine Than  
Susan Tran  
Jane Nguyen Vuong  
Jue Wang  
Debbie Yee  
Paul Yin  
Sharon Yin  
Clinton Yu





www.aabahouston.com

## Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2014 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 2014 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 Eunice Song at (713) 276-5079 or esong@gardere.com

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