

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 CLE: Basic Criminal Law for Non-Criminal Law Attorneys

On Thursday, October 16th, the AABA sponsored a lunch and learn CLE entitled, "Basic Criminal Law for Non-Criminal Law Attorneys," at the offices of FosterQuan LLP. The CLE featured Jason Luong and The Honorable Judge Jay Karahan as speakers. Many thanks to our speakers, FosterQuan, and Chris Lee, Vice President of Programs, for organizing this event.



2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

Robbie Carman
Thompson & Knight LLP

Brendon Singh
Corral Tran Singh, LLP

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

Sang Shin
FosterQuan LLP

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Sysco Corporation

Tom H. Nguyen
Pintail Oil & Gas, LLC

Debbie Yee
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Julie Pi Evans
Julie Pi Evans Law Firm

Catherine Le
Law Firm of Catherine Le PLLC

Susan Tran
Corral Tran Singh, LLP

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David Hsu
David Hsu and Associates

Nominations Committee

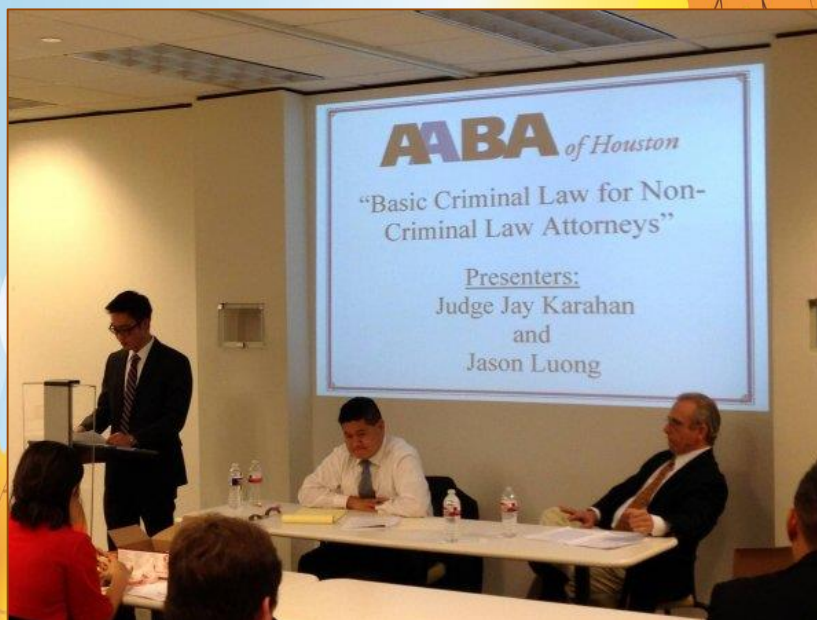
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Daniel Chen
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Gary Ilagan
Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

Vinh Ho
South Texas College of Law



Career Advancement for Asian-Americans Seminar

On Thursday, October 23^d, the AABA and the BP Asian Network jointly sponsored a professional development seminar featuring UC Hastings Chancellor and Dean Frank H. Wu. Thank you to Dean Wu for taking the time to share his knowledge and advice and to BP and Chris Koa for organizing this event.







10th Annual Corporate Counsel Dinner

Featuring Keynote Speaker:

Robert (Rob) B. Task

Deputy General Counsel

Commercial, Marketing, Transportation and Business Development

Phillips 66

DATE:

Thursday, October 30, 2014

TIME:

Reception

6:00 PM

Dinner and Program

7:00 PM

PLACE:

Smith & Wollensky

4007 Westheimer Road

Highland Village

Houston, Texas 77027

TICKETS:

In-House Counsel: One complimentary ticket

AABA Members, Guests, and Others: \$100 per ticket

Please RSVP and purchase tickets by **October 29, 2014**.

In-house counsel, please RSVP with Corporate Counsel Committee Co-Chair,
Debbie Yee, at Debbie.Yee@lw.com.

Everyone else, please RSVP and purchase tickets online at www.aabahouston.com.

No tickets will be sold at the door. Space is limited!

***The Corporate Counsel Dinner is graciously underwritten by
Gardere Wynne Sewell and Latham & Watkins.***

2014 AABA WOMEN ATTORNEYS' RETREAT

Join your fellow AABA women attorneys for a special professional development opportunity, morning yoga, fashion show and designer shopping!

Date:

Saturday, November 15, 2014

Time:

9:00am - 12:00pm

9:00am - 9:15am Registration

9:15am - 9:45am Yoga / Workplace Exercise Class

10:00am - 11:00am Roundtable Discussion/Brunch

11:00am - 12:00pm Fashion Show and Designer Shopping*

Place:

David Peck USA Flagship
2515 Morse Street
Houston, Texas 77019

Details:

Brunch is included.

This event is free and is open to women attorneys only.

Please RSVP by 11/13/2014 at www.aabahouston.com.

*David Peck will be offering 20% off to retreat participants and Stella & Dot jewelry and accessories will be offered for sale, with a portion of Stella & Dot sales donated to the AABF.



SAVE THE DATE!

AABA Men's Retreat

Date:

Saturday, November 15th

Time:

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Location:

**3 Greenway Plaza Suite 1700
Houston TX, 77046 (MassMutual Office)**

Description:

**“Wine Tasting 101” seminar
(wine and food provided) & 1.0 hour CLE on
“Best Practices of Successful Lawyers”**

This event is free and open to male attorneys only.

PORTRAIT DEDICATION CEREMONY

AABA members are cordially invited to attend a Portrait Dedication Ceremony honoring retiring Associate Presiding Judge Maria Casanova and retired Judge Gladys T. Bransford, as well as some past Municipal Courts Department staff members.

The event will take place on Saturday,

November 1, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the

HERBERT W. GEE COURTHOUSE at

1400 Lubbock, Houston, Texas 77002.

Please RSVP to Lilly Warden at lilly.warden@houstontx.gov.



Westin Kierland Resort & Spa
6902 E Greenway Parkway
Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Convergence: Collaborating for a Grand Tomorrow

The 26th Annual NAPABA Convention will be held in Phoenix/Scottsdale, AZ from November 6-9, 2014. We expect to attract over 1,500 APA attorneys, including general counsel of Fortune 1000 companies, federal and state judges, and law professors from across the country. The Convention, themed "Convergence: Collaborating for a Grand Tomorrow," will feature programming that celebrates the diversity and unity of NAPABA.

NAPABA will again coordinate with the National Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (NAPALSA) to host the student conference in order to help the next generation of APA lawyers develop the skills and relationships necessary to succeed and thrive in this challenging profession.

For the fifth year in a row, the National Asian Pacific American Pre-Law Conference will be hosted at the Convention for prospective law students.

Registration

Online registration for the 2014 NAPABA Convention is now open. Registration rates will vary depending on whether you are a NAPABA member and the date you register. To become a NAPABA member, click [here](#).

[Click here](#) to register now. You will be able to edit your registration with session and event selections when they become available in July.

Early Bird Registration Rates (before September 5)	Member	Non- Member
Attorney	\$595	\$695
Judges/Public Interest/Government	\$325	\$425
Student	\$150	\$250

Planning Efforts

Planning is still underway for the 2014 Convention, so keep an eye on this page for updates as they become available. In the meantime, for more information on the planning efforts, please contact NAPABA Special Events Coordinator [Pia Rivera](#)

NAPABA Convention Credo

To highlight the values and goals of the organization, NAPABA has adopted a Convention Credo that will be one of the guiding principles for attendees:

"I undertake the responsibility of promoting a professional environment at the NAPABA Convention to encourage and maintain the important values of friendship, civility, community, respect towards all, and ethical conduct. If I behave in a way that is inconsistent with these values, I understand that NAPABA may take appropriate action either during or after the Convention. NAPABA's mission is to promote justice, equity and opportunity for Asian Pacific Americans and to foster professional development, legal scholarship, advocacy and community involvement. As a Convention attendee, I am a proud ambassador of the NAPABA legal community and will conduct myself in a manner that advances NAPABA's goals."

Hotel Accommodations

NAPABA is holding a block of rooms at the Convention site hotel, the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, at the rate of \$254 single/double plus applicable taxes and fees. A reduced one-time resort fee of \$15 will be charged for each reservation made. This one-time fee includes unlimited guest room internet, housekeeping service fees, local, long distance (domestic) and 1-800 guest room calls, expanded shuttle service to Kierland Commons and Scottsdale Quarter, tennis court access, and equipment rental. To make a reservation, please [click here](#) or call 1-800-354-5892 and mention the NAPABA Annual Convention. The cutoff date for this block is October 10, 2014, however this block WILL SELL OUT prior to this date. We highly suggest booking your reservation as soon as possible. After the cutoff date or after the block has been filled, rooms may still be available at the Westin but will be sold at prevailing rates.

Registration

Registration for the Convention will open Summer 2014.



2014 Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition Announced

The Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition is an appellate advocacy competition sponsored annually by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Law Foundation (NAPABA Law Foundation), an IRC § 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable and educational affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA). The NAPABA Law Foundation works closely with the National Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (NAPALSA) and its local affiliates at law schools across the country. The purpose of this Competition is to develop advocacy skills without regard to the merit of the petitioner's or respondent's cases.

The Competition was founded in 1993 and is named in honor of the late Honorable Thomas Tang, a respected jurist who was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in 1977. Judge Tang's decisions during his more than eighteen years on the Ninth Circuit reflected his strong commitment to civil rights for all people. Judge Tang was known for his kindness and warmth, and the leadership role he played in the Asian Pacific American legal community. Prior to his passing in 1995, Judge Tang provided tremendous support to NAPABA and its activities, including the creation of this national moot court competition.

The regional rounds of the Competition are conducted during October of each academic year throughout the country. The winner of each regional round will automatically advance to the finals of the competition, to be held in conjunction with the annual [NAPABA Convention](#) in Scottsdale, AZ, between November 5-9, 2014. The National Committee will also select additional high scoring teams from the regional rounds of the competition, to advance and compete during the finals of the competition. The Committee will select a minimum of twelve (12) teams to a maximum of sixteen (16) teams to compete in the finals of the TTMCC.

REGISTER & DOWNLOAD MATERIALS TODAY

[The Official Rules](#)

[The Entry Form](#)

[The Regional Rounds](#)

[The Thomas Tang Moot Court Problem](#)

For more information contact [Hemanth Digumarthi](#)

NAPABA Convention

Judges Needed for the Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition

We need members of the bench and bar to serve as oral argument judges for the preliminary and quarterfinal rounds of the Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition*, on Friday November 7th during the NAPABA Convention. The preliminary rounds are from 9:15 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and the quarterfinal round is from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the convention hotel, Westin Kierland Resort. You can judge one or both rounds.

If you can serve as a judge, please sign up online (<http://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/tzsao>) or contact, Hemanth Digumarthi, Hemanth.digumarthi.uyfc@statefarm.com.

Time:

Two Preliminary Rounds, Friday, November 7, 2014.
The preliminary rounds are from 9:15 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
and the quarterfinal round is from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Material Provided:

Volunteer judges will be provided a bench brief that includes legal analysis of the issues and suggested questions to ask the student competitors.

Sign-Up Link:

If you can serve as a judge, sign up online (<http://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/tzsao>)

Point of Contact:

Hemanth Digumarthi
Phone: [404-788-6398](tel:404-788-6398) (cell)
Hemanth.Digumarthi.uyfc@statefarm.com

*The Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition is an appellate advocacy competition sponsored annually by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Law Foundation (NAPABA Law Foundation), an IRC § 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable and educational affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA). The NAPABA Law Foundation works closely with the National Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (NAPALSA) and its local affiliates at law schools across the country. The purpose of this Competition is to develop advocacy skills without regard to the merit of the petitioner's or respondent's cases.

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SALAMAT

Celebrating the Filipino Culture, Heritage and Spirit

SALAMAT (Tagalog for "thank you") is a thanksgiving celebration and commemoration of the anniversary of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. While honoring the Houston community for its overwhelming help after this catastrophic event, FYP also hopes to bring awareness to the continued support that is still needed to rebuild these communities. A portion of the net proceeds from this event will fund education scholarships for students affected by Haiyan in the Philippines. This event will also highlight FYP's 2014 accomplishments. Please join us for this family-friendly event!

Saturday, November 22, 2014
6 p.m.–11 p.m.

FFAUMC Family Hall
8603 S. Kirkwood Rd.
Houston, TX 77099

Entertainment:

Showcase performances by the FYP Cultural Performers, as well as DJ Seduction, Local Talents and Guests

Hosts:

Anthony Guevarra and Delmar Imperial-Aubin

Cost (per person):

\$28 advanced tickets, \$35 at the door
\$10 advanced tickets (12 y/o & under), \$15 at the door
Includes dinner buffet featuring a variety of popular Filipino dishes and street food.

To purchase advanced tickets, please visit fyp-salamat.eventbrite.com.

To become an event sponsor or to make a tax deductible donation, please email fyp-houston@gmail.com or visit www.fyp-houston.com.

Dressy Casual & Cultural Dress Attire Encouraged

Hosted by the Filipino Young Professionals of Houston





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!

JOB OPPORTUNITY

USAO Northern District of Texas

Dallas, Texas

Attorney

1100 Commerce St, Third Floor

Dallas, TX 75242

United States

15-NDTX-AUSA-1242107 NB

The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas seeks an experienced attorney to serve as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) in the Civil Division of its Dallas office. The AUSA will work on affirmative bankruptcy litigation on behalf of federal agencies.

Job Description: This is a temporary appointment not-to-exceed 09/30/2016. This position may be extended or made permanent without further competition. The Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) will serve in the Civil Division of the Dallas office, and will work on affirmative bankruptcy litigation on behalf of federal agencies. The successful applicant will handle bankruptcy work in Dallas for numerous federal agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and the Social Security Administration (SSA). In addition, the successful applicant will work with U.S. Attorney's Office's current bankruptcy team to expand our involvement in complex bankruptcy litigation, including adversary proceedings on behalf of HHS, The Department of Education, our office's Asset Recovery Unit, and our office's Affirmative Civil Enforcement section; work on behalf of SSA's Dallas regional office to recover non-dischargeable overpayments of SSI disability benefits; and objections to IRS proofs of claim. Responsibilities will increase and assignments will become more complex as your training and experience progress.

Application Process: Applications may be submitted online through the following:

<http://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/384456600>.

The deadline to apply is Friday, November 7, 2014. If unable to apply online, the announcement provides instructions on faxing your documents in the "How to Apply" tab.

GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!

**Name:**

Tom Nguyen

Firm/Company:

Pintail Oil & Gas, LLC

Practice Areas of Interest:

Oil & Gas, A&D, Energy Transactions, Corporate

If I weren't an attorney, I'd try to be . . . an owner of a business conglomerate (goal to create a lot of jobs).

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . alligator etouffee.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . playing tennis, riding my bike, and traveling.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness*.

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . Pappas Bros. Steakhouse.

The coolest store in Houston . . . Academy.

The sports team(s) I root for is . . . Houston Texans, Rockets, Astros, Cougars & Dynamo.

My favorite decade for music is the present one, **and my favorite song is . . .** *"Someone Like You"* and *"Lose Yourself"* Mashup (Adele and Eminem).

My favorite quote is . . . "It's never too late to have a happy childhood."

I recommend reading . . . *Money in the Ground*.

Most AABA members probably don't know that . . . enjoy visiting Vietnam and the Philippines.

Many thanks to our 2014 Major Underwriters!

Diamond Dragon Underwriter

GARDERE

Platinum Dragon Underwriters

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

Gold Dragon Underwriters

BRACEWELL
& GIULIANI


FOSTERQUAN, LLP
THE COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM®

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DAY®

Locke
Lord^{LLP}

PORTER
HEDGES^{LLP}

® |  | ©
WONGcabello



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.*