

Founded in 1984, the AABA's membership reflects all aspects of Houston's Asian-Pacific legal community, whose mission is to promote the professional development of its members and to serve the Houston community at large.

APRIL 2015

NEWSLETTER

2015 OFFICERS

Clinton Yu

President

Givens & Johnston, PLLC

Chris Lee

President-Elect

Superior Energy Services, Inc.

Janet Brown

Vice President of Community Relations

CEVA Logistics

E. Anna Ha

Vice President of Development

Sidley Austin LLP

Jennifer Fung

Vice President of Membership

Rabie Law Firm LLP

Albert Liou

Vice President of Programs

Jones Day

Kate Suh

Secretary

U.S. Attorney's Office

David Hsu

Treasurer

David Hsu and Associates

DIRECTORS

Joyce Soliman, Chair

Porter Hedges LLP

Audrey Chang

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Daniel Chen

Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen PLLC

Brad Chin

Bracewell & Giuliani LLP

Helene Dang

Foster LLP

Gary Ilagan

Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC

Christopher Koa

BP Americas

Philip Lau

Locke Lorde LLP

Judy Liu

CenterPoint Energy Service Company LLC

Eunice Song

Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Sharon Yin

Yin Law Firm

APIS Affiliate of the Year

On April 18, 2015, the AABA was awarded "Affiliate of the Year" by the Asian Pacific Interest Section (APIS) of the State Bar of Texas. Congratulations and many thanks to all AABA members who have contributed to making the AABA a special organization! A warm congratulations to two of our members, State Representative Gene Wu and Assistant District Attorney Jessica Vu, who were recipients of APIS's "Best Under 40" Award. Congratulations to APIS on a successful 20th Anniversary and thank you for your hospitality!



2015 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Corporate Counsel Committee

Claire Lin

Chevron Corporation

Rachel Le

Occidental Petroleum Corporation

Sandy Huynh

Encore Capital Group, Inc.

Gala Committee

Caroline Cho

Rapfogel Law Firm PLLC

Julie Pi Evans

Julie Pi Evans Law Firm

Jennifer Park

Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Susan Tran

Corral Tran Singh, LLP

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee

Annie Kwan

Haynes and Boone, LLP

Nickie Tran

Porter Hedges LLP

Brendon Singh

Corral Tran Singh, LLP

Nominations Committee

Chris Lee, Chair

Superior Energy Services, Inc.

Warren Huang

Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP

Mai Huynh

United Salt Corporation

Tyrone Lin

Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program, Inc.

Sharon Yin

Yin Law Firm

Social Committee

Sang Shin

Foster LLP

Paul Yin

Thompson & Knight LLP

Michele Nguyen

Law Office of Michele Nguyen

Solo & Small Firm Committee

Chikeersha Puvvada

Puvvada Law Office, PLLC

Trang Nguyen

*Law Office of Pham & Nguyen Law Group,
P.C.*

Nadine Chen

Law Office of Kathryn N. Karam, PC

Technology and Web Committee

David Hsu

David Hsu and Associates

James Vergara

Patterson & Sheridan LLP



SOLO & SMALL FIRM CLE RECEPTION

On March 25, 2015, the AABA held a Solo & Small Firm CLE and Reception on the topic of “Avoiding Common Mistakes in Litigation,” featuring panelists Judge Theresa Chang and Dinesh Singhal. A special thanks to our panelists and the Solo & Small Firm Committee Co-Chairs, Chikeersha Puvvada, Trang Nguyen, and Nadine Chen for organizing the event.





Minority Bar Mixer

On April 8, 2015, the AABA held a Minority Bar Mixer, co-sponsored with the Hispanic Bar Association and the South Asian Bar Association. Many thanks to Public Services Wine & Whisky Bar and Social Committee Co-Chairs Michele Nguyen, Sang Shin, and Paul Yin for coordinating a night of camaraderie.





MEMBER NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Alison Chen has joined Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP from Andrews Kurth LLP.



Eunice Song was elected to partnership at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP.



Kate Suh has joined the U.S. Attorney's Office from Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP.

Please send news and announcement requests for consideration to cyu@givensjohnston.com.

Meet an AABA Member



Name: **Shannon Quadros**
Practice Areas: **Trade Secret and Construction Litigation**

1. If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . in the real estate development business. I was in real estate before and while I worked through law school. It shares many of the best characteristics of law without the billable hours!
2. In my spare time, I enjoy . . . trying to not make a fool of myself weightlifting and listening to entirely too much NPR.
3. If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . The Seeker.
4. In my opinion, the best restaurant/bar in Houston is . . . Mark's in Montrose. Ask them to make you a Kentucky Sidecar and sample their in-house chocolate.
5. In my opinion, the most underrated restaurant/bar in Houston is . . . Tacqueria Arandas. Their green sauce should be declared a national treasure.
6. A deserving charity I recommend giving to is . . . Friends for Life Animal Rescue and Adoption in the Heights. They put into practice what they preach about the No Kill Shelter movement.
7. The sports teams I root for are . . . Penn State and U of H football, and despite my better judgment, the Houston Texans.
8. My favorite decade for music is the 80's, although my favorite song is a 90's tune: Ordinary Word by Duran Duran.
9. My favorite quote is . . . "Everything is good in the end. If it's not good, it's not the end." It's been attributed to many including John Lennon and Paulo Coelho.
10. I recommend reading . . . God's Debris by Scott Adams. Yes, the same Scott Adams of Dilbert fame.
11. Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . used to be a semi-professional stand-up comedian a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away.



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

Don't forget to 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:

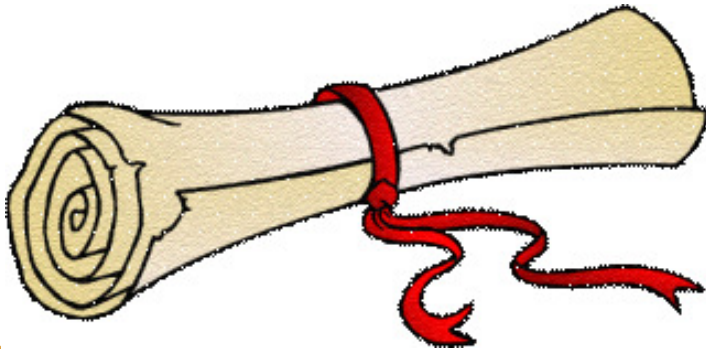
- ☐ Gala ☐ Fundraising ☐ Programs ☐ Social/Networking ☐ Community Relations/Pro Bono
☐ Solo and Small Firm ☐ Corporate Counsel ☐ Mentorship/Law School Relations

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.

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



Call for attorney volunteers for the 2015 Wills Clinic!

Your contribution will provide valuable estate planning assistance for low income individuals in Houston's Asian community.

Training & Orientation: April 29, 2015

Wills' Clinic: June 13, 2015

Brought to you by:
AABA Houston
Houston Volunteer Lawyers
VN Teamwork
Boat People SOS
Peter Bennett, Esq.

Questions? Please email Albert Liou
at aliou@jonesday.com.

Wills Clinic Training & Orientation

Date:

Wed. Apr. 29

Time:

11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Location:

Gardere Wynne
Sewell LLP
35th Fl. Board Rm.
Wells Fargo Plaza
1000 Louisiana,
Suite 3400
Houston, TX 77002

1.0 Participatory
Hours
(0.25 Ethics Hours)
CLE Approved

*Lunch will be
provided.*

Register on
aabahouston.com
by Mon. Apr. 27



AABA & HVL Veterans Legal Clinic



Saturday

May 9th

8:30 am — noon



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please contact Janet.Brown@cevalogistics.com

**Conroe VA Outpatient Clinic
800 Riverwood Ct.
Suite 100
Conroe, TX 77304**



Calls for Nominations for the 2015 IMPACT AWARD

Nominations are now being taken for the 2015 Impact Award, which will be presented at this year's AABA Gala & Silent Auction.

Criteria: Nominees should have made significant contributions to the growth and development of the Asian American legal community in the Greater Houston area.

Nomination Period: Nominations will be accepted through Friday, May 8, 2015.

Please submit nominations to AABA President, Clinton Yu, at cyu@givensjohnston.com.

HOUSTON PRO BONO NETWORK

A Network of Law Firm Pro Bono Leaders & Coordinators

The Houston Pro Bono Network, which is an informal network of attorneys formed in 2007, brings together pro bono leaders and coordinators from Houston firms of all sizes to explore pro bono opportunities, initiatives, and best practices.

Houston Pro Bono Network

Save the Date:

May 14, 2015

Roundtable Discussion: The Business Case for Pro Bono

A discussion led by Law Firm Professionals concerning the business of pro bono and the impact it has on law firms.

Lunch served at 11:30. Program to begin at 12:00.

Texas MCLE Accreditation pending (1.0 hours).
Lunch provided.

As always, there is no charge for this HPBN event.

Hosted by:

Vinson & Elkins, LLP
1001 Fannin, 26th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

RSVP:

Please RSVP by May 1, 2015 to Ellyn Josef
ejosef@velaw.com

If you have questions, please contact any of the following members of the Houston Pro Bono Network Planning Committee:

Sylvia Mayer
S. Mayer Law PLLC
smayer@smayerlaw.com

Ellyn Haikin Josef
Vinson & Elkins
ejosef@velaw.com

Alistair Dawson
Beck Redden & Secrest
adawson@beckredden.com

Francisco Rivero
Reed Smith
frivero@reedsmith.com

Nichole Olajuwon
Thompson Knight
nichole.olajuwon@tklaw.com

Stewart Gagnon
Norton Rose Fulbright & Jaworski
sgagnon@fulbright.com

Jessica Crutcher
Mayer Brown
jcrutcher@mayerbrown.com



5806 Mesa Dr
Austin, TX 78731

The Audit and Marketing Attorney (Attorney III) performs highly responsible and complex attorney duties in the Legal Division of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, reporting to the division's director. Work involves preparing cases dealing with violations of the Commission's statutory and regulatory provisions dealing with audit and marketing practices and all work associated with the prosecution trial of those cases. Also involves interpreting laws, regulations, and rules; preparing legal documents; rendering legal advice and counsel; assist in case preparation at investigative stage. This is a great role for attorneys with less than five (5) years of experience or for a veteran attorney that is seeking a work/life balance with a truly manageable 40 hour workweek.

Examples of Duties:

- Prosecutes violations dealing with complex audit and marketing practices, violations before the State Office of Administrative Hearings.
- Provides legal advice to the Marketing Investigative Unit throughout the investigative and prosecution stages of an alleged violation of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code or Rules.
- Drafts legal documents necessary to the job duties.
- Provides general legal analysis, counsel, advice and education to all commission employees on all legal matters relevant to the Alcoholic Beverage Code and Rules.
- Directs and coordinates appeals of contested administrative cases.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Graduation from an accredited law school with LLB or JD degree
- Licensed to practice law in the State of Texas.
- Minimum of three (3) years legal experience, particularly in the area of trial procedures and administrative law, preferably with a Texas state agency.
- Minimum of two (2) years legal experience in corporate business structures or business and financial transactions.

TABC Attorney Career Ladder

<u>Years of TABC Service</u>	<u>Monthly Salary</u>
Attorney III (less than 2 years)	\$4,598.67
Attorney IV (2-4 years)	\$5,258.70
Attorney IV (4 years or more)	\$5,941.67
Attorney IV (8 years or more)	\$6,535.82

*All roles include access State of Texas Benefit and Retirement Program

TO APPLY FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY

Create profile via online application website:

www.tabc.state.tx.us/employment

Indicate your source for the opportunity as Recruiter on question 32 of your online profile.

Contact Mr. Keon Flowers with Additional Question: Keon.Flowers@tabc.texas.gov ;
Phone 512-206-3211

City of Sugar Land Job Listing

Position: Assistant City Attorney

Description: The City Attorney's Office is focused on providing consulting services to internal city departments by researching statutory and case law to stay current on the ever changing legal trends. Compiling and analyzing information to prepare various types of reports. Preparing and reviewing top notch contracts, agreements and leases and attending city board and commission meetings. Minimum requirements would include Doctor of Jurisprudence from an accredited school of law, Three years of practicing law in the State of Texas, One year of experience drafting contracts, agreements and leases, Licensed by the State Bar of Texas and in good standings. The ideal candidate would have three years of experience practicing law in a municipal environment in the State of Texas.

Contact Information: For complete details and to complete the required City of Sugar Land online application please visit our website at www.sugarlandtx.gov.

THE OTHER SIDE

Chinese and Mexican Immigration to America

EXHIBITION ON VIEW
MARCH 28 – JULY 19, 2015

Asia Society Texas Center
1370 Southmore Boulevard | 713.496.9901 | AsiaSociety.org/Texas



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

