

APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

2017 OFFICERS

Albert Liou

President

Jones Day

Sang Shin

President-Elect

Foster, LLP

Nickie Tran

Vice President of Community
Relations

Porter Hedges LLP

Jennifer Fung

Vice President of Development
Family Care

Janet Brown

Vice President of Membership
CEVA Logistics

Tom Nguyen

Vice President of Programs
Pintail Oil & Gas, LLC

Nadine Chen

Secretary

*Law Office of Kathryn N. Karam,
P.C.*

David Hsu

Treasurer

Givens and Johnston PLLC



www.aabahouston.com



[@HoustonAABA](https://twitter.com/HoustonAABA)



Asian American Bar
Association of Houston

AABA Nonprofits and Public Sector Boards Panel

On April 20, the AABA held a panel discussion at the United Way of Greater Houston about serving on boards of nonprofit organizations and in the public sector. Panelists Danielle Bartz, Becky Jasso, and Claudia Gee Vassar shared their insights with members of the AABA in an engaging discussion moderated by Mark Lee. Many thanks to our speakers and to Tom Nguyen, VP of Programs, for organizing.



2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Corporate Counsel Committee

Mai Huynh
Texas United Corporation

Judith Kim
Dynegy Inc.

Melody Wang
Kane, Russell, Coleman & Logan P.C.

Gala Committee

Ray Chung
Blank Rome LLP

Michele Nguyen
Law Office of Michele Nguyen

Minnie Tsai
Quan Law Group PLLC

Amelia Xu
Paul Hastings LLP

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee

Cathleen Chang
Andrews Kurth LLP

Cindy Dinh
U.S. District Court, S.D. Tex.

Li Money Penny
Shell Oil Co.

Technology and Web Committee

David Hsu
Givens and Johnston PLLC

James Vergara
Patterson & Sheridan LLP

Social Committee

Stephanie Chi
TMK IPSCO

Tina Huynh
Duff & Phelps

Tony Shih
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP

Minnie Tsai
Quan Law Group PLLC

Solo & Small Firm Committee

Tina Li
Hao Law, P.C.

Cory Liu
Reynolds Frizzell LLP

AABA Wills Clinic CLE Training

On April 27, the AABA held its annual training session for the upcoming Wills Clinic for the Asian community on June 24. Thanks to Porter Hedges for hosting, and to the Law Office of Peter J. Bennett for providing an overview of wills and estate planning law. Houston Volunteer Lawyers was also present at the event to assign cases to AABA's volunteer attorneys. The number of AABA volunteers exceeded the number of available cases this year. Thanks to all volunteers to their generosity and dedication to the community.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Audrey Chang, Chair
Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Michael Chu
U.S. Department of Justice

Anna Ha
Sidley Austin, LLP

Vinh Ho
*South Texas College of Law
Houston*

Warren Huang
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP

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

Philip Lau
Locke Lord LLP

Chris Lee
Superior Energy Services

Judy Liu
CenterPoint Energy

Eunice Song
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Russell Wong
Blank Rome LLP

2017 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Heaven Chee
Hogan Lovells, LLP

Alison Chen
*Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld,
LLP*

Helene Dang
Foster, LLP

Sang Shin
Foster, LLP

Joseph Tung
Tung Law Firm, PLLC



AABA in the Community

As the representative for the AABA on the Houston Bar Association's Law Week Committee, VP of Community Relations Nickie Tran read to children at Cunningham Elementary in southwest Houston as part of the Houston Law Week celebration in April. Nickie read *Granddaddy's Turn: A Journey to the Ballot Box*, and spoke to the students about the importance of the Fourteenth Amendment.

AABA Upcoming Events

- *AABA Solo & Small Firm Networking Reception*
Wednesday, May 17
Ritual, 602 Studewood, Houston, 77002
6:00PM—8:00 PM
RSVP by May 15 at www.aabahouston.com
See attached flyer for more details
- *AABA Wills Clinic*
Saturday, June 24
VN Teamwork, 11210 Bellaire Blvd. #118
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
To volunteer as a notary, witness, or interpreter, contact
ntran@porterhedges.com

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

**The AABA
welcomes the
following
new and
renewing
members in
April:**

Geraldine Young
Jennifer Lin
Michele Gibbons
Christine Roberts
Andrew Kim

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Jiha Ko

Firm/Company: DLA Piper LLP

Practice Area(s): M&A, Finance

Language(s): Korean

1. If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a writer
2. In my spare time, I enjoy . . . reading fiction, playing soccer, computer games
3. In my opinion, the best restaurant/bar in Houston is . . . Oxheart (closed now, unfortunately, but looking forward to whatever Justin Yu does next!)
4. The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . boiled silkworms
5. The coolest store in Houston is... Hmart
6. My favorite TV show is . . . Atlanta
7. My favorite music artist is . . . Nas
8. My favorite quote is... "Help! Help! I'm being repressed!" - Dennis, from Monty Python and the Holy Grail
9. I recommend reading . . . "Nice Big American Baby" by Judy Budnitz
10. If I were ever stuck on an island, and could only bring 3 items with me, they would be . . . a fishing rod, a solar-powered generator, and a Nintendo Switch
11. Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . grew up in Sydney, Australia

The AABA invites you to a

SOLO AND SMALL FIRM NETWORKING RECEPTION



Meet and mingle with AABA's solo and small firm attorneys at Ritual in the Heights. All AABA attorneys are welcome and encouraged to attend. Food and drink will be provided. Please RSVP in the provided link.

WHEN

Wednesday, May 17th
6:00 – 8:00 PM

WHERE


Ritual
602 Studewood
Houston, TX 77007

COST

Free for Solo & Small
Firm Attorneys and
other AABA members

RSVP

www.aabahouston.com



Your seat is waiting.

2017 ANNUAL BOARD FAIR IS LOOKING FOR LEADERS

Have you ever wondered what it was like to serve on a nonprofit board of directors? The 2017 Board Fair links you with dozens of opportunities to make a difference in your community. This is your chance to explore an array of options among nonprofits looking for board members with your skills and interests.

Meet with representatives of more than 30 area nonprofit organizations actively recruiting candidates for board service. You will learn about the work of each organization, talk with current board members and learn how board service helps you develop your leadership capabilities while helping others.

This is an excellent networking forum, so bring lots of business cards, invite your co-workers, friends and colleagues, and prepare to find your seat on a nonprofit board of directors.

Admission is Free. Refreshments served.

[Click here to register.](#)



2017 United Way BOARD FAIR

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017
5:00 to 6:30 p.m.**

**United Way
Community Resource Center**

50 Waugh Drive at Feagan

**Presented by
United Way
Nonprofit Connection**



United Way of Greater Houston

LEGAL NIGHT

AT RICE UNIVERSITY



**Join fellow bar associations on
Tuesday, May 16 for a happy
hour networking event at
Reckling Park and receive
exclusive drink specials.**

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT
www.riceowls.com/legal**

PROMO CODE: legal

**VALID ID MUST BE PRESENTED AT WILL CALL TO RECEIVE
TICKETS AND WRISTBANDS FOR DRINK SPECIALS.**



**TICKETS: \$15
RECKLING PARK
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017
FIRST PITCH - 6:30 p.m.**

**For more information, please contact
Fabia McDonald
PHONE: (713) 348-8252 | EMAIL: fm21@rice.edu**

- ☐ \$60 General Member
☐ \$30 Public Interest Attorney
☐ \$30 Government Attorney • Judge
☐ \$30 Solo Practitioner
☐ \$30 First Time New Members
☐ \$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 ☐ NoWould you like your business contact information listed in the 2017 AABA Online 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/Silent Auction ☐ Social ☐ Mentorship/Law School Relations ☐ Community Service/Pro Bono
☐ Solo and Small Firm ☐ Corporate Counsel ☐ Technology/Social Media

Make checks payable to **AABA** and submit application and fee to:

AABA
ATTN: Membership
P.O. Box 1554
Houston, Texas 77251

Send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to
VP of Membership Janet Brown at Janet.Brown@Cevalogistics.com.

You may also apply and pay online at www.aabahouston.com

**Many Thanks to the AABA's Top
Underwriters of 2016-2017!**

PLATINUM UNDERWITER

GARDERE

GOLD UNDERWRITERS

**JONES
DAY**

BLANK  **ROME** LLP
COUNSELORS AT LAW

Locke
Lord LLP

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

SIDLEY
150 YEARS