

FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

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 @HoustonAABA

 Asian American Bar
Association of Houston

HBA Law Day Poster Workshop

On February 19, members of the AABA were joined by Judge Theresa Chang in helping children at the Chinese Community Center create posters for entry into the HBA Law Day Poster Contest. Thanks to VP of Community Relations Nickie Tran for organizing the event and to Judge Chang for being a wonderful guest speaker.



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AABA Mentorship Kickoff

On March 1, the AABA held our kickoff event for our Mentorship Programs. Our mentor-mentee pairings had an opportunity to meet each other for the first time. Students and attorneys heard career advice from a panel featuring Michael Chu, Helene Dang, and Yvonne Ho. Thanks to Andrew Kurth LLP for hosting, and to Law School and Mentor Relations Co-Chairs Cathleen Chang, Cindy Dinh, and Li Moneyppenny for organizing the event.



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AABA Upcoming Events

- *AABA Spring Happy Hour*
Wednesday, March 29
Axelrad Beer Garden, 1517 Alabama St
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
- *Luncheon & Panel Discussion: Nonprofit and Public Sector Boards*
Thursday, April 20
United Way of Greater Houston, 50 Waugh Dr.
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
(see flyer at the end of this newsletter for more info)
- *Volunteer Attorney Training for AABA Wills Clinic*
Thursday, April 27
Porter Hedges LLP, 1000 Main St. Suite 3600
11:45 AM - 1:00 PM
- *AABA Wills Clinic*
Saturday, June 24
VN Teamwork, 11210 Bellaire Blvd. #118
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The 22nd Annual APIS Conference: Breaking Through to Excellence

This year's APIS Conference will take place in Austin at the JW Marriott Downtown on April 6 - 7, 2017, in conjunction with the National Asian Pacific America Bar Association (NAPABA) Southwest Regional Conference.

Thursday, April 6 will feature a happy hour kick-off. Friday, April 7, will feature CLE sessions, the Awards Luncheon, and a Networking Reception highlighting our In-House Counsel guests.

Registration is now available online at <http://texasapis.org/>.

For updates on the programming, visit the APIS facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/texasapis/>.

Apply for or renew your membership online at www.aabahouston.com or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues to gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer!

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.

Wills Clinic Attorney Volunteer Training

The AABA, Houston Volunteer Lawyers (HVL) and VN TeamWork (VNTW) will be hosting a Wills Clinic on June 24, 2017, in which pro bono attorneys will prepare wills and associated legal documents for underprivileged members of the Houston Asian community. All AABA members and other attorneys who wish to participate as attorney volunteers **must** register in advance and participate in the Wills Clinic Volunteer Training (more information below). Attorney volunteers should register and RSVP for the Clinic and Training by e-mailing Nickie Tran (ntran@porterhedges.com) before Friday, April 21. Attorneys (who cannot attend training) and law students may also volunteer as translators (Vietnamese), witnesses or notaries.

Attorney Volunteer Training for Wills Clinic

Thursday, April 27

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

Porter Hedges LLP

1000 Main St. Suite 3600, Houston TX 77002

Attendees will receive 1.25 participatory hours (0.25 hours ethics) of CLE credit, pending approval.

Wills Clinic

Saturday, June 24

9:00 am – 11:00 am //

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

VN Teamwork

11210 Bellaire Blvd #118, Houston, TX 77072

We also need volunteers to help serve as translators (Vietnamese), witnesses and notaries.

Job Openings

United States. Magistrate Judge, Southern District of Texas

The Diversity Committee of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association invites members of the AABA and other qualified members of the Houston bar to apply for the open U.S. Magistrate Judge position. See attached letter for details.

Paralegal - Corporate & IP, Applied Optoelectronics, Inc.

Summary: Under general supervision, support document production and dissemination of materials for Board meetings, legal operational functions and corporate transactions and corporate governance matters. Handles non-routine work and special projects as assigned by Supervisor.

Experience: A minimum of 2 years' experience in an administrative support role in a professional office environment is required. 1-3 years corporate legal experience required.

For the full job posting, visit: <http://ao-inc.com/contact-careers/careers/paralegal-corporate-ip/>

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Dollar Hoang

Firm/Company: Law Office of Kathryn N. Karam, P.C.

Practice Area(s): Immigration

Language(s): English and Vietnamese

1. If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a cinematographer
2. In my spare time, I enjoy . . . watching movies and hanging with friends
3. In my opinion, the best restaurant/bar in Houston is . . . Uchi
4. The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . Cow testicles
5. The coolest store in Houston is... premiumgoods
6. My favorite TV show is . . . Firefly
7. My favorite music artists are. . . Frank Ocean, Two Door Cinema Club, The Social Experiment
8. My favorite quote is... "What is success? To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!" - Ralph Waldo Emerson
9. I recommend reading . . . Story of Your Life by Ted Chiang
10. If I were ever stuck on an island and could only bring 3 items with me, they would be . . . Michael Phelps, a saddle, and a gold medal on a stick



Save the Date!

AABA *of Houston*

Nonprofit and Public Sector Boards: A Call to Action

The Asian American Bar Association of Houston and
The Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston
present
a Luncheon and Panel Discussion

Date:

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Time:

11:30 AM Registration

12:00-1:00 PM Luncheon and Panel Discussion

Location:

United Way of Greater Houston
50 Waugh Dr, Houston, TX 77007

CLE Accreditation Pending

Featured Panelists:

Danielle Bartz

Director, Boards and Commissions Mayor's Office

Becky Jasso

Director, United Way of Greater Houston

Claudia Gee Vassar

Claudia Gee Vassar Consulting

Moderator:

Mark Lee

Our panelists will discuss:

- How lawyers can be helpful to the management of nonprofit and other organizations
- How Asian-Americans and other minority groups can become more involved in the community and in the City
- The effect of board involvement on your professional and personal growth
- and more!

Attendance is free. Please RSVP at www.aabahouston.com.



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FEDERAL MAGISTRATE JUDGES ASSOCIATION

55th Annual Convention – Chicago, Illinois

July 31 – August 2, 2017

www.fmja.org

March 7, 2017

To All Southern District of Texas Minority Bar Members:

The Federal Magistrate Judges Association (FMJA) **Diversity Committee** writes to advise that the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas is now taking applications from those wishing to be considered for a Magistrate Judge vacancy in Houston. Public Notice of the opening and application process is attached:



PublicNotice2217.pdf

We invite you to notify attorneys in your organization of the opening.

Note: The deadline for receipt of applications is March 31, 2017.

The minimum qualifications for the position are set out in 28 U.S.C. 631. To paraphrase, an applicant must be: competent as judged by the appointing district; a five year member in good standing of the state bar of the appointing district; unrelated by blood or marriage to a judge of the appointing district; a resident in the district (if appointed); and, under 70 years of age. More information is available at www.txs.uscourts.gov

Vanderbilt University Law & Economics Review at

"<http://ssrn.com/abstract=2783420>" <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2783420>

Provides a good description of Magistrate Judge service generally. The FMJA web site at www.fmja.org informs about our association. In addition, the following link, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYrr8krJehl>, is to a video recording of an FMJA panel of judges and others discussing the position, why and how diversity is sought, and how applicants can position themselves to be considered for appointment.

The FMJA promotes diversity of all types—racial, ethnic, nation of origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, socio-economic status—on the Magistrate Judge bench. We on the FMJA Diversity Committee hope you will help us get this information out to those who might be—or, in your view, should be—interested in becoming a Magistrate Judge.

If you have questions or feel I can help in any way, just let me know. I can be reached at MSeng@caed.USCourts.gov or by calling 209.372.0438.

Most Sincerely,



**ASIAN PACIFIC
INTEREST SECTION**
State Bar of Texas

22nd Annual APIS Conference
Breaking Through to Excellence
April 6-7, 2017
Austin, Texas
J.W. Marriott Downtown

Thursday, April 6, 2017

1:30 pm to 4:00 pm	ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP TRAINING & LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE Featuring leadership training from Wendy Shiba. Advanced Registration Required.
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	WELCOME SOCIAL (LOCATION TBD) Kick-off the Annual APIS Conference with food and drinks.

Friday, April 7, 2017

8:30 am to 9:30 am	REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST	
	PERFECT PITCH: HITTING THE RIGHT DIVERSITY NOTES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATION Judy Kim, Dynegy	MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN: HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR LOCAL IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES Sang Shin, Foster LLP
9:30 am to 10:30 am	Gary Zhao, SmithAmundsen LLC Albert Li, Ottobock North America Phong Nguyen, BakerHostetler	
10:30 am to 11:45 am	EFFECTIVELY LOBBYING: USING YOUR LEGAL SKILLS TO BE A PERSUASIVE CITIZEN Daniel Hu, NAPABA Regional Governor, Southwest Region Navdeep Singh, NAPABA Policy Director Gene Wu, State Representative (Houston) Rudolph Metayer, CHAMBERLAIN MCHANAY	
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm	2017 AWARDS LUNCHEON PRO BONO, AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR, OUTSTANDING MENTOR, BEST LAWYERS UNDER 40, CHAMPION OF DIVERSITY, AND JUDGE DAVID WELLINGTON CHEW	
1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	SECRETS OF BUILDING A LAWYER MEDIA PERSONALITY Ari Armesh, Yetter Coleman LLP Jack Lee, Jack Lee and Associates Christine Hoang Hughes, Texas Education Agency	
2:30 pm to 3:30 pm	LITIGATORS: IN THE BOARDROOM AND IN THE COURTROOM Judge Ravi Sandill, 127 th District Ct. (Harris) John Kim, The Kim Law Firm Vijay D'Cruz, Enterprise Products	THE PORTRAIT PROJECT: A PORTRAIT OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE LAW
3:30 pm to 4:30 pm	THE JOHNSON AMENDMENT: A LEGACY OF MCARTHURISM OR SENSIBLE PUBLIC POLICY? Albert Lin, Husch Blackwell Katie Gerber, Thompson & Knight LLP Paul Yin, Thompson & Knight LLP	LANGUAGE ACCESS AND ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS
	BREAK	
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	COCKTAIL RECEPTION AND FIRESIDE CHAT WITH IN-HOUSE COUNSEL	

- ☐ \$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!**

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