

JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

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 Asian American Bar
Association of Houston

2017 Members Meeting & Kickoff Dinner

On January 26, 2017, the AABA hosted its Annual Members Meeting & Kickoff Dinner at Ginger & Fork Restaurant.



2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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South Texas College of Law Houston Lunar New Year Celebration

On January 24, 2017, AABA members attended a Lunar New Year celebration hosted by the South Texas College of Law Houston NAPALSA.



Did you know?

A benefit of your 2017 membership in the AABA is a **free affiliate membership to the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)**, valid through December 31, 2017. As an affiliate member, you are eligible to vote and serve as a member of NAPABA's Board of Governors and NAPABA Committees and may take advantage of all the other benefits to which NAPABA's individual members are entitled.

If your 2017 AABA membership dues are up to date, you may join or renew your NAPABA membership online, at <http://www.napaba.org/general/login.asp>. Email AABA VP of Membership Janet Brown at janet.brown@cevalogistics.com to obtain the 2017 NAPABA membership code.

Upcoming NAPABA Events:

- April 6-7, 2017: NAPABA Southwest Regional Conference & Texas Asian Pacific Interest Section Annual Conference, Austin, Texas (registration form attached)
- May 22-23, 2017: Lobby Day 2017, Washington, DC (register at <https://napaba.site-ym.com/page/lobbyday>)
- Nov. 2-5, 2017: NAPABA Convention, Washington, DC

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2017 AABA Mentorship Program

*****February 17 deadline to apply*****

Mentors Needed Especially!

The AABA is pleased to offer both our Law Students & New Lawyers Mentorship Program and Experienced Attorney Mentorship program in 2017. To apply, please complete and return one of the attached mentorship program applications before February 17, 2017.

Law Students & New Lawyers Mentorship Program eligibility:

- Mentees: Law students and new attorneys with less than 2 years of experience are eligible to participate as mentees
- Mentors: Attorneys with at least 2 years of experience are eligible to participate as mentors

Experienced Attorney Mentorship Program eligibility:

- Mentees: Attorneys with 2-10 years of experience are eligible to participate as mentees
- Mentors: Attorneys with 15 or more years of experience are eligible to participate as mentors

Mentorship Kickoff Event

The Mentorship Kickoff event provides opportunity for AABA mentors and mentees to meet each other, and for law students to hear from distinguished panelists about their experiences in various areas of law practice.

When: Wednesday, March 1st, 6 - 8 PM

Where: Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP
(600 Travis St. Suite 4200)

Featuring:

- Michael Chu, Assistant U.S. Attorney, USDOJ
- Helene Dang, Partner, Foster LLP
- Yvonne Ho, Partner, Bracewell LLP

Registration: 6:00 PM

Career Panel Discussion: 6:30 PM

Wine and Cheese reception: 7:15 PM

Please RSVP to
cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com
by February 27, 2017

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.



Southwest Regional Conference

Austin, TX | April 6–7, 2017

ASIAN PACIFIC INTEREST SECTION

State Bar of Texas

Registration Deadline: March 25

BREAKING THROUGH TO EXCELLENCE

22nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE | APRIL 6-7, 2017
JW MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN | 110 E 2nd St, Austin, TX 78701

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017

- 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm** Asian Bar Association Leadership Training Programming designed for the leadership of Asian American and South Asian Bar Associations. Advanced Registration Required.
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm** Leaders' Roundtable Programming designed for the leadership of Asian American and South Asian Bar Associations. Advanced Registration Required.
- 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm** Welcome Social (Location TBD) – Kick-off the Annual APIS Conference by meeting and mingling with other APA lawyers from across the southwest region. Registration tables will be open. Drinks and food will be provided. Guests are welcome.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017

- 8:30 am – 9:30 am** Registration & Breakfast (JW Marriott)
- 9:30 am – 4:30 pm** CLE, Speakers, & Awards Luncheon (JW Marriott) – CLE pending
Lunch will feature the APIS Awards Ceremony
- 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm** Austin Activities – Enjoy Austin with your family and friends: go on a downtown bike tour, get a massage, or just relax by the pool. Visit www.austintexas.org for more details.
- 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm** APIS Reception: Cocktails with In-House Counsel (JW Marriott) – Join us for drinks and dinner with our In-House Counsel attendees. Additional tickets for this event may be purchased for \$60 per adult. *Please RSVP to punam.kaji@haynesboone.com if you are attending and/or bringing guests.* Business or Cocktail attire.

REGISTRATION FOR ALL EVENTS

\$ 225 APIS/NAPABA Members, In-House, Gov't, & Public Interest Attorneys

\$ 275 Non-APIS Members [Note that by becoming an APIS member for \$15, you save \$35 on registration]

APIS GALA – SATURDAY EVENING ONLY

\$60 per person

2017 APIS membership fee (if not already remitted)
\$15.00 (annual; per person)

*Fees do not include lodging. Attendees may reserve lodging at the conference location, JW Marriott Downtown. For reservations, please visit <https://aws.passkey.com/go/StateBarAsianPacificApr2017>
Discounted room rate deadline is March 15, 2017 and may sell out sooner.*

For questions or additional information, visit www.texasapis.org or contact:

Ann Chao Sheu, APIS Chair | anncsheu@gmail.com

Refund Policy: Full refunds requested on or before 3/31/2017 by 4:00 PM will be granted without question. Refunds requested on or after that time will not be reimbursed. No shows will not be reimbursed. Please contact Sandra Carlson at scarlson@texasbar.com.

AABA MENTORSHIP KICKOFF EVENT

March 1, 2017 | 6:00 - 8:00 | Andrews Kurth Kenyon

Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP
600 Travis St, Suite 4200
Houston, TX 77002

Please [RSVP](#) and/or submit a [mentor/mentee application](#) (attached) to Cathleen Chang at cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com. If you cannot attend the event, but would still like to be a mentor/mentee, please also submit an application.

Deadline to apply is February 17, 2017. Deadline to RSVP is February 27, 2017.

Panel Speakers:

Michael Chu *Assistant U.S. Attorney at U.S. Department of Justice*

Helene Dang *Partner at Foster LLP*

Yvonne Ho *Partner at Bracewell LLP*

6:00 pm: Registration

6:30 pm: Career Panel Discussion

7:15 pm: Wine and Cheese Reception

Wine, cheese and light bites will be provided.

This event is free and open to all [AABA](#) members, including law students and attorney members. Sign up for [AABA](#) membership at www.aabahouston.com.

Questions regarding Kickoff Event? Please contact:
Cathleen Chang at cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com

*****Directions:** Please enter the JPMorgan Chase Tower at the street level and use the elevator bank for floors 36-49. Andrews Kurth Kenyon is on the 42nd floor. The building parking garage is on 601 Travis Street. Parking validation will be available.

Experienced Attorney Mentee/Mentor Application AABA 2017 Mentorship Program

The goal of the Mentorship Program is to assist mid-level attorneys in further developing their legal careers through the sharing of an experienced attorney's wisdom, experiences, and knowledge about the practice of law. *Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to schedule a meeting once every other month and to remain in contact with each other regularly throughout the year.*

Mentor Eligibility: Attorneys with 15 or more years of legal experience are eligible to apply to be a Mentor.

Mentee Eligibility: Attorneys who have been in practice for 2 – 10 years and who have volunteered to mentor law students in the past through the AABA are eligible to be a Mentee.

Check one box: ☐ I am applying as a **Mentor**. ☐ I am applying as a **Mentee**.

Please note: To participate in the Mentorship Program, submit a completed form by **Friday, February 17, 2017.**

Name _____ Employer _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

State Bar Number _____ Years of Experience _____

Law School (include Graduation Date) _____

Check current practice setting: ☐ Large/mid-size firm ☐ Solo/Small Firm
☐ In-House Counsel ☐ Government/Public Interest

Please check prior practice setting(s) (Mentors):

☐ Large/mid-size firm ☐ Solo/Small Firm
☐ In-House Counsel ☐ Government/Public Interest

List Current Practice Areas: _____

Describe your goals and expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Your hobbies and other interests _____

Please e-mail or mail your completed form to:

Cathleen Chang
Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP
600 Travis Street, Suite 4200
Houston, Texas 77002
E-mail: cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com
(Please put AABA in the subject line)

Law Student and New Attorney Mentor/Mentee Application AABA 2017 Mentorship Program

The goal of the Mentorship Program is to assist law students and new attorneys better define their legal path through the sharing of an experienced attorney's wisdom, experiences, and knowledge about the practice of law. In order to maximize the benefits of this program, Mentees and Mentors will be matched as closely as possible according to their areas of interest and practice, respectively. *Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to schedule a meeting once every other month and to remain in contact with each other regularly throughout the year.*

Mentor Eligibility: Attorneys with at least 2 years of legal experience are eligible to apply to be a Mentor.

Mentee Eligibility: Law Students and Attorneys out of law school less than 2 years are eligible to be a Mentee.

Check one box: ☐ I am applying as a **Mentor**. ☐ I am applying as a **Mentee**.

Please note: To participate in the Mentorship Program, submit a completed form by **Friday, February 17, 2017.**

Name _____ Employer (for attorneys) _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

State Bar Number (for Attorneys) _____ Years of Experience (for Attorneys) _____

Law School (include Graduation Date) _____

Check current practice setting (Mentors): or setting(s) of interest (Mentees):	<input type="checkbox"/> Large/mid-size firm	<input type="checkbox"/> Solo/Small Firm
	<input type="checkbox"/> In-House Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> Government/Public Interest

Please check prior practice setting(s) (Mentors):

<input type="checkbox"/> Large/mid-size firm	<input type="checkbox"/> Solo/Small Firm
<input type="checkbox"/> In-House Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> Government/Public Interest

Current Practice Areas (Mentors) or Areas of Interest (Mentees) _____

Your goals and expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Your hobbies and other interests _____

Please e-mail or mail your completed form to:

Cathleen Chang
Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP
600 Travis Street, Suite 4200
Houston, Texas 77002
E-mail: cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com
(Please put AABA in the subject line)

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Name: Nickie Tran

Firm/Company: Porter Hedges LLP

Practice Area(s): Corporate M&A and Securities

Language(s): English and Vietnamese

1. If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . astronaut.
2. In my spare time, I enjoy . . . practicing yoga and taking my dog to the Johnny Steele Dog Park
3. In my opinion, the best restaurant/bar in Houston is . . . Whataburger (#13 with gravy).
4. The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . baby duck eggs
5. The coolest store in Houston is...Wabash Feed & Garden
6. My favorite TV show is . . . FRIENDS
7. My favorite music artist is . . . Taylor Swift
8. My favorite quote is... "To see the world, things dangerous to come to, to see behind walls, draw closer, to find each other, and to feel. That is the purpose of life." – The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
9. I recommend reading . . . The Martian by Andy Weir
10. If I were ever stuck on an island, and could only bring 3 items with me, they would be . . . tent, utility knife and beef jerky.
11. Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . used to compete in figure skating throughout middle school and high school. I wanted to be Michelle Kwan.

Promoting Women as Lead Counsel

FROM THE COURTROOM AND THE BOARDROOM

Promoting Women as Lead Counsel will take an in-depth look at the ABA Commission on Women's groundbreaking report, "First Chairs at Trial: More Women Need Seats at the Table."

Litigators, in-house counsel, and members of the bench will discuss their perspectives on advancing women to lead counsel roles and provide actionable steps that each person can take to increase the opportunities for women and lawyers of color.

Thursday, February 23, 2017

12:00 - 5:30 PM*
1910 Courthouse
301 Fannin Street
Houston, TX 77002

*Attendance is free, but registration required. Lunch will be provided.
Networking reception to follow.

Register at:
<https://law.utexas.edu/cwil/promoting-women-as-lead-counsel-registration/>

- ☐ \$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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GARDERE

GOLD UNDERWRITERS

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BLANK  **ROME** LLP
COUNSELORS AT LAW

Locke
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LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

SIDLEY
150 YEARS