

## MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

### 2017 OFFICERS

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*Jones Day*

**Sang Shin**  
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*Porter Hedges LLP*

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Vice President of Development  
*Family Care*

**Janet Brown**  
Vice President of Membership  
*CEVA Logistics*

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*Pintail Oil & Gas, LLC*

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Secretary  
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P.C.*

**David Hsu**  
Treasurer  
*Givens and Johnston PLLC*



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Asian American Bar  
Association of Houston

### Solo & Small Firm Networking Reception

On May 17, the AABA held a networking reception for solo and small firm attorneys at Ritual. Thanks to Solo and Small Firm Committee Chairs Tina Li and Cory Liu for organizing the event.



### Gala & Silent Auction Announcement

The AABA is pleased to announce that its Annual Gala & Silent Auction will be held on Friday, September 15, 2017, at the Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria. More details on the keynote speaker, sponsorship packages, and Impact Award nominations are contained in this newsletter.

## 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 in the Community*

The AABA was invited to participate in the selection committee for the 2017 Harris County Bench Bar Pro Bono Awards. Sang Shin, President-Elect of the AABA, represented the AABA. The awards ceremony was held on May 3, 2017, at the Harris County Civil Courthouse. Baker Botts L.L.P., Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, and ExxonMobil Corporation received awards. Congratulations to AABA members at those firms who dedicated their time to pro bono efforts.

Additionally, Lan T. Nguyen of Shortt & Nguyen received a President's Pro Bono Star Award and was recognized for her efforts in 2016 in translating the HBA's Family Law Handbook into Vietnamese. The Asian American Bar Foundation sponsored the publication of the handbooks. Congratulations to Lan!

## *HVL Saturday Clinic— Pro Bono Volunteers Needed!*

The AABA is sponsoring a Houston Volunteer Lawyers Saturday Clinic on Saturday, August 5. The clinic will be held at the Southwest Multi-Service Center on 6400 High Star, Houston, TX 77074 from 9 AM to 12 PM. This pro bono service plays a huge role in our community and in each of our lives. At the clinic, each volunteer attorney will conduct approximately 4-5 intake interviews of clients seeking pro bono representation from Houston Volunteer Lawyers. There are no extending obligations after the clinic, but attorneys are welcome to accept a case for further representation. Sign up to volunteer at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).

Apply for or renew your membership online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://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!

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

Justine Lin  
Teresa Messer  
Allyson Li  
Juvie Cruz  
Robert Tsai  
Andrew Kim  
Chevazz Brown  
Thomas R. Davis

## 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*

## 2017 NAPABA Convention *Early Bird Registration*

Early bird registration for the 2017 NAPABA Convention in Washington, D.C. on November 2-5 is open. The NAPABA Convention is a terrific event for professional development and networking, and the AABA encourages our members to attend. Register at [https://napaba.site-ym.com/page/17\\_Registration](https://napaba.site-ym.com/page/17_Registration).

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. 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](mailto:janet.brown@cevalogistics.com) to obtain the 2017 NAPABA membership code.

## AABA Upcoming Events

- Mock Interview Workshop for Law Students  
Friday, June 23, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
University of Houston Law Center,  
4604 Calhoun Road, Room 109 BLB  
RSVP by June 19 to [cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com](mailto:cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com).  
See attached flyer for more details.
- AABA Wills Clinic  
Saturday, June 24, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
VN Teamwork, 11210 Bellaire Blvd. #118  
To volunteer as a notary, witness, or interpreter,  
contact [ntran@porterhedges.com](mailto:ntran@porterhedges.com).
- Houston Volunteer Lawyers Saturday Clinic  
Saturday, August 5, 9:00 AM -12:00 PM  
Southwest Multi-Service Center, 6400 High Star, Houston 77074  
Register to volunteer at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).
- AABA Annual Gala and Silent Auction  
Friday, September 15, 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria, 2222 West Loop S.  
See attached Save-the-Date for more details.

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## *Get to Know an AABA Member!*

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Name: **Cory Liu**

Firm/Company: **Reynolds Frizzell LLP**

Practice Area(s): **Commercial Litigation**

Language(s): **Mandarin Chinese**

1. If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . **a detective.**
2. In my spare time, I enjoy . . . **bourbon and good stories.**
3. My favorite TV show is . . . **House of Cards.**
4. My favorite comedian is . . . **Dave Chappelle.**
5. My favorite music artist is . . . **Mozart.**
6. My favorite quote is... **"It takes considerable knowledge just to realize the extent of your own ignorance." —Thomas Sowell**
7. I recommend reading . . . **Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics.**
8. If I were ever stuck on an island, and could only bring 3 items with me, they would be . . . **the Bible, a swimsuit, and a gun.**
9. Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . **collect historical items from the Cultural Revolution.**



# AABA *of Houston*

cordially invites to you its

## *Annual Gala & Silent Auction*



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017  
at the  
ROYAL SONESTA HOUSTON GALLERIA

Reception and Silent Auction  
6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Dinner, Keynote Address, and  
Awards Ceremony  
7:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.

The AABA is pleased to announce that Professor Frank H. Wu will present the keynote address at this year's Gala. Professor Wu is a Distinguished Professor of Law and past Dean at UC Hastings College of Law, and was previously voted the most "influential" dean in legal education in a poll by National Jurist Magazine. He is currently the chair of the Committee of 100, a non-profit organization working on twin missions of promoting good relations between the U.S. and China and the civic engagement of Chinese Americans.

He is the author of *Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White* and co-author of *Race, Rights and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment*. His work has appeared in the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. He blogs regularly for the *Huffington Post*.

For more information about the Gala, please contact the AABA's Gala Co-Chairs Ray Chung, Michele Nguyen, Minnie Tsai, and Amelia Xu at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com).



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**JUDICIAL SPONSORSHIP (for current sitting members of the judiciary only) - \$350**

- ◆ Two tickets to the Gala
- ◆ Quarter page black and white advertisement in the printed Gala program

**SOLO & SMALL FIRM UNDERWRITER (10 OR LESS ATTORNEYS) - \$750**

- ◆ Two tickets to the Gala

**BRONZE LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$2,000**

- ◆ Four tickets to the Gala

**SILVER LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$3,500**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table
- ◆ Logo display in the printed Gala program

**GOLD LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$5,000**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table with underwriter placard
- ◆ Two tickets to the VIP Reception preceding the Gala
- ◆ Logo display in the printed Gala program
- ◆ Underwriter recognition in AABA monthly newsletters for 1 year

**PLATINUM LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$7,500**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table with underwriter placard
- ◆ Four tickets to the VIP Reception preceding the Gala
- ◆ Half page black & white advertisement in the printed Gala program
- ◆ Underwriter recognition in AABA monthly newsletters for 1 year
- ◆ **Recognition as an Underwriter of the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**
- ◆ **Four tickets to attend the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**

**DIAMOND LEVEL UNDERWRITER - \$10,000**

- ◆ Ten tickets to the Gala, reserved table with underwriter placard
- ◆ Six tickets to the VIP Reception preceding the Gala
- ◆ Full page COLOR advertisement in the printed Gala program
- ◆ Underwriter recognition in AABA monthly newsletters for 1 year
- ◆ **Recognition as an Underwriter of the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**
- ◆ **Six tickets to attend the AABA 2017 Corporate Counsel Dinner**

*All Underwriters for the Gala & Silent Auction will (1) receive special mention during the Gala dinner, (2) be named in the Gala slideshow presentation, and (3) be included in all printed promotional materials for the Gala including programs and invitations.*

*We sincerely appreciate your support!*



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**CORPORATE AND FIRM UNDERWRITER FORM**

Underwriter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your level of underwriting\*:

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$10,000 Diamond Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$7,500 Platinum Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$5,000 Gold Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$3,500 Silver Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$2,000 Bronze Level Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$750 Solo & Small Firm Underwriter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$350 Judicial Sponsorship\*\***

\*The AABA of Houston is a tax-exempt organization. However, contributions or gifts to the AABA of Houston are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

\*\*For current sitting members of the judiciary only.

Please return your completed form and check made payable to  
"AABA of Houston" by no later than **July 28, 2017** to:

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

*Questions? Feel free to contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com)  
Thank you for your interest and support.*



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

If you or your company are interested in purchasing an advertisement in the 2017 Gala & Silent Auction printed program, please complete the form below.

**THE DEADLINE TO PURCHASE AND SUBMIT AN ADVERTISEMENT IS AUGUST 11, 2017.**

**PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT FORM**

Name of Advertiser: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the size of your advertisement:

_____ Quarter page (4" x 5") black & white advertisement	\$250.00
_____ Half page (8" x 5") black & white advertisement	\$500.00
_____ Full page (8" x 11") color advertisement	\$1,000.00

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please return this form and your check made payable to "AABA of Houston" to:

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

- You will receive a confirmation of your sponsorship via email.
- Advertisement content may be sent via e-mail.
- Questions? Please contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com).





**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**Advertisement Format Instructions**

- PDF (portable document format) or TIFF (tagged image file format) files are requested for all advertisement submissions.
- Color advertisement files should be created using CMYK (cyan-magenta-yellow-black).
- Preferred document format/application is Adobe Illustrator or Adobe Photoshop.

Size	Width	Depth
Full Page	8-1/2"	11"
Half Page horizontal	8-1/2"	5-1/2"
Quarter Page	4-1/4"	5-1/2"

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR AD AS A DIGITAL FILE  
BY NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 11, 2017**

**TO: [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com)**

**or by submitting the digital file on a CD and mailing it to:**

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

*Questions? Feel free to contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com)  
Thank you for your interest and support.*



**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON  
2017 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**TICKET RESERVATION FORM**

**Tickets may be purchased on-line using PayPal at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).**

If paying by check, please use this form.

**THE DEADLINE TO PURCHASE TICKETS IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2017.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Law School: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate the number of tickets below:**

**Law Student: \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ AABA Member: \$125 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member: \$150 \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

For nametag purposes, please list the name and affiliation (if any) of each attendee:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether a vegetarian meal is requested: \_\_\_\_\_ (# of vegetarian meals)

Please return your completed form and check made payable to **"AABA of Houston"**  
by no later than **September 1, 2017** to:

**Blank Rome LLP  
Attn: Ray Chung  
717 Texas Avenue Suite 1400  
Houston, TX 77002**

- You will receive a confirmation of your ticket reservation via email.
- Interested in joining the AABA? Membership forms are available at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).
- Questions? Please contact us at [aaba.gala@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.gala@gmail.com). Thank you for your support.

# AABA Mock Interview Workshop

**June 23, 2017 5:30 – 7:30**

**University of Houston Law Center**

4604 Calhoun Road, Room 109 BLB, Houston, TX 77204

## **Panel Speakers**

*Alison Chen Partner at Akin Gump Straus Haier & Feld LLP*

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

*Phillip Lau Partner at Locke Lord LLP*

**Learn best practices for interviewing from panelists who have served on recruiting committees and as the firm's hiring partner.**

**There will also be an opportunity to practice your interviewing skills with a mock interviewer after the workshop scheduled at a time and place convenient for both student and attorney. Please apply before the June 19 deadline for law student and attorney pairings.**

**Deadline to RSVP for the workshop and/or mock interview is June 19, 2017**

**Please email Cathleen Chang at [cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com](mailto:cathleenchang@andrewskurth.com)**

Light snacks and parking passes will be provided for the workshop.

The workshop and mock interview are free and open to all AABA members, including law students and attorney members.

Sign up for AABA membership at [www.aabahouston.com](http://www.aabahouston.com).



## **2017 AABA Impact Award: Call for Nominations**

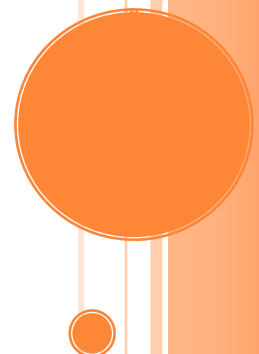
The AABA is seeking nominations for the 2017 Impact Award, which will be presented at this year's AABA Gala & Silent Auction on September 15, 2017.

Criteria: The following non-exclusive factors are considered in selecting the Impact Award recipient:

- Outstanding contribution to the growth and development of the Asian American legal community in the Greater Houston area.
- Promotion of diversity within the practice of law.
- Mentorship and support of other practicing attorneys and law students.
- Commitment to volunteer work and community service.
- Outstanding legal acumen within his/her respective field.
- Contribution to the AABA.

Nominations Period: Nominations are now being accepted through Friday, August 4, 2017.

Please submit nominations to AABA President, Albert Liou, at [aliou@jonesday.com](mailto:aliou@jonesday.com).





## **11th Annual Conference**

**September 15-16, 2017  
Orange County, CA**

### **Hotel Information**

Special discounted hotel rates starting at \$139 per night are available for a limited time at:

Hyatt Regency Orange County  
11999 Harbor Boulevard  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Please click [here](#) to book, modify or cancel your hotel reservations. Limited rooms are available at the discounted rates. After the room block has been filled, if rooms are still available, the rooms will be sold at the prevailing rate.

For general conference schedule and information,  
please visit [www.ncvaa.org](http://www.ncvaa.org).

### **Inaugural Luu-Ng Family Trust Scholarship** **Application Materials Due: July 10, 2017**

The National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys is pleased to announce the inaugural Luu-Ng Family Trust Scholarship in honor of Hai Vinh Luu and My Thi Dang in the amount of \$5,000. All application materials must be received by July 10, 2017. The awardee will be notified no later than August 10, 2017.

For eligibility requirements and application information,  
please visit [www.ncvaa.org](http://www.ncvaa.org).

### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, download the [Sponsorship Form](#) or contact Teri Pham, CA, Conference Co-Chair, at [tpham@enensteinlaw.com](mailto:tpham@enensteinlaw.com).

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For any general questions, please contact:

T Nguyen, TX, Conference Co-Chair  
[tn@wturley.com](mailto:tn@wturley.com)

Teri Pham, CA, Conference Co-Chair  
[tpham@enensteinlaw.com](mailto:tpham@enensteinlaw.com)



- ☐ \$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 ☐ No

Would 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](mailto:Janet.Brown@Cevalogistics.com).

**You may also apply and pay online at [www.aabahouston.com](http://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