



AABA Newsletter

WWW.AABA - BAY.COM | OCTOBER 2008

Platinum Sponsors:

Hanson Bridgett LLP
Latham & Watkins LLP
Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

Morrison & Foerster LLP
Reed Smith LLP
Townsend Townsend & Crew LLP

AABA thanks the following sustaining members of 2008!

Kathy Asada
David Biderman
Billy Chan
Christine Chang
Claudine Cheng
David Chiu
S. Isabel Choi
Annie Y.S. Chuang
Samuel Feng
Kevin Fong
Keith Fong
Hon. Keith Fudenna
Joel Hayashida
Minette Kwok
Steve Lau
Bernard Lee
Celia Lee
Susan Lew
Wesley Lowe
Dale Minami
Christine Noma
Rosemarie Oda
Eugene Pak
Paul Perdue
Ha Pham
Edwin Prather
Larry Quan
Dawn Robertson
Raymond Sheen
Theodore Ting
Maria Weydemuller
Stanley Young
Jim Yu



President's Column

As the current AABA President, I am always aware that I am following in the path of so many capable and dynamic leaders who held this office before I did. I'm delighted to announce that three of AABA's Past Presidents – Joan Haratani, Kevin Fong, and Edwin Prather – were recently selected for prestigious awards in the local and national legal communities. We at AABA applaud their selection and praise their continuing commitment to our community.

Kevin Fong, AABA's President in 1989, was recently chosen to be the 2008 National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Trailblazer for the Northern California region. The NAPABA Trailblazers Award recognizes the outstanding achievements, commitment and leadership of NAPABA lawyers who have paved the way for the advancement of other Asian Pacific American attorneys. The honorees are selected by the affiliates in their region. Kevin, who is co-leader of the Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP's Appellate Practice team and Chair of its Diversity Committee, will be honored at the 2008 NAPABA Convention in Seattle, November 19-23, 2008.

Joan Haratani, AABA's President in 2001, has been selected to receive the 2009 American Bar Association Spirit of Excellence Award, an award designed to celebrate the accomplishments of lawyers who have shown excellence in their practice on a national or state level and who have demonstrated a

continued on page 15

Inside This Issue:

President's Message..... 1	Judges Needed For Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition 12
Musician Turns Judge -- Hing Takes Center Stage ... 2	Expanding Your Horizons: Don't Just Litigate, Mediate 13
'Careers Beyond the Partner Track' 5	How To Address Negative Attitudes or Comments of a Judge Towards Minority Attorneys & Clients 14
The 2008 AABA Mentorship Brunch 6	Calendar of Upcoming Events..... 17
Diversity Part 1: A Big Issue Packed in One Word 9	
AALJ Anniversary Dinner 10	

Musician Turns Judge -- Hing Takes Center Stage

By Alice Chin, Newsletter Co-Chair

As of 9/1/08, the State Bar membership was 217,584 and the number of judges in the state rose to 1,944. That number of judges included the Honorable Stuart Hing, who was sworn in by California Supreme Court Justice Ming Chin as an Alameda County Superior Court Judge after an Enrobing Ceremony with Hing's wife, Rhoda, performing the honors. The well-attended Induction Ceremony was standing room only in the James Moore Auditorium at The Oakland Museum followed by a lavish catered reception with a hosted bar and hors' d'oeuvres spread. Over 300 guests consisting of family, friends, and colleagues attended this fete on the beautiful evening of 8/28/08. A contingency of AABA members was in attendance.

More than forty Alameda County Superior Court judges and commissioners, many of whom Hing appeared before in his 23-year career as a deputy district attorney, attended a special en banc court session. Presiding Judge Yolanda Northridge called the event to order and Chief Assistant District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Alameda County District Attorney Tom Orloff spoke about Hing's successful career as a prosecutor. Alameda County Superior Court Judge Brenda Harbin-Forte and California Court of Appeals Justice Henry Needham both shared humorous accounts about Hing's accomplishments including his courtship with Rhoda, a court reporter, with whom Hing has been married for two years.

Also speaking was McDonald's entrepreneur and APAPA (Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs) Founder C.C. Yin. Hing is a member of the state-

wide organization's community and education foundation. All speakers told touching personal stories about Hing including his early career as a musician playing funk music (called R&B today). He played the electric lead guitar for years and apparently still occasionally plays the piano, sings, and dances.

As a prosecutor, Hing tried 49 criminal jury trials and 37 non-jury trials from misdemeanor to death penalty cases including many high profile cases. He trained and supervised colleagues in over 102 jury trials. After he was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on July 21, 2008, Hing retired from the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, where he had served as a deputy district attorney since 1985.

Since taking the bench, Judge Hing's first assignment was in Hayward. Currently, he sits in Oakland in primarily a criminal

assignment with a steady calendar of civil cases.

Hing grew up in Sacramento with a younger brother and two sisters. He studied Business Administration at California State University, Sacramento. After graduating, he worked at Xerox Corporation for three years before attending the University of Pacific McGeorge School of Law.

In addition to being active with AABA, Hing is active with several legal organizations including Women Lawyers of Alameda County (serving as one of the very few male board members in its history), Earl Warren American Inn of Court, Alameda County Family Justice Center, Alameda County Bar Association, Charles Houston Bar Association, and Alameda County Homeless Court.

Besides being active in APAPA, Hing volunteers in the commu-

continued on page 15



Hing being sworn in by California State Supreme Court Justice Ming Chin



Honorable Stuart Hing and wife Rhoda



Doris Gee and husband Alameda County Superior Court Judge Delbert Gee and Deputy District Attorney Paul Hora



Judge Stuart Hing and AABA Immediate Past President, Edwin K. Prather



APAPA Founder and Chairman C.C. Yin, Businessman (ret.) Andrew K.C. Wong and Dale Minami

All photos were taken by AABA Member Dennis Chin



AABA Newsletter Co-Chair Alice Chin, California State Treasurer Bill Lockyer, AABA (past) Director Chris Noma, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Vernon Nakahara, California State Supreme Court Justice Ming Chin and his son, AABA Member Jason Chin



From L to R: Judge Keith Fudenna, AABA President Celia Lee, Rhoda Hing, Judge Roy Hashimoto, Paul Ferreira, Tim Tran, Lisa Quan, Judge Stuart Hing, Craig Nash, and Emily Nash



‘Careers Beyond The Partner Track’

On September 23rd, AABA held a panel discussion on “Careers Beyond the Partner Track,” this time opting to hold the panel in Palo Alto to reach AABA members on the Peninsula. Axiom and Boalt Hall co-sponsored this very popular event with over 50 AABA members in attendance. On the panel were two AABA committee members, Ja Moon and Richard Tamor, as well as Alissa Lee, COO of Google, and Professor Goodwin Liu, professor of Constitution Law at Boalt. Ja Moon is co-chair of AABA’s In-House Committee, as well as Corporate Counsel at Genentech. Richard Tamor is co-chair of AABA’s Practice Development/Solo & Small Firms Committee, and founder of Tamor and Tamor. The event was moderated by Mehul Patel, EVP, Corporate Development of Axiom.

The panelists enlightened the audience with stories of how they made the jump from successful law firm careers to their true passions, and gave advice on everything from how to find their passion to seeking mentors (a small plug for AABA’s mentorship committee!). It was an informative session, and the food and drink afterwards really hit the spot, especially the mini cupcakes!

The educational panel’s next event will be on October 16th at BASF’s offices, and will be on mediation, and the resources you need in becoming a mediator. We hope you can join us!





Top row: Cara, Quan, Nicole, Sam, Shirlye, Louis ; Bottom row: Jackson, Denise, Kay, Un Kei, Yvonne

All photos were taken by Ken Duong

A New Twist To An Old Classic: The 2008 AABA Mentorship Brunch

By Nikki Dinh, 2L at Golden Gate University School of Law, and Rocky Tsai, AABA Mentorship Committee Co-Chair

On Sunday, September 21, 2008, the AABA Mentorship Committee hosted its Annual Mentorship Brunch. The event attracted well over 100 students, attorneys, and judges from all over the Bay Area – the largest turnout ever for the Mentorship Brunch. The brunch was held at the same outstanding location as previous years – the San Francisco Orrick Building – and many familiar faces were present. However, the AABA Mentorship Committee didn't keep everything the same: From the addition of delicious Japanese cuisine to a "free market" approach to the mentorship program, this year's AABA Mentorship Brunch added a fresh twist to an old classic.

The Mentorship Committee started the year by making a sustained effort to reach out to law schools throughout the Bay Area in order to promote the many perks of AABA membership for students, as well as to tout the benefits of participating in the AABA mentorship program in particular. For example, Mentorship Committee Co-Chair, Rocky Tsai, spent a Saturday morning with Golden Gate University's APALSA at their picnic at Baker Beach; Co-Chair Misasha Suzuki acted as the AABA liaison to the South Bay law schools and participated in events hosted by Stanford Law School's APILSA and Santa Clara University's APALSA; Co-Chair Marshall Khine attended APALSA events at UC Hastings and USF Law; and Co-Chair James Higa reached out to members of UC Berkeley's APALSA.

As a result, students from near and far representing UC Hastings, UC Davis, Berkeley, University of San Francisco, Golden Gate University, Santa Clara University, and Stanford were present at the brunch. Bao M. Vu, a 1L from UC Davis, was among many first-year law students to attend. "I knew that an opportunity such as this would allow me to develop a broad and influential group of mentors who will help to guide me in my career," said Bao, justifying his hour-and-a-half trek from Davis to the brunch.

At the brunch, AABA President Celia Lee welcomed prospective mentors and mentees and gave a preview of more great AABA events to come. The Honorable Judge Lillian Sing also

continued on next page

THE 2008 AABA MENTORSHIP BRUNCH

continued from page 6

inspired attendees by addressing the positive roles of mentorship and community involvement.

Rocky Tsai introduced and explained this year's "free market" approach to the mentorship program. Traditionally, mentors and mentees were assigned to one another in a one-to-one fashion. This year, attorneys and students were asked to fill out a survey designed to elicit essential mentoring-related information, and the survey data were then shared among all the participating mentors and mentees. Both students and attorneys were encouraged to use the shared database to seek out mentoring partners who best fit their interests. While this approach may have seemed intimidating at first, the Orrick Cafe quickly filled with animated conversations among judges, attorneys, and students.

Cara Kim, a 3L at Golden Gate University, found that having many smaller tables encouraged people to mix and mingle. "My overall feeling was that the event was comfortably casual and unstructured, so I was at ease approaching attorneys and not worried about finishing my conversations by a certain time," said Cara. Though she had an assigned mentor last year, Cara was able to make connections with several attorneys this time around and is looking forward to building relationships with each of them. As for Bao, he was able to meet two attorneys who invited him to visit their offices to talk about their professional experiences.

The 2008 AABA Mentorship Brunch was a great success for mentors and mentees alike. Although the format may have been novel, the abiding spirit of mentorship within the Asian-American legal community was as vibrant and vigorous as ever.



From L to R: Denise, Rocky, Nikki and Michelle



From L to R: Janet Kim and Tuyana



Rocky and Friends



Nicole, Kay, Hazel, Elsa



From L to R: James Higa, Louis, Kay and Sam Wu

Ngoc and Marcy



From L to R: Ronnie, Sam, Judge Stuart Hing, Rhoda Hing, and Michelle



From L to R: Judge Stuart Hing, Rhoda Hing, Liz Tran, Amy Deng, Wendy Liang, Nikki Dinh, Michelle Do, Claire Mao, Christina Lum, and Judge Garrett Wong



From L to R: Tommy, Christine, and Daisy Hung

From L to R: Ngoc Le, Bert Nguyen, Teresa Le and Lynh Nguyen

DIVERSITY Part I: A big issue packed in one word

By Nikki Dinh, AABA Student Member (Golden Gate University School of Law '10)

Diversity is undoubtedly a buzzword that is taking over the legal profession one job fair, scholarship, discussion panel and conference at a time. It is a catch-all term used to promote an assortment of platforms like ethnic issues, gender biases and sexual orientation. It may also be expanded to include issues related to religion, disability, socioeconomics and social background. Visit any major firm's website, most bar associations and US News to find entire sections dedicated to promoting diversity and outreach. In fact, Supreme Court cases and the American Bar Association have explicitly commented and promoted diversity in the legal field.

So what is diversity and why is there an emerging campaign to promote it? Most people have some idea of what diversity is about, but to define it would be virtually impossible because it is too large an issue to be packed into a single word.

Younger generations of students have been raised in a post civil rights era. Because of this, these students might be uninformed about the prevalent issues associated with a lack of diversity. They have always known women to vote and have never explicitly been denied access to any institution based on their race alone. Similarly, those of us who were brought up or work in quite diverse areas such as the Bay Area may not readily see the full extent of issues that arise from of a non-diverse community and workforce. There is also a lingering stigma about blaming race, gender or sexual orientation for inadequate or unsupportive work environments.

Recognition of the problem may be the first step to understanding diversity. We can start by examining statistics on visible groups such as minorities and women. The latest US Census reported that America's population, as looked at from a race perspective, was comprised of about 75% White non-Hispanics and 25% all other minority races. In the same year, those that made up attorneys included 89% White non-Hispanics and 11% minorities. Also demonstrative of the need for diversity in the legal field is that over 71.3% of attorneys are males whereas a mere 28.7% are women. *Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.*

These numbers are reflective of pipeline issues beginning in secondary school as well as a general history of work environment and exclusive hiring practices. However, many organizations such as the Asian American Bar Association and employers are pushing for a change. For example, students of diverse backgrounds now have a plethora of opportunities and access to events, scholarships and jobs. They are supported by mentors and a movement that continually pushes them towards success.

But diversity is not just a social philanthropic project. AABA member, Phillip Lee, discovered this when he joined Qualcomm's Diversity Team. Explained Lee: "I've always been a strong proponent of diversity but sometimes had a hard time expressing meaningful reasons for it besides ones relating to equity and social good. I had to sit down and start educating myself on diversity through reading articles, attending diversity events, and mostly working closely with the Human Resources staff for the legal department. Through this I am starting to understand the meaning of "diversity" and the motivations that my company and others have in promoting diversity. I've been happy to discover and embrace solid business reasons for diversity. First, diversity allows for innovative solutions to problems because people having different points of view add new ideas to discussions that have not been considered before. Secondly, diversity helps companies develop better and more useful products and services because the employees creating those products and services better understand and reflect their increasingly diverse customers. And thirdly, diversity in itself nurtures the corporate objective of diversity in that a diverse workforce attracts and retains diverse employees."

Diversifying the profile of the professional workforce to represent that of the general population is a win-win situation for students, professionals and employers. Hopefully that diversity will not be a passing fad, that we will learn to incorporate diversity into our culture in an increasingly globalized society. The long term benefits of diversity have yet to come, but it is the steps we take today to advocate and participate that will cement diversity as an essential part of our 21st century society.



Asian
American
Law
Journal

A Continuation of Asian Law Journal

FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

You are cordially invited to join the *Asian American Law Journal* in celebrating its Fifteenth Anniversary.

Saturday, October 18, 2008

Ohgane Korean Restaurant
3915 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94611

Reception 6:30pm

Dinner and Program 7:30pm

*Keynote Address by Professor Robert Chang
Author of AALJ's First Article*

Business Formal Attire

RSVP by October 10, 2008 to aalj.anniversary@gmail.com.
Ticket prices and sponsorship information enclosed.

Celebrating 15 Years



Asian American Law Journal
 UC Berkeley School of Law

www.boalt.org/aalj
aalj.anniversary@gmail.com

**Asian American Law Journal
 15th Anniversary Dinner - October 18th, 2008**

Dinner Options:

Level	Description	Rate	Qty	Order Total
Individual Ticket (Private Sector)	1 seat	\$120		
Individual Ticket (Public Interest)	1 seat	\$80		
Platinum Sponsorship	1 table (10 seats) and full-page ad in program	\$2500		
Gold Sponsorship	1 table (10 seats) and ½ page ad in program	\$2000		
Silver Sponsorship	1 table (10 seats) and ¼ page ad in program	\$1500		
Bronze Sponsorship	1 table (10 seats) and listing in program	\$1000		
Total:				

Your payment amount less \$40 for per person is tax deductible
 (e.g., \$120 ticket = \$80 tax deductible; \$2500 sponsorship = \$2100 tax deductible)

Advertisement Options:

Description	Private Sector Rate	Public Interest Rate	Order Total
Full-Page Advertisement	\$1000	\$500	
Half-Page Advertisement	\$750	\$375	
Quarter-Page Advertisement	\$500	\$250	
Total:			

Name	Organization
Address	City, State, Zip

Payment Options:

To pay by credit card: For individual tickets only, make payment online at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/44419>.
 For sponsorship and advertisements only, use form below and fax to (510) 643-0974.

To pay by check: Make check payable to Asian American Law Journal and mail to:
 Journal Publications, Berkeley Law, 311 Boalt Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720

Credit Card Number	Expiration Date
Authorized Signature	Email
Print Name	Phone number

Please fax this form to: (510) 643-0974

JUDGES NEEDED FOR THOMAS TANG MOOT COURT COMPETITION - CALIFORNIA REGIONAL COMPETITION

NAPABA is currently looking for volunteers
to serve as judges for the preliminary rounds at this year's
Thomas Tang California Regional Competition

Saturday, October 25, 2008

University of San Francisco School of Law
2199 Fulton St., San Francisco, CA 94117.

The Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition was founded in 1993 by the APA Law Student Association of the South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas. It is now administered by the NAPABA Law Foundation and the NAPABA Judicial Council. The Competition honors the late Judge Thomas Tang, a champion of individual rights, an advocate for the advancement of minority attorneys, an ardent supporter of NAPABA and the moot court competition. Judge Tang served on the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals from 1977 until his passing in 1995. Judge Tang's wife, Dr. Pearl Tang, continues the legacy and participates every year.

The Competition is open to all students but is especially designed to reach out to APA law students and provide them with an opportunity to showcase their writing and oral advocacy skills and compete for scholarships totaling \$10,000 which are generously sponsored by the Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

For the rounds at USF on October 25, volunteer judges arrive at 8:30 a.m. for instructions. The preliminary rounds for the competition are at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon.

NAPABA will send a copy of this year's problem and bench memo to the volunteer judges well in advance so that there is enough time to prepare for the competitors' oral arguments.

If you're interested, please send your name, e-mail address and phone number to Christine Epres via email at christine.epres@gmail.com or telephone at (408) 910-6736 by Friday, October 10. More details about the location of the competition, room assignments, etc. will be made available as the competition date approaches.

The Education Committee of the Asian American Bar Association (AABA)
The Association for Dispute Resolution of Northern California (ADRNC)
The Hastings Center for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution and
The Minority Bar Coalition
present

EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS: DON'T JUST LITIGATE, MEDIATE!

If you think you need to be a retired judge or an attorney with 30 years experience before you can be a mediator, think again. Come hear how diverse attorneys from different backgrounds have "broken the mold" to become successful mediators and Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") professionals. Find out how to develop your skills and practice to be an effective mediator for a variety of disputes.

Thursday, October 16, 2008

6:00-7:00 p.m.

Bar Association of San Francisco
301 Battery Street, Third Floor
San Francisco

Reception and Light Refreshments to Follow

Panelists include:

Yolanda Jackson	BASF Deputy Director and Diversity Director
Ken Kawaichi	JAMS mediator and Former Alameda County Superior Court Judge
Grande Lum	Director, Hastings Center for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, Mediation Offices of Claudia Viera, Esq.

Please RSVP to adr@adrnc.net by October 10, 2008.

1 Hour of MCLE credit will be provided.

Asian American Bar Association

of the Greater Bay Area

presents

How to Address Negative Attitudes or Comments of a Judge Toward Minority Attorneys & Clients

Approved MCLE Provider – 1.0 Hour MCLE Elimination of Bias Credit

Bias from the Courts toward minority attorneys and clients can be awkward, embarrassing, and offensive. The tension between respect for the bench, representing the best interest of your client, and standing up for your own rights can often be in conflict. This panel will discuss how to address negative attitudes or comments of a Judge or Court staff toward minority attorneys and clients. Discussions will include your legal rights and remedies.

Panelists:

The Honorable Delbert Gee, Alameda County Superior Court Judge.

Ivy Lee, Esq., Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach

Moderated by David Lim, Esq., Alameda County District Attorney's Office

November 6, 2008

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Registration and beverages

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Program

*Location: Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean LLP
1111 Broadway, 24th Floor, Oakland, CA*

** Exit "Oakland 12th St./City Center" BART **

*RSVP: David Lim, david.lim@acgov.org
(510) 639-7205*

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN *continued from page 1*

commitment to racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession. Joan will receive the Spirit of Excellence award at the ABA's Midyear Meeting in Boston on February 14, 2009. Joan, a litigation partner at Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP with a particular emphasis on products liability and complex commercial disputes, is a former NAPABA Trailblazer and a Past President of the Bar Association of San Francisco.

Edwin Prather, AABA's Immediate Past President, will receive the 2008 Champion of Unity from the MBC -- a coalition of over twenty Bay Area mainstream, specialty, ethnic and minority bar associations. Each year, the MBC recognizes one individual whose contributions to diversity in the local legal profession transcend traditional boundaries between minority groups. Past recipients include the Honorable Brenda Harbin-Forte, Joan Haratani, and the Honorable Ken Kawaichi. Edwin will receive the Champion of Unity Award at the MBC's Annual Unity Reception on October 10, 2008, at 6:00 p.m., at Golden Gate University Law School. Edwin is a partner at Clarence & Dyer, where his practice focuses on state and federal criminal defense. Edwin also became the President of the ABC (Asian Pacific Bar of California) -- the umbrella organization for all Asian American bar associations in the state -- earlier this month.

Please join AABA in congratulating and celebrating Kevin, Joan and Edwin's latest awards and accomplishments!

MUSICIAN TURNS JUDGE *continued from page 2*

nity with hospitals, scholarships and schools, families of U.S. soldiers, St. Vincent de Paul, NAACP, and his own outreach and mentoring program.

Judge Hing set some time aside from his very busy schedule for an up close and personal interview for AABA:

Q: What were you doing when you received the call about the appointment?

A: I will never forget that moment. I was in the middle of a jury trial involving a defendant charged with rape and in the office at my desk after hours when Judicial Appointments Secretary, Sharon Majors-Lewis, called.

Q: How did your upbringing influence your participation in public service?

A: My father was always in public service. He always was and still is a big influence on me. When I worked with Xerox Corporation, I realized that money wasn't everything. Making a difference in just one other person's life is very fulfilling and meaningful.

Q: In April 2007, the California Bar Journal published an article on the demography of members of the bar and the judiciary by ethnicity and gender. In this study, 12% of the state's population identified themselves as Asian. Asians only constituted 5.3% of the state's bar membership and only 4% of the entire judiciary identified themselves as Asian. The Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation issued the Statewide Demographic Report for 2007 in February 2008. Of the 261 applicants that submitted for judicial evaluation only 8% were Asian American with 6% male applicants and 2% female applicants. What is your philosophy as to how to increase the pool of Asian American applicants? Where does it start?

A: I'm not an expert but would say it starts with education and not just education in college and law school. Education is just as important about the community we live in and society in general. There's really so much more because this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Q: What would you tell the Asian American legal community as to how to bridge the gap in the disparity of the ratio of the state's Asian population to its representation in the bar and the judiciary?

A: Martin Luther King, Jr. said it better than anyone. Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

continued on next page

MUSICIAN TURNS JUDGE *continued from page 15*

Q: What advice would you give to one aspiring to become a judge?

A: I would say first, be the best lawyer you can be. Second, you can't just be a worker bee in isolation. Be the best colleague, too. Share your experiences by helping your fellow workers and especially learning from them, too. Third, don't just be the best lawyer and colleague, be connected to your community by learning about everyone and I mean everyone in the community. So, becoming an exceptional lawyer, colleague, and member of the community is the advice I would give.

Q: Who was your inspiration to becoming a judge?

A: That's easy but there are two: California Supreme Court Justices Ming Chin and Carol Corrigan. I met both of them when I started and learned so much from each of them. Till this day, I still use what each of them taught me.

Q: If you weren't a judge, former prosecutor, or musician, what would you choose as a career?

A: Something for sure in public service and maybe involving healthcare, urban violence, teen pregnancy, or education.

Q: How will your career as a prosecutor help you in your work as a judge?

A: The biggest thing is already having a wonderful experience in a courtroom trying to do the right thing.

Q: Now that you are retired from the District Attorney's Office, what do you miss most about it?

A: The friends and helping both victims and defendants.

Q: Do you think that a judge develops a perspective that colors his/her non-professional life, like for example, shopping at a grocery store?

A: It's too early for me to say. But I do hope I never get the black-robe syndrome. If it starts,

I know several people, especially my wife, who will knock me in the head.

Q: Have you noticed yet as to whether people have been treating you differently after you became a judge?

A: Yes, and it is quite overwhelming.

Q: What are some misperceptions about judges?

A: I personally don't know of any. During my 23 years in front of judges as a deputy district attorney, they seem the same now as a colleague.

Q: What new responsibilities/goals do you have in Alameda County?

A: For now, I'm just trying to learn to be the best judge I can be.

Q: What is one of the biggest challenges to being a judge?

A: For me, there's so much to learn. It is literally a new job.

Q: What is your favorite movie or television show about the law?

A: I really liked Paul Newman in "The Verdict." I can still picture him reacting to the actual verdict in the movie.

Q: What was the last book that you read?

A: Freedom which is mostly a photographic history of African Americans.

Q: What person(s) whom you haven't met do you most admire and why?

A: I've always wondered what it would be like if Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. had lived. I really like learning more about each of them. They are very inspirational.

Q: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time when you are not working?

A: Spending time with my wife, Rhoda, either traveling or just doing nothing. I'm so lucky she's my wife. It was really special to have the induction on her birthday.

continued on next page

MUSICIAN TURNS JUDGE

continued from page 16

Q: Will you tell us more about your career as a musician?

A: I started playing the piano when I was nine. I played guitar in bands throughout high school and college up to six nights a week. We played in clubs in Old Sacramento, throughout California, and even on the road in Washington. I also played at school dances, Cal Expo, and Disneyland. My real love, though, was jazz that I played at local restaurants and clubs during dinner hours and after hours.

Q: What is one thing that most AABA members don't know about you?

A: That I played in a band that opened two shows for Earth, Wind, & Fire... wearing a flesh-tone jumpsuit with long hair and a permanent.



AL GRAF BAIL BONDS

Confidential 24 Hour Service Nationwide



Al Graf
Lic# 1214810



Erich Campana
Lic# 1842872



Ron Lee
Lic# 1841697



紅龍保釋局
Geri Ito-Campana
Owner/Agent
CA Bail Insurance #1659114

Checks Accepted    Established 1967

Across the Street from the Jail

(415) 431-3333
859 Bryant St. San Francisco
(Across from Jail)

(650) 369-1111
SSF & Redwood City

Paid Advertisement AABA does not endorse any product, service or message advertised.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

OCTOBER

AABA Idol and Karaoke Night. TBA

2008 Unity Conference & Reception: Choices and Unity.
October 10. 1:30pm to 7:30pm. Golden Gate University,
536 Mission Street, San Francisco.

KABA Golf Tournament. **October 11,** 11:00 am Tee Time.
Metropolitan Golf, 10051 Doolittle Drive, Oakland

MCLE - Expanding Your Horizons. Don't Just Litigate,
Mediate! Thursday, **October 16.** 6-7pm. Bar Association
of San Francisco, 301 Battery Street, 3rd Floor, San
Francisco.

Filipino Bar Association of Northern California (FBANC)
Annual Family Picnic. **October 18.** Central Park, 50 E 5th
Ave., Picnic Area #3, San Mateo

AALJ Fifteenth Anniversary Dinner. Saturday, **October 18.**
6:30pm. Ohgane Korean Restaurant, 3915 Broadway,
Oakland.

APBASV Scholarship/Diversity Awards Dinner. **October 20.**
6:30pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 2050 University Ave.,
E. Palo Alto

Women Lawyers of Alameda County Annual Dinner.
October 22. 6:00 pm. Oakland Marriott City Center, Oakland

Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition. Saturday, **October 25.**
University of San Francisco of Law, 2199 Fulton Street,
San Francisco.

NOVEMBER

How to Address Negative Attitudes or Comments of a
Judge Toward Minority Attorneys & Clients. **November 6.**
5:30pm. Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean LLP, 111 Broadway,
24th Floor, Oakland.

NAPABA Annual Convention. **November 19-23.**
Seattle, WA

2008-2009 AABA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Celia W. Lee, *President*
Garner Weng, *Vice President/President Elect*
Billy Chan, *Treasurer*
Malcolm C. Yeung, *Secretary*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

S. Isabel Choi
Emi Gusukuma
Juna Kim
Reichi Lee
Eugene M. Pak

Dave Sohn
Ted Ting
Marissa Tirona
Yu-Yee Wu

AABA COMMITTEES AND 2008-2009 CO-CHAIRS

CIVIL RIGHTS/PUBLIC INTEREST

Adrienne De Castro
Steve Ngo
Maria Weydemuller

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Hung Chang
Kevin Chen
Richard Cooc
Daisy Hung
Eumi Lee
Robert Uy
Brian Wang

EDUCATION

Gregory Jung
David Lim
Sara Mo
Alexandra Smith

EMPLOYMENT

Eddy Y. Chan
Ting-Mao Chao
Ivana Fedor
Phil Lee
Elizabeth Loh

IN HOUSE COUNSEL

Lawrence M. Chew
Orlena Fong
Ja Moon

JUDICIARY/PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Jason P. Lee
Avin Sharma
Salle E. Yoo

MEDIA

Livia Hsiao

MEMBERSHIP

Janet Li
Marcus Wu

MENTORSHIP

James Higa
Marshall Khine
Misasha Suzuki
Rocky Tsai

NEWSLETTER

Kathy Asada
Alice Chin
Soyeun Choi
Genevieve Dominguez
Rhean Fajardo
Michelle D. Jew
Eugene Pak

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nikki Dinh

PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT

Michael Ching
Alexis S.M. Chiu
Charles Jung
Wesley M. Lowe
Richard Tamor

SCHOLARSHIP

Rick Chang
Candice Jan
Annette Mathai-Jackson
Vilaska P. Nguyen

SOCIAL

Daisy Hung
Cindy Hwang
Azalea Park
Lynn Phan
Esther W. Chang

JOIN AABA TODAY!