



AABA Newsletter

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President's Column

By Celia Lee, AABA President

- **Election Results**
- **Board Retirements**

Election Results: As the 2008-2009 AABA year nears its end, I am happy to announce results from AABA's recent election and congratulate the individuals who will be serving under your new President for 2009-2010, **Garner Weng, Isabel Choi, Eumi Lee, and Daisy Hung** have been elected to serve three-year terms on the Board. As they all have served AABA in so many capacities in the past years, I know our members will be in good hands as they continue their leadership by serving on our Board.

Board Retirements. After over eight years of combined experience and service on AABA's Board, Directors **Marissa Tirona** and **Yu-Yee Wu** are retiring. AABA and our community have been infinitely enriched by their commitment and guidance, and I have been fortunate to have worked with them. Ladies, thank you for your vision and your leadership!

While Marissa and Yu-Yee are irreplaceable, I am extremely pleased to announce that the Board has appointed **Juna Kim** and **Jason P. Lee** to fulfill the remaining year on both of Marissa and Yu-Yee's terms. Congratulations Juna and Jason!

I hope you will all be able to meet and welcome our new Board members and Officers as well as congratulate our new San Francisco Superior Court **Judge Bruce Chan** at the AABA Installation Dinner on February 20 at City Hall. See you then!

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AABA THANKS THE FOLLOWING SUSTAINING MEMBERS OF 2008!

Monty Agarwal

Kathy Asada

Narinder Banait

David Biderman

Billy Chan

Christine Chang

Lucas Chang

Cedric Chao

Claudine Cheng

David Chiu

S. Isabel Choi

Elaine Chow

Jeffrey Chu

Annie Y.S. Chuang

Madeline Chun

Marisa Chun

Mike Farn

Samuel Feng

Keith Fong

Kevin Fong

Hon. Keith Fudenna

Joan Haratani

Joel Hayashida

Jack Johal

Peter Kang

Rahul Kapoor

Andrew Kim

Rudy Kim

Sunil Kulkarni

Minette Kwok

Steve Lau

Bernard Lee

Celia Lee

Baldwin Lee

Felix Lee

Jack Lee

Susan Lew

Dorothy Liu

Allan Low

Wesley Lowe

Andrew Luh

Dale Lum

Dale Minami

Patrick Miyaki

Christine Noma

Rosemarie Oda

Eugene Pak

John Park

Rajiv Patel

Paul Perdue

Ha Pham

Zaitun Poonja

Edwin Prather

Larry Quan

Dawn Robertson

Raymond H. Sheen

Greg Sueoka

Donald Tamaki

Judith Tang

Eric Tate

Theodore Ting

Alison Tsao

Leon Tuan

Garner Weng

Maria Weydemuller

Darryl Woo

Philip Woo

Andrew Wu

Marcus Wu

Brad Yamauchi

Clifford Yin

Stanley Young

Jim Yu

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

THE ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE GREATER BAY AREA

3²nd Annual Installation Dinner *est. 1976*

Friday, February 20, 2009

San Francisco City Hall

Installing

2009-10 officers and directors

Bestowing

annual awards and scholarships
and

Featuring keynote address by

Don H. Liu

Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary
Xerox Corporation

6:00 PM Reception; 6:45 pm Dinner

E-mail inquiries regarding the dinner to: aabadinner@gmail.com

Visit AABA AT www.AABA-BAY.com

Join the AABA Groups on Facebook and LinkedIn!

Payment/registration deadline is Sunday, **February 8, 2009** (payment must be received by that time. You can also register online up through February 8, 2009).
Please visit <http://www.aaba-bay.com/aaba/dinner.asp>



AABA'S Installation Dinner: A Night of Celebration

By Michelle Jew, AABA Newsletter Committee Co-Chair

Don H. Liu is a true American success story. Mr. Liu was born in Seoul, Korea and immigrated to the United States with his family in 1972. He earned his law degree from Columbia University School of Law where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. Today, he is the general counsel and secretary for Xerox Corporation in Norwalk, Conn. He is also a senior vice president of the corporation.

Mr. Liu will be the keynote speaker at AABA's 32nd Annual Installation Dinner on Friday, February 20, 2009 at City Hall in San Francisco. The reception is at 6 p.m., with dinner to follow at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are still available, but space is limited. Registration and payment must be received by Sunday, February 8, 2009. For more information regarding registration, please visit www.aaba-bay.com/aaba/dinner.asp.

This year's dinner will feature the installation of the 2009-2010 AABA officers and directors and the awarding of AABA's annual awards and scholarships. The winners of these awards have been kept top secret and will not be announced until the night of the dinner. And of course, as in years past, the dinner will also feature great food and the opportunity to mingle with other attorneys, judges, and law students.

This year's keynote speaker, Mr. Liu, might share some of his exciting stories of his work at Xerox. At Xerox, Mr. Liu oversees the legal affairs of the corporation, including legal counsel, litigation and patent acquisition. He also manages the regulatory requirements and meeting processes for the board of directors and is responsible for Xerox's government-related and public policy activities on domestic and international affairs.

Prior to joining Xerox, Mr. Liu was senior vice president, general counsel and corporate compliance officer for Toll Brothers. From 1999-2005, he served as general counsel, corporate secretary and corporate compliance officer for IKON Office Solutions. He was vice president and deputy chief legal officer for Aetna U.S. Healthcare from 1992-1999. Before switching to an in-house counsel position, he worked as an associate at two New York City law firms from 1987 to 1992, specializing in securities and mergers and acquisitions – first at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and then at Richards & O'Neil (now Bingham McCutchen). Mr. Liu also served as a Law Clerk to Justice Stewart G. Pollock at the Supreme Court of New Jersey from 1986 to 1987.

Mr. Liu is also the first-ever recipient of the NAPABA Icon Award, an award which recognizes a person with a distinguished and exemplary legal career who, through outstanding and selfless dedication and leadership, serves as a catalyst for fundamental advancement of the ideals of NAPABA and the Asian Pacific American legal community.

“Call To Community Service” Program

As our AABA year draws to a close, we want to remind you of the previously announced “Call To Community Service” program, which recognizes the outstanding commitment AABA attorneys have made to pro bono and community matters benefitting the Asian American community.

The idea is to support and recognize the efforts that our members make – whether it is via serving on an AABA committee, taking on a pro bono case helping a member of the Asian American community, or volunteering time working for a non-legal organization in Chinatown. And keep in mind, too, that working on the 2008 election (both partisan

and non-partisan efforts), most definitely counts as public service. We know that AABA members devote thousands of hours of time to helping the community, and it is time to celebrate those endeavors.

If you haven’t already done so, please fill out the form, and e-mail it to tracie.brown@usdoj.gov, or fax it to Tracie Brown’s attention at 415-436-7234.



Remember that AABA members who have completed 50 or more hours of community service will receive this beautiful, limited edition gift recognizing their contributions.

CALL TO COMMUNITY SERVICE: 2007-08

AABA Member Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Employer: _____

Please indicate how many hours of AABA, pro bono, community service or other volunteer work you completed on behalf of the Asian American community in 2007 and 2008: _____ hours.

Please describe generally your AABA, pro bono, community service or other volunteer work completed on behalf of the Asian American community in 2007 and 2008:

Please submit forms and direct any questions to Call to Community Service Chairpersons Tracie Brown – tracie.brown@usdoj.gov, Rhean Fajardo – rhean.fajardo@gmail.com or Michael Wang – michael.wang@usdoj.gov.



Phong La, Hon. Trina Thompson (ACBA Distinguished Service Award-Judge), Dennis Chin, Rhoda Hing and Hon. Stuart Hing

AABA Member Receives Alameda County Bar Association Distinguished Service Award

By Alice Chin, Newsletter Committee Co-Chair

Dennis Chin was the recipient of the Alameda County Bar Association (ACBA) Distinguished Service Award at the ACBA's Annual Installation and Distinguished Service Awards Dinner held at the Claremont Resort and Spa in Berkeley on January 15th. He received the award as an Individual Barrister, one of five categories--Judge, Individual Lawyer, Individual Barrister, Law Firm and Community Organization.

As a Barrister (attorneys in practice for less than ten years), Dennis was recognized for volunteering his time at the Low Income Landlord Eviction Clinic and serving as the secretary of the Barristers' Executive Committee of the ACBA and as a director on the board of the ACBA. He is now serving his third year on the board of directors and is currently vice-chair of the Barristers' Executive Committee. He is a contributing writer to the quarterly magazine of the ACBA, *The Bulletin*. He was also one of the recipients of the State Bar of California Wiley W. Manuel Award in 2006 and 2007 for his pro bono work with low-income clients.

Dennis is an associate attorney at the Oakland law firm of Burnham Brown and is a member of the faculty of the Paralegal Certificate Program at California State University, East Bay. In September, he won a 2nd place ribbon in Color Photography at the 55th Annual State Bar Convention Bench and Bar Art Exhibit.

State Bar President Holly Fujie was in attendance at the dinner to also witness the presentation of the Distinguished Service Awards to the Honorable Trina Thompson for Judge, ACBA Past President Cheryl Hicks for Individual Lawyer, Housing and Economic Rights Advocates (HERA) for Community Organization and Burnham Brown for Law Firm.

In September, Burnham Brown was the first East Bay firm to spearhead the Diversity Reception, celebrating diversity in the legal community, co-sponsored by the ACBA Barristers and many of the Bay Area minority bars including AABA.



Burnham Brown associate attorneys-Wykeisha Orr, Michelle Jew (AABA Newsletter Committee Co-Chair) and Nicholas Burke



California State Bar President Holly Fujie and ACBA Distinguished Service Award Recipient Dennis Chin



Hon. Delbert Gee, California State Bar President Holly Fujie and AABA Director Ted Ting



Chris Noma and Hon. Dennis Hayashi



Judge Bruce E. Chan Appointed to San Francisco County Superior Court

By Soyeun Choi, AABA Newsletter Committee Co-Chair

AABA extends its congratulations to Bruce E. Chan on his appointment to San Francisco County Superior Court on January 22, 2009.

Mr. Chan fills the vacancy left by Judge John Conway, who retired from the bench. In addition to serving as commissioner for the San Francisco County Superior Court, he served as chief counsel for the California State Assembly Committee on Public Safety from 2000 to 2004 and previously served as counsel from 1999 to 2000.

He started out as an associate at Ropers, Majeski, Kohn, Bentley, Wagner and Kane from 1986 to 1989, then worked for the San Francisco Public Defender's Office as a trial attorney from 1981 to 1986 and a senior trial attorney from 1989 to 1999.

AABA has been proud to publicly recognize Mr. Chan since he became commissioner for the San Francisco County Superior Court in 2004. Moreover, we are grateful to have had his support as well. We applaud his continuing contribution to the legal community.

Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Program

The Bar Association of San Francisco is pleased to announce that the application for our Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Program is now available online at the following link: <http://www.sfbar.org/diversity/scholarships.aspx>.

This program was established to help increase diversity in the legal profession in a concrete way, and alleviate at least one of the many barriers minority students may face when considering law school. In the past 10 years, we have awarded over 50 scholarships to deserving law students in the Bay Area. Awards are given based on financial need, commitment to and involvement in, public service, barriers faced in life, and scholastics. Student recipients receive a \$10,000 scholarship towards their first year of law school. Thereafter, the scholarship may be renewed for an additional two years.

Please forward this information on to students, student organizations/groups, and others you think may be interested in applying. The deadline for completed applications is May 15, 2009, by 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call BASF Diversity Pipeline Program Manager, Daisy J. Hung at 415-782-9000, extension 8705.

Bar Exam Workshop For People of Color

Presented by: For People of Color, Inc., The Bar Association of San Francisco & State Bar of California's Council on Access & Fairness

Proud Sponsor: The California Bar Foundation

Description: This workshop is designed for current law students and recent law school graduates and will cover all aspects of the bar examination. The presenters will discuss best practices to prepare for the bar examination. Materials will be distributed at the event.

Speakers: Anthony Solana, Jr., Esq., President & Chairperson, For People of Color, Inc. and author of "A Guide to the Bar Examination For People of Color."

Rod Fong, Esq., Assistant Dean for Bar Exam Services at Golden Gate University School of Law

Where: The Bar Association of San Francisco, 301 Battery Street, Third Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111

When: Saturday, February 28, 2009, from 1 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Deadline to Register: Friday, Feb. 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

This event is free and open to the public. Registration, however, is required.

Please make sure to select the correct workshop via the drop-down menu contained in the registration page here: <http://forpeopleofcolor.org/register.htm>

State Bar Awards ²⁰⁰⁹

Time to Nominate!!!

**NOMINATIONS
WILL CLOSE ON
MARCH 16**

- *President's Pro Bono Service Award*
- *Loren Miller Legal Services Award*
- *Jack Berman Award of Achievement*
- *Education Pipeline Program Award*
- *Diversity Awards*

Nomination Forms are available for download online @ www.calbar.org/awards

To receive a hard copy of the nomination form by mail or for more information, contact cyla@calbar.ca.gov

Calendar of Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

32nd AABA Installation Dinner.
Friday, **February 20**.
6pm - Registration; 6:45pm Dinner.
San Francisco City Hall.
Payment/Registration deadline is February 8.

Bar Exam Workshop for People of Color.
Saturday, **February 28** from 1 - 3pm. 301
Battery Street, San Francisco.

MARCH

State Bar Awards 2009. Nominations will be closed on **March 16**.

MAY

Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Program. Deadline for completed applications **May 15**.

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