

Message from the Outgoing Chair

Dear APIS Members,



It is hard to believe that my time on the APIS Officer Board is coming to a close. For the last three years, I have had the pleasure of working with the APIS officers and council members, and our members. Over the same three years, I experienced quite a bit of change in my life. I moved from Houston to Dallas, I got mar-

ried, and I left Haynes and Boone, LLP to go in-house with Ben E. Keith. Throughout all these changes, a consistent part of my life was APIS. I know APIS has provided a similar sense of community and purpose for some of you.

If you have not been involved with or attended an APIS Conference, I encourage you to attend the conference in Spring 2019 and take full advantage of this organization. APIS continues to grow with Texas' APA legal community. And, with the new APIS leadership, good things are still to come.

Please join me in welcoming the upcoming Chair, Chi Reece, the Chair-Elect, Paul Yin, and the Vice Chair, Jim Thomas.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I look forward to ways I can continue to be a part of this incredible community of APA lawyers.

Punam Kaji
Chair

2017 - 2018 APIS OFFICERS

Chair	Punam Kaji
Chair Elect	Chi Reece
Vice Chair	Paul Yin
Treasurer	Jim Thomas
Secretary	Teresa Messer

www.TexasAPIS.org
<https://www.facebook.com/APISection/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/texasapis/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Outgoing Chair	1
APIS Officer Elections	2
State Bar Annual Meeting	3
Local Bar Association Events and Announcements	4
Council Member of the Year	5
2018 APIS Conference Recap	6

Officer Elections

Join the APIS Officer Board!

- The following positions are open for election: Secretary and Treasurer

The Secretary is the custodian of all books, papers, documents, funds and other property of the section. The Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the section and the Council, whether assembled or acting under submission. The Secretary helps with promotional materials, drafting communications, and the APIS Conference brochure.

The Treasurer is the custodian of all financial books, papers, documents, and funds of the section. The primary responsibility is assisting with sponsorship and fundraising for the APIS Conference, as well as providing regular updates on the financial status of the organization.

- To run for either position, send a statement of interest and resume to APIS Chair-Elect, Chi Reece [creece@vk-c.com] by Monday, June 19, 2018.
- APIS will elect officers at our Annual Meeting on June 21, 2018, at the Houston Marriott Marquis Downtown from 2:30 - 3:30 PM (in conjunction with the State Bar Annual Meeting).
- Candidates at the meeting may present their written statement. An APIS officer will read the statement for Candidates who cannot attend.



State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting



CO-SPONSORED BY THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS
ASIAN PACIFIC INTEREST SECTION & AFRICAN-AMERICAN LAWYERS SECTION



RESPONDING TO HATE CRIMES:

Creative Lawyering and Community Response

1.0 CLE Credits, 0.5 Ethics

EVENT DETAILS

Marriott Marquis
1777 Walker St
Houston, TX 77010
Clear Lake Room
Thursday, June 21, 2018
1:30 - 2:30 PM

The CLE will be held at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting. For more information, please visit www.texasbar.com/annualmeeting.

SPEAKERS

MANPREET SINGH: Serves as a director of the Sikh Coalition. She lobbies annually for passage of the Safe Schools Act, increased diversity in the US Army, and for the FBI to track hate crimes against the Sikh community. She is the APIS Diversity Champion Award Winner, 2018.

ALFRED TRIBBLE: A 27-year Supervisor Special Agent with the FBI. He has specialized in investigating bias-motivated criminal acts directed at individuals and houses of worship.

JUSTIN MOORE: A private attorney who represents victims of hate crimes. He helps ensure criminal prosecution of hate crimes by using the power of the media, social media, and grassroots efforts, in addition to pursuing other remedies.

KARIMA MALONEY: A partner at Smyser Kaplan & Veselka. She is a former federal prosecutor of the DOJ, where she handled high-profile hate crimes, official misconduct, and human trafficking prosecutions.

RUBEN PEREZ: A career prosecutor who recently retired from the DOJ, where he was an assistant U.S. attorney and chief of the Human Trafficking/Civil Rights Unit. Currently working with the Harris County District Attorney's Office as Bureau Chief of Special Crimes.

Please Join APIS at the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting at the Marriott Marquis in Houston, Texas on June 21, 2018.

June 21 at 1:30 – 2:30 PM

CLE, Responding to Hate Crimes: Creative Lawyering and Community Response

(1.0 CLE, including .5 Ethics)

Co-Hosted by the African-American Lawyers Section

Speakers: Manpreet Singh, Alfred Tribble, Justin Moore, Karima Maloney, and Ruben Perez

June 21 at 2:30 – 3:30 PM

APIS Meeting, including elections for new officers and voting-in new Council members.

June 21 at 5:30 – 7:00 PM

APIS Networking Reception at the Grotto Downtown

Co-hosted by AABA of Houston and SABA Houston

1001 Avenida de las Americas, Suite A, Clear Lake Room, Houston, TX 77010



Diversity and Inclusion: What's Working and What Needs Revising?

DIVERSITY FORUM

Thursday, June 21, 9:00-10:30 a.m.



STATE BAR OF TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING
HOUSTON, JUNE 21-22, 2018



APIS, AABA of Houston, & SABA Houston
Joint Networking Reception

Thursday, June 21, 2018
5:30 - 7:00 PM
Grotto Downtown
1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Suite A
Houston, TX 77010

Local Bar Association Events and Announcements

AUSTIN

Austin AABA:

- Please join us for our annual summer family event at Central Market. There's a playground for the kids and plenty of good food to enjoy. We will start at 10am to avoid the worst of the summer heat. All members and members' significant others and children are welcome to attend. The family event is always one of our most enjoyed AAABA activities. You won't want to miss it!
 - WHERE: Central Market, 4001 N. Lamar Blvd., ATX, outdoor eating area
 - WHEN: Saturday, June 16, 2018, 10am-noonish
 - COST: Free for members and their families
 - Please RSVP at this [link](#) by June 13th to ensure we order enough delicious food for every one. See you there!

SABA Austin:

- Huge congratulations to SABAA's 2018 Chair Sujata Ajmera on being named Austinite of the Year by Austin 40 under 40 AND winning its Legal category! Sujata was also awarded a TCWLA attorney award for her corporate/transactional work the same weekend!
- Join SABA Austin: <https://www.saba-austin.org/membership>

DALLAS

DAABA:

- DAABA and the Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce (GDAACC) are co-hosting a Summer Rooftop Mixer on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 from 6:00-9:00 pm at the Oncor building's rooftop deck. This is a great opportunity for business and law professionals to mix and mingle and grow their network within the Dallas community while enjoying the view of the Dallas skyline.
- Save the Date for DAABA's 11th Annual Awards Night on Friday, October 26, 2018 at 6 pm at the Omni Dallas Hotel. This year's event will be a Gala to commemorate DAABA's 30th anniversary as an organization. More information on sponsorships and ticket purchases will be available on our website, www.daaba.org, in the coming weeks.

SABA Dallas:

Save the Date for the Upcoming Gala:



Local Bar Association Events and Announcements

HOUSTON

Houston AABA:

Checkout our new, redesigned website!! www.aabahouston.com

JOIN/RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO MANAGE YOUR PROFILE

Wills Training

Please join us Saturday, June 16, 2018 from 9am to 1pm at 11210 Bellaire Blvd #118, Houston, TX 77072

Attorneys who wish to volunteer at our annual Wills clinic must have attended the volunteer training

Register online at www.aabahouston.com

Harvey Clinics - Hurricane Harvey Relief Clinic Series (Ongoing)

Please mark your calendars for June 9, August 11, October 13, and December 8, as the AABA continues its clinics to assist victims of Hurricane Harvey throughout Houston.

Register online under the "Events" tab of www.aabahouston.com, or RSVP with Sang Shin at sshin@fosterglobal.com.

Houston SABA:

SABA Houston's Third Annual Charity Gala at the Marriott Marquis Downtown Houston was a huge success!

- Over 150 attendees with 14 sponsors
- Silent auction benefitting Houston Food Bank
- Notable speakers: Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, Harris County District Judge Ravi Sandill, ABC Houston Reporter Pooja Lodhia

New board

- President: Poorav Rohatgi
- President-Elect: George Samuel
- Secretary: Lora Chowdhury
- Treasurer: Neal Sarkar
- VP Events: Meha Gargi
- VP Communications: Winfield Williams
- VP Gala: Nadia Gire



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE 2018
APIS COUNCIL MEMBER
OF THE YEAR,
DANIEL HU!



2018 APIS Conference Recap

The APIS CLE programming covered a variety of topics in a variety of formats (photos below). The CLE programming included panels of experts discussing immigration compliance, employment law in light of the #MeToo movement, and criminal law issues with cyber bullying and electronic harassment. APIS was honored to have David Quan, Gordon Quan, Sang Shin, and Caroline Tang participate in the immigration panel, Meyling Ly Ortiz, Drew Harris, Nehal Anand, and Jennifer Wang join the employment law panel, and Colby Nichols, Ambrosio Silva, Dr. Richard K. Yuen, and Julie Chen Allen review the criminal law with respect to cyber bullying.



APIS was also honored to have an IP panel composed of prominent women in IP, such as Gina Shishima, Toni Nguyen, Hope Shimabuku, and Nila Ray. APIS also featured a litigation skills panel comprised of H.C. Chang, Ayesha Najam, Tanner Neidhardt, and Judge Ravi Sandill. In addition, the conference included a panel weighing lateral market moves hosted by Elise Green, Cathleen Chang, Cindy Lin, Larry Scott, and Albert Tan.



2018 APIS Conference Recap

This year we featured APIS Talks, inspired by the popular TedTalks series. There were twenty minute presentations by solo speakers on topics including legal issues in the cannabis industry, international human rights, immigration, and speaking across gender lines. The APIS Talks were conducted by Richard Cheng, Saba Syed, Thomas Wilson, and Helene Dang. (photos below).



2018 APIS Conference Recap

Thursday Night Happy Hour Featuring an Acapella Performance “Notorious RBG”

To kick off the 23rd APIS Conference, APIS and the Austin Asian American Bar Association hosted a happy hour at The Reverberary, inside the Hilton Downtown. Not only did attendees mingle while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, they were treated to a special performance by Christine Hoang and Allegra Fox. The duo performed “Notorious RBG”, a parody song set to Adele's “Rumour Has It” which celebrates Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. (If you missed the live performance and want to see another version of the performance, you can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/colorarcproductions/videos/1876236285761605/>). People soaked in the sunny weather on the side patio as new contacts were formed and old bonds were solidified.

The Asian American Civil Rights Story: An Evening with Karen Korematsu

The APIS evening reception began with a cocktail hour where attendees were able to start winding down from a full day of programming. Andrew C. Kim began the evening's presentation with a call to action for Asian Americans to stop keeping our heads down, to speak up, and more importantly, to take action. Keynote speaker Karen Korematsu regaled the audience with her father Fred Korematsu's enduring legacy and history. Echoing Andrew C. Kim, Karen Korematsu reminded all that our civil liberties must not be taken for granted and implored the audience to get involved, not only to honor the work of our predecessors but to effectuate change for all for today and tomorrow.

APIS Awards and Awards Luncheon

The APIS Awards luncheon joined together old and new friends and family members to celebrate our award winners. Our award winners emphasized the importance of giving back to the community and how their membership in APIS and other organizations led to valuable relationships and mentors that have been instrumental throughout their careers. We thank everyone who attended or sent in nominations for our amazing award winners:

The Justice David Wellington Chew Award: Andrea Tran

Outstanding Mentor Award: Vinh Ho

Affiliate of the Year: AABA of Houston

Champion of Diversity of Award: Manpreet Singh

Best Under 40 Award: Stacey Cho Hernandez, Cindy Lin, Amar Raval

Pro Bono Award: H. Albert Liou, Sang Shin and Nickie Tran for Hurricane Harvey Relief

A Very Special Thank You To Our 2018 APIS Conference Sponsors

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Duane Morris

GOLD SPONSOR

Haynes and Boone LLP

SILVER SPONSORS

Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

Jackson Walker LLP

King & Spalding

Fletcher Yoder

Austin Asian American Bar Association

Boston International Law Group LLC

BRONZE SPONSORS

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Husch Blackwell LLP

McGinnis Lochridge

Gibbs & Bruns LLP

Vacek, Kiecke & Colmenero, LLP

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen

Bell Nunnally & Martin

Beck Redden

Lateral Link

Johnson Downie

Marilyn Poole, Attorney at Law

Littler Mendelson P.C.

Locke Lord LLP

Ben E. Keith Co.

Foster LLP

Texas Bar College

Platt Cheema Richmond PLLC

FRIENDS OF APIS

Chi Reece

Teresa Messer

Albert Lin

Gina Shishima

Patsy Yung Micale

Daniel Hu

Albert Tan

Lisa Tsai

Paul Yin

Jim Thomas

Charlene Tsang-Kao

Jo Ann Merica

Catherine Le

Wesley Young

Punam Kaji

Bill Richmond

Special Thanks to the State Bar of Texas and Its Staff Members