



ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

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**"BLAZING A TRAIL IN THE LAW":
ASIAN BAR GROUPS CELEBRATE ASIAN AMERICAN PIONEERS IN THE
LEGAL PROFESSION**

NEW YORK – MAY 21, 2010 – The Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY), the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York (KALAGNY) and the South Asian Bar Association of New York (SABANY) are co-sponsoring an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration at the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on May 27. The program, "Blazing a Trail in the Law," brings together several distinguished Asian Pacific American legal pioneers who will share their memories and thoughts about the hurdles they encountered and the triumphs they experienced in making their marks in the legal profession.

The panelists are: Hon. Denny Chin, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; Sharon Hom, Executive Director, Human Rights in China; Norman Lau Kee, Partner, Kee & Lau-Kee; Chanwoo Lee, Law Office of Chanwoo Lee; and Hon. Jaya K. Madhavan, Supervising Judge, Bronx County Housing Court. The moderator will be Rockwell ("Rocky") Chin, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, State Division of Human Rights.

"We at AABANY are honored and excited that we have an excellent group of Asian Pacific American trailblazers to share their insights and wisdom about what it takes to achieve success in the legal profession at a time when Asian Pacific Americans were -- and continue to be -- under-represented in the profession," says AABANY President Robert Leung. Leung adds: "These pioneers carved their paths in various sectors of the profession: in private practice, in academia, in the judiciary. The current generation of lawyers have a great deal to learn from their experience, particularly now when Asian Pacific Americans continue to try to break the Bamboo Ceiling to attain leadership roles in the profession."

Lena Chun, President of KALAGNY remarked, "KALAGNY is proud to commemorate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a panel of several outstanding and highly-respected Asian Pacific American leaders. This is a truly unique opportunity to have a gathering of some of the most accomplished and influential individuals in the legal field who will share their experiences, challenges, and thoughts for the future with others for whom they've made it easier to follow in their footsteps and increase the influence and impact of Asian Pacific Americans in this country."

“We are thrilled to be co-sponsoring this fantastic event with AABANY and KALAGNY,” says SABANY President Kruti Dharia. “These panelists have worked very hard in their respective fields and are role models to all Asian Americans. We recognize the lasting contributions they have made in the legal field and are grateful that they are willing to share their experiences and advice with the current generation.”

The program begins with a reception at 6 pm with the panel discussion to begin at 6:45 pm. It is free and open to the public but capacity is limited and registration is required. To register, visit the AABANY website at www.aabany.org.

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The Asian American Bar Association of New York is a professional membership organization of attorneys concerned with issues affecting the Asian Pacific American community. Incorporated in 1989, AABANY seeks not only to encourage the professional growth of its members but also to advocate for the Asian Pacific American community as a whole. AABANY is the New York regional affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA). To learn more about AABANY, visit www.aabany.org.

Incorporated in 1986, the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York (KALAGNY) is a professional membership organization of attorneys and law students concerned about issues affecting the Korean American community in greater New York. KALAGNY seeks to encourage the professional growth of its members as well as provide legal support for the Korean American community. For more information about KALAGNY, visit www.kalagny.org.

The South Asian Bar Association of New York (SABANY) is a volunteer association dedicated to the needs, concerns, and interests of lawyers of South Asian heritage. We are committed to promoting the professional development of the South Asian legal community through networking, advocacy, and mentoring. SABANY is the New York chapter of the North American South Asian Bar Association (NASABA). To learn more about SABANY, please visit www.sabany.org.

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