

ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE GREATER BAY AREA

HONORING FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE
TANI CANTIL-SAKAUYE

AABA'S 47TH ANNUAL GALA

Thursday, March 23, 2023

LIGHTING THE PATH TO JUSTICE

Hyatt Regency Embarcadero San Francisco On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area, welcome to our 47th Annual Gala! In our second in-person Gala since the pandemic, we are so happy to announce that this is the first sell-out Gala in recent years. We would not be able to have reached that goal without the support of all of you here—the 69 law firms and organizations (12 of which are new sponsors) and 112 individual supporters. Your support and fellowship has allowed AABA to foster professional development and community building so that we can do the work necessary to advocate for civil rights, representation, and equality that are central to our mission.

This year's theme, "Lighting the Path to Justice," highlights AABA's twin goals of advocating for social justice and supporting Asian American attorneys in their service to our judicial system.

During the pandemic, AABA formed a Racial Justice Task Force to increase solidarity with and support for our allies in the Black Lives Matter movement and address the surge of anti-Asian hate. We have continued this work by collaborating with the Charles Houston Bar Association (CHBA) to organize a discussion about fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion within law firms and partnering on a joint Racial Justice Task Force. We look forward to continuing our partnership with CHBA this year.

AABA also continues to expand and grow our Asian American legal community at all levels. As many of you are aware, the pandemic did not deter us from pursuing our mission. Rather, the pandemic motivated us to find new ways to ensure that our community was supported and continued to grow. For example, our annual prelaw conference and mentorship family programs continued online during the pandemic when our members needed it most.

As we are exiting the pandemic, AABA is coming back together, advancing our mission in person. Our Partners Committee started to rebuild community through quarterly lunch gatherings and launching the fourth year of our Pathways to Partnership program. Our Judiciary Committee continues to mentor, support, and endorse Asian American applicants for judicial office. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders make up more than one-third of residents of the San Francisco Bay Area, from which many landmark decisions, both good and bad, originated and shaped jurisprudence about race and racism in the United

States, including Yick Wo v. Hopkins, Wong Kim Ark v. United States, and Korematsu v. United States.

Unfortunately, racism against Asian Americans is not history; it continues and is exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lawyers and judicial officers have played and continue to play an important role in combating racism and ensuring equal justice under law. This year, AABA will focus on shining a spotlight on luminaries within our community who have lived our values of equal justice under law and encouraging our members to follow their example.

Of our many luminaries, few shine as brightly as California Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye (ret.). The daughter of Filipino farmworkers in the Sacramento Valley, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye became the first person of color and second woman to serve as chief justice. During her time on the court, she guided the nation's largest court system through the Great Recession and the COVID-19 pandemic. Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has also been a leading voice for equal access to our judicial system, championing the end of cash bail and speaking out against the Trump administration's threat of mass arrests of undocumented immigrants in California courthouses.

Tonight, we honor Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye, our keynote speaker, with the 2023 Trailblazer Award. She, like so many others within our Bar, lit the path for us, both as a beacon of inspiration and also in practical ways, volunteering her time for the community and for AABA. This year's Gala celebrates those who have inspired us and opened the door for the next generation.

In solidarity,

Lin Y. Chan 2023 AABA President

2023 AABA Officers



Lin Y. Chan President

Lin Chan is a partner at Lieff Cabraser Heimann and Bernstein LLP, where her practice focuses on plaintiff-side class actions in the areas of antitrust and employment. Before joining the AABA Board of Directors, she cochaired the AABA Civil Rights and Women's Committees. Lin previously served on the Board of Directors for Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus and as Chair of the Antitrust and Business Regulation Section of the Bar Association of San Francisco. She is the Immediate Past President of the Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws (COSAL) and serves on the Advisory Board of the American Antitrust Institute (AAI). Lin was the inaugural recipient of the Hollis Salzman Memorial Leadership Award in 2021, awarded to a leader within the plaintiffs' antitrust bar who has advanced opportunities for other women and attorneys from underrepresented groups.



John B. Lough, Jr. Vice President

John B. Lough, Jr., is an associate at Scherer Smith & Kenny LLP, where his practice focuses on employment litigation and counseling. Before being elected to the Board, John co-chaired the AABA Community Services Committee. Outside the office, John is an active alumnus of Santa Clara University School of Law. He is interested in the conceptual development of the law, having written and presented on employment law issues. John received his B.A. (Mathematics) from the University of California, Berkeley, and his J.D. from Santa Clara University School of Law. He is also a member of the California and Hawaii State Bars.



Kelly Matayoshi Treasurer

Kelly Matayoshi is a partner in Farella Braun + Martel's Employment and Business Litigation Groups. In her employment practice, Ms. Matayoshi has successfully represented employers in state and federal court, including wrongful termination and class action wage and hour disputes. She has represented employers in the transportation and sales industries with issues arising under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and California Labor Code. She is on the U.C. Hastings College of the Law Board of Governors' Executive Board and regularly serves as a coach for Hastings' successful moot court teams. Ms. Matayoshi is listed among the Northern California Rising Stars by SuperLawyers for employment law. During law school, she served as an extern for Judge Edward Chen of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and as an intern for Judge Leslie Kobayashi of the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii.



Angel Garrett Secretary

Angel represents plan sponsors, fiduciaries, and service providers in ERISA class action and single plaintiff lawsuits nationwide. She has a broad range of experience in employee benefits law and fiduciary breach matters. Angel has counseled and defended clients in matters involving employer stock option plans, employee stock valuation, inclusion of employer stock in retirement plans, investment of plan assets, and church and governmental plans. She has managed employee benefits and ERISA cases in all stages of litigation in state and federal courts, and before arbitration panels and administrative agencies.

Angel has been recognized as a 2015 and 2016 Rising Star by the Northern California Super Lawyers publication. She is admitted to practice in California and Michigan. Angel is also fluent in Mandarin and Taiwanese.

2023 AABA Board



Kevin Benedicto is a litigation associate at Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP and a San Francisco Police Commissioner. Kevin's areas of practice include complex litigation, cybersecurity and data privacy matters, securities investigations and litigation, business and corporate disputes, insurance coverage litigation, and toxic torts.

Director

Kevin previously served as co-chair of the AABA Civ-Kevin Benedicto il Rights and Employment committees, and currently serves on the Board of the Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Superior Court Committee on Elimination of Bias. He received his B.A. from UC San Diego and his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law. Kevin previously served as a judicial extern to the Hon. Paul J. Watford of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.



Roland Chang Director

Roland Chang is an attorney in Goodwin Procter's Complex Litigation & Dispute Resolution, White Collar Defense, and Government Investigations & Enforcement practices. He represents companies and individuals in connection with criminal and regulatory investigations, parallel civil and administrative litigation and proceedings, complex business litigation, and FCPA compliance monitorships. He is also frequently engaged by companies and institutions to conduct sensitive and high-profile internal investigations.

Prior to joining the AABA Board, Roland served as Co-Chair of the AABA Education Committee and on the AABA Mentorship Committee. Roland was recognized as a Northern California Super Lawyers Rising Star from 2016 to 2020. Roland earned his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law and his B.A., magna cum laude, from the University of California, San Diego.



Jenny Jin Director

Jenny is a Senior Appellate Attorney at the First District Court of Appeal. She works closely with various Justices in researching and drafting opinions in both criminal and civil appeals. Prior to joining the court, Jenny was a litigation attorney at a mid-size firm in San Francisco, where she specialized in Professional Liability and in particular, defense of real estate brokers.

Prior to joining the AABA Board, Jenny served as Co-Chair of AABA's Social Committee for two years. Jenny received her B.A. in Legal Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and her J.D. from Indiana University School of Law. While in law school, Jenny also served as the Vice President of the Asian American Law Student Organization.



Gabriel Lau Director

Gabriel Lau is Senior Commercial Counsel, Vendor Activities and Strategic Sourcing with Autodesk.

2023 AABA Board



Julia Peng Director

Julia Peng is an associate for the Global Commercial Disputes Group at Reed Smith LLP. Her practice is focused on tort and complex commercial disputes. Julia is familiar with all stages of litigation, from inception to trial and appeal. Prior to joining Reed Smith, she litigated class action and securities cases. Julia has been recognized in 2021-2023 as a Rising Star.

Julia received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from UC San Diego where she was published for her contributions to pathology research. Julia also received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from UC San Diego where she discovered a love for intellectual sparring. She earned her JD from UCLA Law School.

Prior to joining the Board of Directors, Julia served as a co-chair of the Education Committee for two years.



Kriti Rajput Director

Kriti is Senior Corporate Counsel at AppDynamics (part of Cisco) where she primarily supports the transactions team. She has built her legal career as an in-house counsel generalist and gained extensive experience in product, commercial, and privacy practice areas at a variety of tech companies including Brand Metrics, LendingClub, MLSListings, CipherCloud, Oracle, and Zuora. Kriti graduated from Santa Clara University School of Law with her JD/MBA. She completed her undergraduate education from the University of California, Irvine with a B.S. in Earth and Environmental Sciences and a B.A. in Political Science.



Patricia Tsai Director

Patty Tsai is a patent attorney at Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP (WAVS). Patty's practice focuses on preparing and prosecuting patent applications, including both US and foreign patent applications, and counseling clients on patent portfolio strategy. Her technical expertise includes chemistry and materials, semiconductor technologies, and electrochemical engineering. As a law student, Patty worked as a judicial intern for Judge Mariane Spearman in the King County Superior Court, externed at a film studio Vuguru, and interned as a SCCLA Fellow at Asian Americans Advancing Justice in Los Angeles.



James Villanueva Director

James is Commercial Counsel at One Finance, Inc. a neobank based in Sacramento. His practice is focused on commercial contract negotiation, intellectual property, and privacy. James has spent his entire career working in-house, first at a solar panel installation company and previously at a Santa Clara based fin tech company. He is a licensed patent attorney and also licensed to practice in New York. James received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and his Juris Doctor from Albany Law School. James has previously served as a Membership Committee Co-Chair for AABA and is currently serving on the board of directors for the Filipino Bar Association of Northern California.

2023 AABA Board



Irene Yang Director

Irene Yang is a partner at Sidley Austin LLP focused on intellectual property litigation in the high tech and life sciences industries. She represents clients in patent cases across a variety of technologies including cases involving FRAND obligations for the licensing of standard essential patents. In addition, she has litigated cases involving trademarks, trade dress, business torts, and antitrust claims and counsels clients on IP issues. Her pro bono work encompasses immigration and asylum proceedings, veterans' benefits claims, and employment discrimination litigation. She was recognized in 2019 as a Rising Star for intellectual property litigation by Law360 and has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer and Rising Star. She is the hiring partner for the San Francisco office of Sidley. Prior to joining the Board of Directors, Irene served as a co-chair of the Professional Development Committee for four years. She earned her J.D. from the University of California, Davis School of Law and a B.S. in Computer Science from Stanford University.



AABA wishes to thank our Title Sponsor, Lieff Cabraser, for their support of tonight's VIP reception and AABA's mission.



Kevin Yeh Director

Kevin Yeh is an Assistant United States Attorney in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California. He was previously a Deputy City Attorney in the Complex and Affirmative Litigation Unit of the San Francisco City Attorney's Office, a Trial Attorney in the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., and a senior associate in the San Francisco office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he specialized in antitrust, white-collar defense, and general litigation. While at Gibson Dunn, he was seconded to Uber Technologies, Inc., where he handled global antitrust matters. He clerked for Judge William H. Orrick of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and Chief Judge R. Guy Cole, Jr., of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. A San Francisco native, Kevin graduated from Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

AABA Mission Statement

The Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area (AABA) has been the voice of the San Francisco Bay Area's Asian Pacific American (APA) legal community since 1976. AABA fosters professional development, community, and service. We are advocates and allies for civil rights, representation, and equality.



MARCH 23, 2023 EMBARCADERO HYATT

Program

Introduction & Welcome - Dhaya Lakshminarayanan

President's Address - Lin Y. Chan, 2023 AABA President

Swearing in of AABA Board - City Attorney David Chiu & Judge Edward Chen

AABA Law Foundation Presentation - Celia Lee, 2023 ALF President

Dinner

Return - Dhaya Lakshminarayanan

2023 Honorees

Board member of the Year

Joe Morozumi Award for Exceptional Legal Advocacy

Minami Impact Award

Keynote & Trailblazer Award - Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye (ret.)

Farewell - Dhaya Lakshminarayanan

Honoree Awards

Board Member of the Year Award – Kriti Rajput The Board Member of the Year Award recognizes an AABA board member

who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and service to our organization.

Joe Morozumi Award for Exceptional Legal Advocacy – Christina Chen Joe Morozumi was one of the first and finest Asian American trial lawyers in the Bay Area and one of the earliest Asian-American attorneys to represent political activists pro bono. He was a zealous advocate for justice for the poor and the powerless. This award in Joe's name honors Asian American attorneys who exemplify his spirit of uncompromising legal advocacy in matters of conscience.

Minami Impact Award – Quyen L. Ta

Spearheaded by attorney Dale Minami, this award acknowledges an attorney who has had a positive impact on the Asian-American community and the legal profession.

Trailblazer Award – Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye (ret.)

The AABA Trailblazer Award recognizes the outstanding achievements, vision, and leadership of an AABA member who has made lasting contributions to APAs in the legal profession, and whose accomplishments have paved the way for future generations.

AABA Law Foundation Awards

AABA Law Foundation Scholarship - Tussanee Reedboon

Through the generosity of AABA members and participants in AABA events and programs throughout the year, AABA raises money for the AABA Law Foundation and awards the AABA Law Foundation Scholarship to a deserving law student who is committed to advocating and improving their communities. AABA recognizes the importance of fostering the growth of law students to improve the future development of the APA bar.

Asian Pacific American Judges' Scholarship - Victor Qiu

Each year, the Foundation awards the Asian Pacific American Judges' Scholarship through contributions from Asian Pacific American judges. The Honorable Judges Benjamin Reyes and Eumi Lee have been instrumental in organizing the contributions. The Foundation would like to thank and honor this year's contributing judges.

Raymond L. Ocampo Jr. Family Scholarship - Kayla Nguyen

The Raymond L. Ocampo Jr. Family Scholarship was established in memory of Mr. Ocampo's parents and in honor of immigrants like them, for the enor-mous sacrifices they made and the untold hardships they endured in search of a better life for their families.

Joseph and Chang Morozumi Scholarship - Elaina Jung Hee Vermeulen Joe Morozumi was one of the first and finest Asian American trial lawyers in the Bay Area. Interned with his family during World War II, Joe was fiercely committed to the fight for reparations, and he was also one of the earliest Asian American attorneys to represent political activists pro bono. Joe was an inspirational role model—he was a fearless, tireless, zealous advocate for justice for the poor and the powerless. Through the generosity of Michael G.W. Lee, Joan Haratani, and Dale Minami, the Foundation awards the Joe and Chang Morozumi Scholarship to honor Joe's spirit, passion for justice, and his advocacy for the poor and the underrepresented.

AABA Law Foundation Awards (cont.)

Chao-Fujioka Family Scholarship for Public Law/Government Service - Justine Huang

Chao-Fujioka Family Scholarship for International Law - Meghan Anand

These two scholarships are funded by the Honorable Judge Margaret Fujioka (Alameda County Superior Court, and Cedric Chao, founder of Chao
ADR, PC and former litigation partner of Morrison & Foerster and DLA
Piper. Judge Fujioka and Mr. Chao have made a \$100,000 commitment to
fund these scholarships. Initially, there will be two \$5,000 scholarships
per year. The Chao-Fujioka Family Scholarships are intended to recognize
and financially assist high-performing law students who are interested in
pub-lic law/government service or international law practice, and who
aspire to become future leaders in these fields.

Puri Family Scholarship - Victoria Chan

The Puri Family Scholarship, generously funded by the Honorable Judge Vedica Puri (San Francisco County Superior Court, and matched by the Foundation and AABA members, is awarded to an outstanding candidate with a commitment and demonstrated interest to legal and social issues facing women of color.

AABA Law Foundation & Charles & Melita Jung Foundation Grants - Asian Women's Shelter and Korean American Community Service of Silicon Valley

2023 Gala Emcee

Dhaya's debut album DHAYATRIBE debuted #2 on iTunes. She received the Liz Carpenter Political Humor Award (previously awarded to Samantha Bee, Wanda Sykes and Mark Russell) for her stand-up. Comedy Central Asia crowned her the Grand Prize Winner of "The Ultimate Comedy Challenge" filmed in Singapore. Bay Area PBS affiliate KQED named her one of the twenty "Women to Watch," a series celebrating women artists, creatives and makers who are pushing boundaries. She has performed across Asia in Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur, and Singapore. She has also been invited to perform at some of the top festivals in the US including Bridgetown Comedy Festival, San Francisco Sketchfest, The Boston Comedy Festival, Limestone Comedy Festival, and Laugh Your Asheville Off. She is the sole subject of the documentary "NerdCool" which premiered at the LA Comedy Festival.

Prior to her endeavors in the entertainment business, Dhaya was a venture capitalist, management consultant, and two-time MIT graduate. You can indeed call her a nerd.



Tani Cantil-Sakauye is President and CEO of the Public Policy Institute of California. From 2011 to 2022, she served as the 28th Chief Justice of California and led the judiciary as the chair of the Judicial Council—the constitutional policy and rule making body of the judicial branch—the first person of color and the second woman to do so. Before she was elected statewide as the Chief Justice of California, she served more than 20 years on California appellate and trial courts and was appointed or elevated to higher office by three governors. Earlier in her career she served as a deputy district attorney for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Of-fice and on the senior staff of Governor Deukmejian, first as deputy legal affairs secretary and later as a deputy legislative secretary. She holds a BA and a JD from the University of California, Davis.

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We celebrate with the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area at its 47th Annual Gala and congratulate retired Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye on your Trailblazer Award. We also extend special congratulations to Minami Impact Award recipient Quyen L. Ta and to Joe Morozumi Award recipient Christina Chen.

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We proudly support the

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and its accomplishments in serving the community and advocating for civil rights.

We congratulate Morgan Lewis associate

CHRISTINA CHEN for being honored with the **2023 Joe Morozumi Award**.

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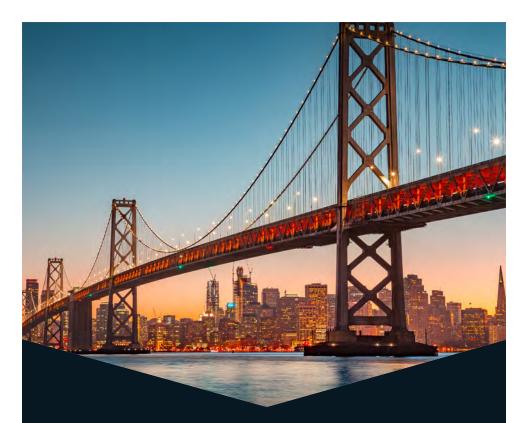
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The Firm applauds the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area's commitment and advocacy to civil rights, representation, and equality.



EMPOWERED BY PARTNERSHIP.

Thank you, AABA, for letting McDermott be a part of your outstanding efforts toward "Lighting the Path to Justice" by advocating for social justice and supporting Asian Pacific American lawyers in their service to our judicial system. We're proud to continue our support of your organization and the 47th Annual Gala.

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MoFo doesn't hold back when justice demands bold advocacy. We are committed to giving a voice to the unrepresented and uplifting individuals and communities.





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We congratulate
Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye
and all the other honorees.



Sidley is proud to support the Asian American Bar Association's 47th Annual Gala, Lighting a Path to Justice, and congratulates all of this year's award recipients!

See more about the ways we are encouraging inclusion in the legal profession at **sidley.com/diversity**



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We commend AABA's commitment to fostering professional development, community, and service for the Asian-American community, as well as the organization's advocacy for civil rights, representation, and equality.

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Visit cov.com/diversity to learn more about our commitment.

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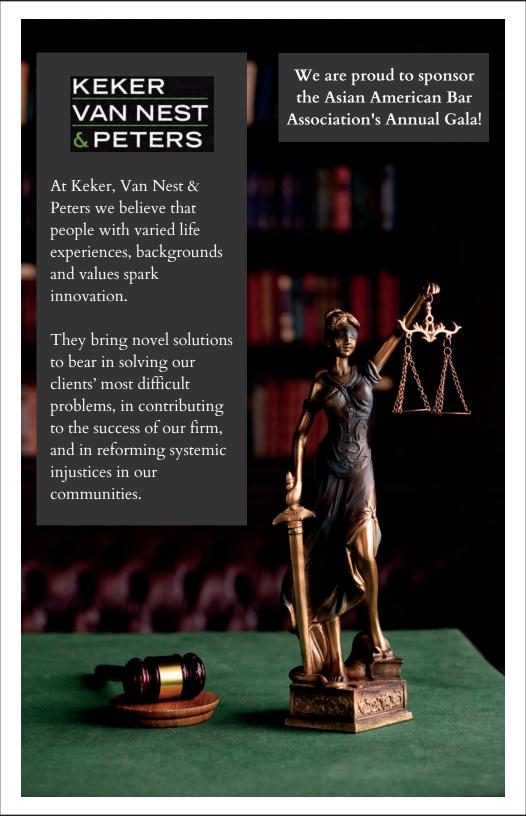
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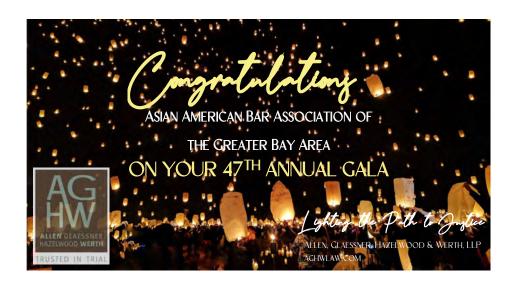
Christina Chen

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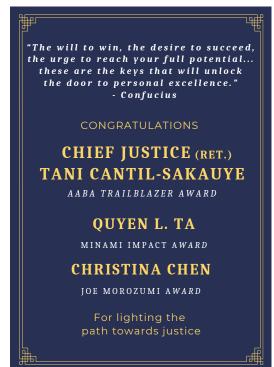








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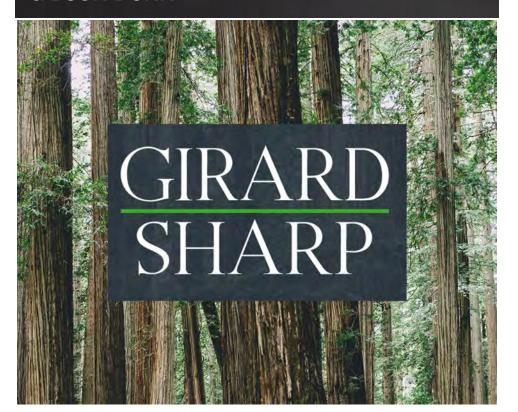
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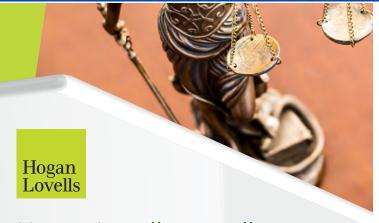
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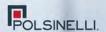
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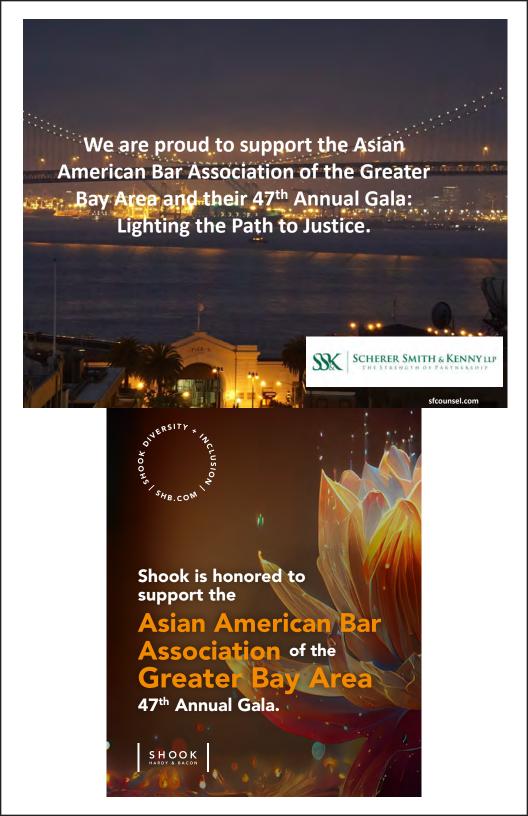


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