



APABA Calls for Congressman to Relinquish Subcommittee Chairmanship

Dear President Bush:

The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles (APABA-LA) is a member organization comprised of attorneys and jurists practicing throughout Los Angeles County. Many of our members have personal experience with the devastating impact wrought by the internment of Americans and residents of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

I write as the President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles to express the concern and outrage of our organization over the remarks of Representative Howard Coble, Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security. Representative Coble stated that the internment of Japanese American citizens during World War II was justified "for their own protection" and further that "some probably were intent on doing harm on to us, just as some of these Arab-Americans are probably intent on doing harm to us."



Rep. Howard Coble

Coble Recap

On Tuesday, February 4, 2003, Congressman Howard Coble (R-North Carolina) expressly justified on public radio our country's exclusion, removal, and detention of 120,000 Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Coble insisted that "some [Japanese-Americans] probably were intent on doing harm to us, just as some of these Arab-Americans are probably intent on doing harm to us."

He has recently been named Chair of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security.

As I am sure you is aware, in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (which was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan and passed by a bipartisan majority of the House and Senate), Congress specifically recognized that the wartime relocation and wholesale internment of civilians of Japanese ancestry during World War II was, in fact, carried out without adequate security reasons and was "motivated largely by racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." Moreover, the Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, which was specifically endorsed by the Civil Liberties Act, found that "protective custody" was not an acceptable rationale for internment, and that there was no evidence that vigilantism had

ever reached an extreme level on the West Coast in 1942 such that military internment would be justified. Moreover, "protective custody" would never justify exclusion and detention for years, as occurred to over 100,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

The particular concern we have with Representative Coble's comments is that, while some might ascribe them to ignorance of the truth of this tragedy in our nation's history, we know that this is not the case. The congressional record is clear that Representative Coble was an active participant in the debate over the passage of the Civil Liberties Act; he therefore must have been aware of the report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation. Notably, he was one of a small number of congressmen to oppose the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Representative Coble has shown by his recent comments that he still refuses to learn the lesson which the Congress and President Reagan sought to teach our nation with the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which was to "acknowledge the fundamental injustice of the evacuation, reloca-

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STOP!

Did you remember to renew your APABA membership for 2003?

If not, get your membership application form from Teri Pham at ttp@rnlaw.com

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sidebar

By Paula A. Daniels, President

Aloha, APABA members and friends!

Many of you have probably been told that "aloha" means "hello" or "good-bye" but that is not really the complete meaning of the word; it means so much more than that. It means compassion, graciousness, love, the spirit of friendship.

In the same way, APABA means more than its acronym. We are Asians, we are Pacific Islanders, we all went to law school, and fundamentally – we are all Americans. But, like the idea of being American, APABA is more than the sum of its parts.

To be Asian Pacific American means that we have a unique history in this country by which we are shaped. To be lawyers and judges in America means that we are the guardians of America's laws – and what is a country, but its laws? When our system of laws works well, it fulfills our every ideal of our country's great promise. When it does not work well, as lawyers we are charged with its lessons.

We have in our history, the internment of the Japanese during World War II. As keepers of the laws, we are the ones who are obligated to make sure that never again will there be the mass internment of a group of people based solely on their race. We are the ones who must make sure that national security does not compromise our national integrity.

We are the ones who must make sure that never again are people excluded from entry to this country, or from the front seat of a bus, or from jobs and from neighborhoods, because of their race.

We are the ones who must require that the laws look with aloha on the good people of this country, that they help assimilate, not discriminate. That they protect the quality of our physical environment, our economic environment, our social environment.

I have always found inspiration in the Hawaii state motto, "Ua mau ke ea o ka 'aina i ka pono." It was taken from a speech given in 1843 by King Kamehameha III, and it has been translated to mean "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness."

Pono means righteousness, morality, correct action. A government thrives on the just application of good laws, on pono. This is our charge as lawyers. This is a mission of APABA.

We do this as by being who we are: by being a collective voice that speaks louder than our individual voices; by helping each other advance in our respective fields, for the advancement of all of us; by giving back to the community that gave so much of itself to us.

At the APABA board retreat in January of this year, and in furtherance of our mission, we agreed take a stand on three important issue areas: the Racial Privacy Initiative; affirmative action; and the war on terrorism with its potential effect on civil liberties. Stay tuned as we develop and disseminate our policy on these important topics throughout the year.

Malama pono.

A Critical Perspective on Affirmative Action

By Betty Chia, 2L, UCLA

April 1, 2003 will be a busy day in our nation's capital. While thousands of high school and college students are expected to march the streets of Washington D.C. to the U.S. Supreme Court urging the Supreme Court to uphold affirmative action in the Michigan cases *Gutter v. Bollinger* and *Gratz v. Bollinger*, the Supreme Court will have a difficult decision to make.

Not since 1973 where Allen Bakke, a white medical school applicant sued the Regents of California after being denied admission at the UC Davis Medical School, has the Supreme Court taken up what affirmative action means to universities and professional schools. Summing up *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, in 1978, the U.S. Supreme Court held the University of California's admission policy using a quota system in accepting minority applicants was not constitutional. In the per curiam opinion, Justice Powell wrote that under some circumstances, the goal of achieving a diverse student body is a compelling government interest and that race when used as a "plus factor" to achieve diversity may be permitted.

In enacting its admissions policy, Michigan mirrored the language of Justice Powell in *Bakke*,

using race as a "plus factor" in both its undergraduate and law school admissions policy. Michigan evaluates applicants on "hard variables" composed of their LSAT score and their undergraduate GPA. They also consider "soft variables" which can include anything from the enthusiasm of the recommenders to the unique talents and skills of the individual.

Additionally, the law school has a policy for diversity admissions after looking at the hard and soft variables. The law school has a commitment to "racial and ethnic diversity". Professor Richard Lempert, faculty chair who helped draft this admissions policy explains the commitment to diversity is not intended as a remedy for past discrimination but as a means of including students who will bring new and different perspectives to the law school. The law school does not set aside a number of seats for under-represented minorities like UC Davis in *Bakke*. Instead, Michigan Law School seeks to admit a "critical mass" of underrepresented minority students. "Critical mass" as defined by Michigan's Director of Admissions is "a number sufficient to enable under-represented

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Taiwan's Place in the U.S. Psyche

By Frankie Leung

Two misconceptions need to be dispelled. The first is that the average American takes interest in foreign affairs. In reality, Americans rarely care about what goes on outside our national borders. Even our immediate neighbors, Mexico and Canada, receive scant media attention, let alone Taiwan. It has indeed been well said that the only time Americans watch television coverage of foreign events is when US citizens get killed abroad, such as the bombing of the USS Cole or the crash of a US fighter pilot in Scotland.

The second misconception is that Americans are interested in Asia. Most American journalists are of European descent and their

knowledge of Asia is pretty rudimentary, but their coverage of Asia does often touch on Japan or China. For better or worse, the Taiwan issue only becomes newsworthy if it is tied in with China issues. Most Americans cannot distinguish Chinese from Hong Kong, Taiwan or China or even America-born Chinese. They all look the same. They must think alike. So goes the stereotype.

It serves Taiwan's purpose to keep itself within the American sub-conscious for the simple reason that had it not been for US military protection, Taiwan would probably have been another province of China since 1949. It was fortuitous for Taiwan that the

Korean War broke out in the early 1950s, which brought the US and China into hostile confrontation. Taiwan survived because of America's institutionalized fear of Communism. The US treated Taiwan like an unsinkable aircraft carrier. After 1972 when the ROC was no longer a member of the UN and subsequently, when the US recognized China, Taiwan's position has had to be constantly adjusted to suit the ever-changing climate of the Sino-American relationship.

One marvels at how effective and relatively successful Taiwan's lobbying efforts have been in the US. Although, under the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 (TRA) Taiwan's status is not that of a sovereign

state and it therefore does not enjoy full diplomatic privileges and prestige, it works hard to have its voice heard in the right circles, such as Capitol Hill. Even when China made the strongest accusations against the US, for example, over former president Lee Teng-hui's visit to Cornell University, the US public was not intimidated.

On the whole, the US media has been friendly to Taiwan, except over issues such as counterfeiting and intellectual property violations, to which Taiwan responded swiftly by undertaking to rectify the situation.

Immigrants from Taiwan receive a high quality education

(Continued on page 8)

JUDICIAL PROFILE:**Judge Tammy Chung Ryu**

Seventeen years ago, third-year law student Tammy Chung Ryu received a rude introduction to the local criminal justice system when she and 15 of her fellow classmates were arrested for protesting a change in UCLA Law School's affirmative action policy. The students took over the law school's Records Office to protest the end of minority student representation and input into the admissions process. "That was a way we could get the mainstream community to take note of what we're doing and what was going on," Ryu said. More than a decade later, Judge Ryu finds herself dealing with delinquent youngsters every day at the Los Pedrinos Juvenile Court in Downy, California. Though the kids who face her every day may not suspect it, she understands what it feels like to be on the other side of the bench.

Background

Judge Ryu was born in 1960 in Seoul, Korea. At the age of ten, she moved to Guam with her family because her father was involved in construction work there. In the 9th grade, she moved to a small town in northern California with her older sister (21 at the time) for better educational opportunities. Getting a head-start in education without her parents, she and her sister lived alone for two years. She subsequently attended UC Berkeley and majored in Sociology. At Cal, she took Professor Elaine Kim's course on Asian-Americans. There she first became conscious of a history of discrimination and hate-crimes against Asian-Americans. She further pursued her interest in Asian-American issues by taking "Asian-Americans and the Law," a course offered by the Asian American Law Caucus (AALC) in the evenings. Through these courses and an internship with AALC during her junior and senior years in college, she began to perceive law as a powerful tool to represent the disadvantaged and to make a positive difference.

Judge Ryu went to UCLA Law School in 1984. In law school, she continued to be involved with the AALC and was an active member of APALSA (now APILSA), becoming a co-chair during her third year. Her favorite class at UCLA was Civil Procedure taught by Professor Ken Graham. "It was the first A I got in law school," she said. The class was philosophical and focused on fairness and how the process set in place affects people. She especially enjoyed one of Graham's "Yaley" exam questions, which asked the students to imagine themselves as



jurors and write a poem, short story, or letter, conveying their feelings and thoughts about the case presented. Her least favorite was Torts. "It was the last class on Fridays," she said.

After law school, Judge Ryu worked in the Health, Education, and Welfare section of the Attorney General's Office and continued her activism in the Asian-American community. When asked about her most interesting and rewarding experiences, she described a case involving ALCOR Life Extension Foundation, a nonprofit provider of cryonics services (the practice of freezing the body of a person who has just died), and helping Korean store owners after the 1992 L.A. riots in a class action suit to receive reparations from fraudulent insurance policies.

Judge Ryu encourages students to consider becoming judges. She said that gaining courtroom experience and serving your local community are crucial in preparing yourself for a career in the judiciary. When the governor is reviewing your application, it's important that you are well respected and have the unanimous support of the community, Judge Ryu explained.

Her immediate goal is to gain a deeper understanding of criminal law since she practiced civil litigation for 15 years before becoming a judge last fall. In general, Judge Ryu wants to develop a reputation as a hard-working, deliberate, thoughtful, and fair judge. When the time comes for the governor to appoint another minority judge, he or she will inevitably look to the performance and reputation of existing minority judges. Accordingly, she believes the biggest contribution she can make for people following her footsteps is to work hard to pave

Fast Facts on Judge Ryu

- Born 1960, Seoul Korea
- B.A. in Sociology, UC Berkeley; UCLA Law
- As an intern with the Asian Law Caucus, assisted with *Korematsu v. United States* in 1983
- Worked for 14 years in the Health, Education and Welfare section of the state Attorney General's Office
- Served as state's lead counsel in Medi-Cal suit totaling over \$14 million; successfully won rulings favoring the state on all major claims
- Appointed as the first Korean American woman judge in California history in 2002
- Married to *KoreAm Journal* editor-in-chief, James Ryu

A CLOSER LOOK

The Fight for Anna Guo Continues

Undaunted by a judge's ruling that justified the police shooting of a 14-year old Anna Guo and consequently found her guilty of felony assault on a peace officer, APABA Student Representative Kasie Lee (3L, USC) quietly filed a Notice of Appeal on her behalf on February 28, 2003 at the Ventura County Superior Court.

The criminal trial created an uproar in the Asian American community, where APABA, alongside civil rights advocacy groups, including Yellowworld.org, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA), and Assemblywoman Judy Chu (49th-D) began a grass-roots campaign opposing Anna's prosecution.

Despite their efforts – along with the numerous conflicting officer and witness testimony -- Judge Herbert Curtis III nonetheless convicted Anna on December 30, 2002 and sentenced her to five years in a group home, a ruling that did little to quell suspicions of a police cover-up.

"If I were a cynical man, I would say there was some nefarious conduct here," said Robert Worthley, Anna's foster father.

Background of the case

On Sunday, May 5, 2002, Anna decided to take her own life. Taking a small steak knife from the kitchen, the depressed girl made three phone calls – at least two to her former foster mother - to state her intent to commit suicide. She then retreated with the steak knife upstairs to her room. Upon observing her actions, her foster father became alarmed and called the police.

At least five armed Ventura police officers arrived at the Worthley's residence, four of them entering the house, including rookie officer Kristin Rupp, who had been on the force for no more than a year. Upon order of the police, Anna came out of her room and stood at the top of the staircase. The officers observed that the weeping child held a steak knife down by her side, and



Kasie Lee interviewing Anna's father, Wei Guo

Rupp drew her gun on Anna, as she began to descend down the stairs to meet the officers. When she reached the foot of the stairs, although four other officers were on the scene, only officer Rupp opened fire on the young girl: two shots in rapid succession and one shot after a brief pause, after the girl had already fallen to the floor. The shots hit Anna twice in the stomach and once in her lower body. Anna was sent to the hospital.

In Amnesty International's 1999 Update on Police Brutality, a high rate of negligent shootings by Ventura police was reported. Most interesting, it was found that Ventura County had a greater rate of negligent shootings by their officers of suicidal individuals than any other county in California.

Anna's appeal will be handled by the California Appellate Project.

For updates on Anna's case, please visit <http://anna.yellowworld.org> or email Kasie at kasielee@usc.edu.

EDUCATING STUDENTS ABOUT HATE

Volunteer Attorneys Needed for Hate Crimes Prevention Program

APABA and the South Asian Bar Association (SABA) are implementing a "Hate Crimes Prevention Program" this Spring. As part of that effort, the two bar associations need your help to speak to students in high schools and junior high schools about the wrongfulness of hate crimes, particularly given fallout from the 9/11. Undertaken in conjunction with a national project launched by the ABA, we will be scheduling volunteer attorneys to speak in classrooms across the Los Angeles area. Attorneys are also needed to train and educate teachers in these schools about hate crimes and the resources available to them.

Socratic Dialogue With Students: The Hate Crimes Prevention Program will engage students in a Socratic dialogue about the wrongfulness of hate crimes and hate acts. The discussions are one hour in length and are being scheduled in conjunction with schools' social studies departments.

Speaker Training and Guidance: APABA and SABA will be providing training and guidance to interested volunteer attorneys about the substance of the presentation. The training and materials are being formulated with the guidance of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission.

Your Participation is Crucial: Your participation in this program is crucial to its success. So we urge you to take a few hours away from your work and join us in the coming months to speak to students about this important topic.

Sandeep Baweja
sandeepbaweja@earthlink.net ?
 (818) 601-1501



in flagrante delicto

It is, to say the least, surprising, given the troubled state of today's world -- armed aggression overseas, PATRIOT Act transgressions at home, chaotically fluctuating economies, Bruins in decline, Trojans on the rise, Lakers lapsing, and other calamities -- that the mass media would persist in its fascination with something so seemingly mundane as our monthly APABA Board meetings. Pundits pondering this phenomenon are frustrated and perplexed by their inability to explain why these meetings continue to provide community advocacy for the mainstream media as well as titillating tidbits for the tabloids. Many questions remain unanswered, including the current composition and identities of this cast and crew. In the interests of full public disclosure, IFD infiltrated the February

25th Board meeting at Public Counsel in Koreatown in order to pull the curtain of mystery aside and un-mask the 2003 APABA Board of Governors.

Nobody noticed as we took a seat near the back of the room. Our attention was immediately drawn to **President Paula (Daniels,** that is) herself, her charm, intelligence and charisma making her an obvious choice. Who else could, if given the chance, find a peaceful way to capture Bin Laden, disarm Iraq and jump-start the economy? Arguably, the answer could be **Teri Pham**, from her humble roots as the editor of this newsletter, to her current position of prominence in the legal community. No one has been more productive or pro-active, except maybe **Belle Hsu**, tireless chair of the MCLE programs, who along with **Ray Sakai**, are clearly plotting, even now, to continue our legal educations. Prime suspects must also include **Dolly Gee**, crusading labor lawyer, oracle and matriarch of APABA; **Reid Honjiyo**, dedicated alternate public defender, Public Appointments Chair, and drafter of the APABA anti-Coble letter; and USC Law Student **Kasie Lee**, community activist, externing with **Judge Robert M. Takasugi** (winner of this year's "Judicial Courage" Award from the CCBA) and putting out this newsletter with **Rich Kudo** and UCLA Law Student **Betty Chia**. Nor can we rule out former JABA President, perennial APAWLA co-chair **Diane Tan**, nor the Membership Committee duo of **Margaret Wiley Johnson** and former PABA President **Rosario Tobias**, who have been conspiring to increase membership for weeks and months. And this guy, **Paul Estuar**, is everywhere, past president of PABA, civil rights lawyer, doting father and likely suspect, look out for him. Social chair and former UCLA APILSA President **Ed Lew** may look harmless enough, but so does Deputy Public Defender and Asian Concerns Committee representative **Michael Suzuki**, past JABA president, a defender of SVP's (Special Very Persons) across L.A. County by day, outlaw biker by night. We could not ignore the Hate Crimes Prevention Team of **Sandeep Baweeja** and **David Halm** (new daddy to Matthew Garrett Halm, 6 lbs, 3 oz. 18 ½ inches, born February 12, to Melodee and David) invading the local high schools to stop the hate, nor KABA representative **Candice Kim**, community advocate, litigator and serious contender, despite appearing to be in love. On top of all that, "Best Lawyer Under 40" **Mona Patel-Sikora**, who is moving from Public Counsel to LAFLA (and, thankfully, taking the Board Meeting with her), brought her "Best Children Under 4'0", son, Aanish, 8, and daughter, Ayaana, and apparently inspired the recent NAPABA "Best Lawyers under 40" list, which, by the way, included Torrance City Councilman **Ted Lieu** and DDA **May Chung**.

Congratulations to new Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner **Roger Ito** and to **Ekwan Rhow** of KABA and wife, Bonnie, on the February 28th birth of their daughter, Isabelle.

• APABA Denounces Congressman's Remarks *(Continued from page 1)*

tion, and internment of citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry during WWII." As he seems unwilling to learn from the past or to balance the importance of civil liberties even in times of a national security crisis, Representative Coble would appear to be an inappropriate choice for the position of Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security.

We, therefore, respectfully ask that you join us in urging Representative Coble to relinquish his post as Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Thank you for your consideration of the matter.

Sincerely,

Paula A. Daniels, President, Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles

cc: Secretary Norman Mineta, Speaker Dennis Hastert, House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Representative David Wu, Representative Mike Honda, Representative Howard Coble, Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Daily Journal, Los Angeles Metropolitan News, Rafu Shimpō

faces & places



Newest APABA member, baby Matthew
Garret Halm, with grandfather Howard Halm



Anna Lisa Biason
performing at APABA's
Installation Dinner



Kerri Tamakawa, 3L, USC, performing at
APABA's Installation Dinner



APABA board members
are sworn in at APABA's
Installation Dinner

save the date - apaba asian heritage month event

DATE: 5/22/03

TIME: 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

PLACE: Japanese American National Museum

WHAT:

In commemoration of APA Heritage Month, APABA will be sponsoring a screening of the award-winning PBS program "Of Civil Rights & Wrongs: the Fred Korematsu Story." The screening will be followed by a discussion among distinguished panelists about the significant issues raised by Fred Korematsu's successful lawsuit to overturn a 40-year-old conviction upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court in one of its landmark decisions, *Korematsu v. U. S.*, and the lessons to be learned from the Japanese American internment experience against the backdrop of current concerns about national security, terrorism, and war.

Confirmed panelists are **Dale Minami** (Attorney for Fred Korematsu on the coram nobis petition), **Jerry Kang** (Professor, UCLA School of Law) and **Bill Lann Lee** (a partner at Leiff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP and former Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights division of the Department of Justice).

• **A “Critical Look” at Affirmative Action** (continued from page 3)

minority students to contribute to classroom dialogue without feeling isolated”. Witnesses for Michigan law school testified that “critical mass” is not a set number or percentage.

Opponents to Michigan’s policy argue that “critical mass” is a disguised quota and is unconstitutional violating the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The District Court Judge for *Grutter* held that the policy was unconstitutional. The case was appealed to the Sixth Circuit where the Court held that the law school admission policy was constitutional under *Bakke*’s two-part standard because the law school had a compelling interest in achieving educational benefits from a diverse student body and the policy was narrowly tailored to achieve that interest. The Supreme Court has scheduled to hear the case on April 1st.

More than 60 amicus curiae or “friend of the court” briefs representing over 300 organizations have been filed to the Supreme Court. Included in this number is the brief filed by NAPABA (National Asian Pacific American Bar Association) and 27 Asian

American organizations joining in the support affirmative action. Not since *Bakke* has the court received so many briefs on behalf of one side.

The Supreme Court will have a difficult decision to make on April 1st but the result could boil down to the decision of one justice, Sandra Day O’Connor. While four of the justices generally oppose affirmative action (Rehnquist, Scalia, Kennedy, and Thomas), four usually favor it (Stevens, Souter, Ginsburg, and Breyer). Justice O’Connor has gone both ways on affirmative action and while she may not give as much discretion to university policies as Justice Powell did, she appears to accept more flexible standards than her conservative colleagues.

What will the determinative outcome by the Supreme Court be? Both sides are speculating as to how the court will decide. Regardless, whatever the outcome, we know the decision will indeed be a “critical” one.

Betty Chia is a 2L at UCLA Law School and currently serves as a student representative on APABA’s Board of Governors.

• **Taiwan’s Place in the U.S. Psyche** (continued from page 3)

and are gainfully employed. Second-generation Taiwanese-Americans have been fairly successful and have integrated into mainstream US society. The Taiwanese image, as an immigrant group, is positive. Many Americans, not knowing much about their Asian communities, do not realize that among Asian immigrants there are many factions constantly alienating each other. When Lee Wen Ho was prosecuted for being a spy for China, Americans did not appreciate that Lee was a Taiwanese immigrant and he did not come from China. Americans are barely aware that even among Taiwanese immigrants there are DPP and KMT supporters.

Since the majority of Asian (including Taiwanese) immigrants are concentrated in three or four big American cities and along the coasts, Americans living outside these areas have little contact with Taiwanese immigrants. The US is a democratic country of the one-person-one-vote variety. Elected officials and representatives enjoy high visibility and have the power to make decisions. In so far as their decisions may have an impact on Taiwan, Taiwanese immigrants who can vote for or have access to these decision-makers can operate as effective spokespersons for Taiwanese interests.

Taiwan’s official representatives lobby by operating at different levels, ranging from the grassroots to the highest echelons. Establishing support from the bottom up is a long-term endeavor requiring continued efforts. In addition, both the media and whoever runs for office have to listen to community groups. Any lobbying in the US in ignorance of the media or the elected officials is not going to be effective. Taiwan has been skillful in orchestrating its lobbying programs using a comprehensive approach. The lobbying efforts target politicians at federal, state and city levels. Taiwan befriends academics, think tanks, ethnic groups, professionals and business people. Taiwan has been more successful than China, considering that its room to maneuver is much more circumscribed.

Having done everything within its power, however, Taiwan may

still fail to win total US support.

First, China represents an enormous and yet to be exploited market for US products and services. China plays that card to its fullest extent. Major US corporations such as aircraft manufacturers, financial conglomerates and insurance companies go out of their way to lobby for China.

Second, China is the US’ arch rival and occupies a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. When the Red Dragon gets angry, the US has to listen. The US is concerned about how China may exercise its veto and refuse to cooperate at the UN.

Third, the State Department is the branch of the US government most accommodating to China’s wishes, whenever a Taiwan issue arises. Then secretary of state Warren Christopher intimated to China that his government would not allow Lee Teng-hui to visit Cornell University until the Congress voted in favor of his visit. China has been relentless in restricting Taiwan’s room for operations at all diplomatic levels.

Fourth, the US has to take its own interests into account. The US would be reluctant to send ground forces to participate in a regional war simply because the loss of lives would not win votes for politicians. Hence, Taiwan has to think twice before believing that the US would deploy combative manpower to defend Taiwan’s territory for a sustained period in the event that it faced an invasion by China.

The US will, however, comply with the TRA by selling military equipment and provisions to Taiwan for self-defense.

Frankie Leung is adjunct professor at the University of Southern California Law School, Los Angeles

Job Opportunities

- **Litigation Associate**

AV-rated Walnut Creek defense firm seeks 3-5 year associate with deposition and motion practice experience. Strong analytical and writing skills a must. Our firm emphasizes a team approach and works with sophisticated clients. Send resume with cover letter to: D. Melchior, Pandell Law Firm, Inc., 1990 N. California Blvd., #1010, Walnut Creek, CA 94596; or e-mail to: info@pandell-law.com

- **Litigation Attorney**

Small, congenial, East Bay litigation firm seeks motivated team-player with 1-3 years litigation experience and strong academic credentials. Informal office, flexible hours, contract available. Confidentiality respected. Send resume, writing samples and references to Palmer Riedel, 190 N. Wiget Lane, Suite 200, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 or Fax to (925) 934-4628.

- **Litigation Attorney (Hourly)**

Financial district law firm is seeking a mid-level litigation attorney for a 3 to 6 month assignment. Must have solid academic credentials and work experience. California bar membership and excellent references required. Fax resume with cover letter and writing sample to Office Manager at (415) 398-4321; or e-mail to: dlovato@gmsr.com. Principals only.

- **Litigation Associate**

Young, energetic, high-tech SF Law Firm looking for dynamic attorney to join our SF office. Candidate must be licensed in California, have 4-5 years litigation experience, insurance coverage preferred, strong academic background, excellent writing skills and strong deposition experience. Our work environment combines a strong work ethic with a casual atmosphere. Fax resumes to 415/433-1508.

- **Managing Attorney-Public Interest Law**

Public Advocates, Inc., a civil rights, nonprofit law firm, seeks a managing attorney w/8+ yrs. legal exp. to work on existing impact litigation and to initiate new litigation. The atty will also participate in mgmt activities relating to hiring, fund raising, and business strategies. \$70-90K + benes. Send cover letter, resume, names of 3 refs, and writing sample to Managing Atty Search, Public Advocates, 1535 Mission, SF, CA 94103.

- **Temporary Attorney Positions**

Resumes for consideration for temporary attorney positions should be sent to the attention of David Coleman, Contra Costa County Public Defender, 800 Ferry Street, Martinez, California 94553. Further information about attorney positions can be obtained by e-mail or telephone inquiry to Public Defender David Coleman. For information about law clerk or work study law student jobs contact Assistant Public Defender Susan Hatcher. Pertinent phone numbers and e-mail addresses are: Phone: (925) 335-8000 or e-mail to dcole@pd.co.contra-costa.ca.us for Mr. Coleman. Phone: (510) 374-3248 or e-mail to shutc@pd.co.contra-costa.ca.us for Ms. Hatcher

- **Employee Benefits Associate**

The Los Angeles office of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP seeks an employee benefits associate with 1-2 years experience in that field. Basic employment law knowledge and large law firm experience helpful. Outstanding academic credentials from a top 25 law school and California Bar admittance mandatory. Contact Joel Stern, recruitLA@paulhastings.com, fax (213) 683-5918





The APABA Reporter

Newsletter of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association

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apaba's mission

In 1998, the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles County (APABA) was formed in order to: (1) establish a broad base of membership that is reflective of the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Asian/Pacific Islander American (APIA) community in the greater Los Angeles area; (2) foster the exchange of ideas and information between the members of APABA and other members of the legal profession,

the judiciary and the community; (3) encourage and promote the professional growth of APABA members; (4) provide an opportunity for fellowship among the Association's members; (5) provide coordinated service to the community-at-large, as well as the local Asian community; (6) develop and encourage cooperation with and between other bar organizations, especially other minority bar associations; and (7) provide a vehicle and forum for the unified expression of opinions and positions by the Association

upon current social, political, economic, legal or other matters or events of concern to the members of the Association. During its first four years of existence, APABA has provided programming and services consistent with its mission. APABA's Board is dedicated to continue rendering yeoman service to the underserved segments of the Asian American community of Los Angeles.

The APABA Reporter
12021 Wilshire Blvd., #603
Los Angeles CA 90025

