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California Asian-Pacific American Judges Association

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Sept. 2022 CAPAJA Newsletter

Dear CAPAJA Member:

We hope everyone had a happy, healthy and productive summer. Here is the CAPAJA news for this month.

NEWS

LASC Judge Elaine Lu to Receive the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles Ernestine Stahlhut Award

Judge Elaine Lu, Assistant Supervising Judge of the Civil Division of the Los Angeles Superior Court, will be honored as the recipient of WLALA's most prestigious award, the Ernestine Stahlhut Award, at the WLALA Annual Awards Gala to be held September 16 at 5 pm in Redondo Beach. The Stahlhut Award is given annually to a woman of the legal profession who "has attained the respect, admiration and affection of the Bench and Bar by her outstanding character, her dedication to service and her significant contributions to the cause of justice; a person who has challenged women in our profession to excel, and who has been an encouragement to young women in our society to seek the law as a profession." Judge Lu is receiving this award based in part on her longstanding and exceptional work in creating and expanding the WLALA/LASC Beverly Reid O'Connell Power Lunch Program, which has introduced thousands of high school students to the legal profession and the courts through exciting and engaging lunchtime programs featuring judges, lawyers, and courtroom personnel. Information on purchasing tickets to this event may be obtained through the wlala.org website. Congratulations, Judge Lu!

Ninth Circuit Judge Lucy Koh to Receive Rose Bird Memorial Award from California Women Lawyers

CAPAJA Member Judge Lucy Koh of the Ninth Circuit will be honored by California Women Lawyers with its prestigious Rose Bird Memorial Award at CWL's Northern California Judicial Reception on September 9 in Oakland. Details are available on the cwl.org website. The Rose Bird Memorial Award is given annually by CWL to a Northern California judge who has shown exceptional excellence as a jurist, longstanding and/or groundbreaking public service and inspiration to women lawyers in California. Judge Koh, who was confirmed last year to the Ninth Circuit, previously served as a Judge of the U.S.D.C. for the Northern District of California, and before that on the Superior Court for the County of Santa Clara. Congratulations, Judge Koh!

Cal APABA To Host Reception Honoring API Women Judges

On September 24, Cal APABA will hold a reception, co-hosted by CAPAJA, honoring API Women Judges at its annual membership meeting in San Diego. Cal APABA will be honoring Judge Lucy Koh as Judge of the Year. The reception will be held from 5-6:30 pm between the conference panels and the gala dinner. Information on the reception will be sent to all CAPAJA members once plans are finalized.

CAPAJA Annual Meeting To Be Held In Person in San Diego

The CAPAJA Annual Meeting will be held at **7:30am-8:30am on Sunday, September 18**, because we didn't want our members to have to choose between the CAPAJA meeting and the CJA meeting which starts at 8:30am that day. If members are appearing in person, they should come early because there will be breakfast. **If members are appearing via Zoom, they should log on by 7:30am.**

Link: <redacted – contact capaja2020@gmail.com for the link>

San Diego APA Judges Plan No-Host Dinner for CAPAJA Members

The San Diego APA Judges have kindly planned a non-hosted dinner for CAPAJA members and their families for Friday, September 16 at 7 pm at Lotus Thai Restaurant, located at 906 Market Street in San Diego. If you have questions, email Judge Selena Epley – Selena.Epley@sdcourt.ca.gov or Judge Rohanee Zapanta – Rohanee.Zapanta@sdcourt.ca.gov. RSVP by September 12 to <redacted – contact above email for the link>

CAPAJA Members Invited to CAJAC Reception in San Diego at CJA

The California Affinity Judges Association Coalition (CAJAC) is planning an affinity judges' reception in San Diego at the CJA Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 17 from 5:15 to 6 pm. Location TBA. Flyer Attached.

CJA Annual Meeting Features CAPAJA Members as Speakers

The **CJA Meeting** is coming up Sept 16-18! Several of our CAPAJA members are teaching/speaking at the meeting. If you are attending, please try to go see the following CAPAJA members' sessions:

- Judge Jacqui Duong and Judge Erica Yew (both Santa Clara) – “After George Floyd: How our courts have responded to issues of equity, inclusion, and understanding bias and how it impacts our justice system”
- Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye – Conversation with the Chief Justice
- Judge Curtis Kin (Los Angeles) – CJA Talks on being a reality television star!

Also, CAPAJA is excited that **Judge Erica Yew** will be sworn in as a CJA Vice President at the CJA Annual Meeting.

CAPAJA Past President to Moderate CJA Panel

SCSC Judge Erica Yew will also moderate a Zoom panel for CJA on “Judicial Mental Health: Let's Talk About it” for CJA on September 28, 2022 at 4:40 pm. See the CJA website for details on how to sign up.

CAPAJA President-Elect Elected Assistant Presiding Judge

Congratulations to CAPAJA President-Elect Judge Sonny Sandhu on being elected Assistant Presiding Judge of the Stanislaus County Superior Court for a two-year term beginning January 2023!

Panel on Pathways to Teaching for CAPAJA Members Only

Many of you want to teach law students but aren't sure how to get started. You may have a lot of questions: Where should you teach? Should you teach a substantive course or a trial/appellate skills course? Should you start by being a guest instructor or lecturer? Should you co-teach? Who do you contact at the law school to get started? What qualifications do you need? What is the time commitment for different teaching opportunities?

CAPAJA has planned a panel to address these and other issues. We have four distinguished panelists who will answer all of these questions and more: retired Justice Halim Dhanidina (2DCA, Division 3), U.S. Magistrate Judge Sallie Kim (N.D. Cal.), Judge Dan Nishigaya (Santa Clara Superior), and Morris Ratner (UC Hastings Provost/Assistant Dean). Justice Joanne Motoike (4DCA, Division 3) will be the moderator.

CAPAJA will be host this **members only** Zoom meeting on **Wednesday, September 28, 2022 from 12:15-1:15 pm Pacific Time**. To attend and receive a Zoom link, please RSVP to Judge Sunil Kulkarni at skulkarni@scscourt.org.

If you have any interest in teaching at a law school, this is a great opportunity to learn from the best!

CAPAJA Board to Meet With California API Legislative Caucus and New York API Judges

CAPAJA's Strategic Partnerships Committee has arranged meetings of CAPAJA's Board with two potential strategic partners, the California API Legislative Caucus and the Asian American Judges of New York, to be held in September. CAPAJA is pursuing strategic partnerships with lawyers, legislators and judges that would result in mutual benefits and support.

Looking for Judges Fluent in Mandarin to Translate Judges in the Classroom Script

Judges in the Classroom (JIC) connects public school teachers with volunteer judges for lessons on the role of the judiciary, the three branches of government, rule of law, and other areas of civics. The program is supported by the Chief Justice's Power of Democracy Steering Committee. Participating judges appear in classrooms in person or via zoom to present one of four grade-appropriate lessons. In an effort to provide access for ESL students, two lessons are now available in Spanish, and one is available in Mandarin. There is great value in these translations because they are delivered by language fluent judges in immersion classes with non-English speaking students. JIC is seeking judges fluent in Mandarin to translate the script for the Salem Witchcraft Trials presentation. The script is read by students and vividly illustrates how trial procedures have changed from the 1600's to the present. The entire lesson plan is available t: <https://sites.google.com/view/judges-in-the-classroom/lessons/salem-witch-trials>. If you are interested in helping to translate the script into Mandarin, please contact Judge Lee Tsao (Los Angeles) at ltsao@lacourt.org.

With CAPAJA's best wishes to all its members for a healthy, happy and productive September.

Audra Ibarra, CAPAJA President
Sonny Sandhu, CAPAJA President-Elect

If you have news or know of any CAPAJA member who has been or will be honored, has spoken, or will speak at an event, has written an article or is taking a new position, or of a new potential CAPAJA member, please send an email to Newsletter Editor Holly Fujie at HFujie@LACourt.org, and we will feature it in the next newsletter.