



OCKABA Newsletter

August 2008 ISSUE

Greetings!

Greetings OC KABA Members and Friends,

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I hope everyone is safe and healthy, especially after the earthquake we had a few days ago.

Please remember to attend the monthly meetings! We need your input and ideas for this organization to grow! This time, it'll be held on August 7, 2008 at Taco Rosa restaurant. Please see the upcoming events section of this newsletter for more information.

Also, we are holding our very first Brown Bag Lunch MCLE Seminar. It'll be held on August 9, 2008. Please mark your calendars! You must reserve a seat by August 6, 2008! Please see the Upcoming Event Spotlight section of this newsletter for more details.

As always, if any members know of any attorneys who are interested in joining our organization please spread the word and circulate this newsletter.

If you have any ideas to put in this newsletter, please feel free to contact me (hoelpark@gmail.com)

Yours truly,

Ho-El

ABOUT US: Orange County Korean American Bar Association

OC KABA was established in November 2005 to promote networking among minority attorneys, to provide effective legal counsel to the local Orange County community, to serve the Korean American community's legal needs with pro bono services, to promote the appointment of Korean American judges, and to assist law students in making the transition into full-time law practice.

There are currently 20 attorneys on the OC KABA Board of Directors and there are about 150-180 Korean American attorneys registered in Orange County.

1. OCKABA'S FIRST PICNIC

On July 11, 2008, OC KABA held its very first picnic for all members and their families. The weather was fantastic and we had more than enough food! Kyo Chun Chicken was the popular menu item. Many members showed up with their loved ones and enjoyed the park's facilities. Thanks to the organizational efforts of Arthur Kim, our VP of Social Events, and exciting ice breaker planned by Star Lopez, our VP of Community Service, and other cooperative efforts of our members, including Min's husband, our picnic was a great success! For those who missed out, we hope to do it again, please come next time. Here is a collage of photos from the picnic. Everyone looks so happy!



2. SUMMER MIXER WITH HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF SOCAL.

On Thursday, July 24, 2008, some of our members attended a mixer hosted by the Hong Kong Association of Southern California at the Marriot Hotel in Irvine, to represent OCKABA in this event. Many have attended from diverse organizations, including some banks, insurance companies, and the City of Irvine.



3. SOME POPULAR (UNPOPULAR) GETAWAYS IN CALIFORNIA

For those of you who did not yet take a summer vacation because of the demanding workload and billable hours or simply due to poor economic times, we've surveyed our members to share their suggestions on some popular getaways in California. Since there are many obvious vacation destinations in California, such as Disney Land, Sea World, and Hollywood, we've asked our members to share their experiences with some unpopular (but well worthy) getaways in California which not many would come to appreciate. Here's what some of our members recommended.

- **Irvine Spectrum:** For some good outdoor shopping, dining, etc. A good place to stop by for a day.
- **Zion National Park:** This place has great hiking trails.
- **Palm Springs.** In the summer, there aren't a lot of people around and there are fantastic deals at all of the big resorts out there for spa treatments and golf.
- **Napa:** bed & breakfast, wine tasting, good restaurants, winery tours, clean air, moderate temperature (not so much in the middle of summer); but not so kid-friendly.
- **Monterey:** excellent aquarium (great for kids), cozy hotels and bed & breakfast, oceanside shopping and restaurants
- **Buelton/Solvang area in the Santa Ynez Valley.** Lots of little wineries, restaurants, and bed & breakfast places. The movie Sideways was filmed there. Good weekend getaway.
- **Pacific Whey/ Crystal Cove Promenade for brunch:** Good breakfast and view.
- **Aquarium of the Pacific.** Great to go with your kids under 5. Good restaurants nearby as well.
- **OC Fair -** Lots of fun animals, rides, food, games. Definite place to stop by with kids. It ends soon!
- **Camping in Channel Islands:** You can see dolphins, whales and uninhabited caves.
- **Camping in Rancho Santa:** For those who want to be near the wildlife and the civilization at the same time. This camping ground is only 5 minutes from Albertsons!

4. UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT: BROWN BAG LUNCH

With the leadership and organization by our VP of Professional Development and Mentoring, OCKABA will hold its very first Brown Bag Lunch to provide benefits of CLE credit to our members. It will be held on Friday, August 9, 2008, at the Law Firm of Kring and Chung, located at 38 Corporate Park, Irvine, CA, from 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM, on a topic entitled "Working with Korean Clients from Korean American attorneys' perspective: the nuances to watch out for". Our very own Ryul Kim and Ho El Park will present this seminar as they have had extensive contacts with Korean clients in their respective practices. If you are interested in learning about this topic or truly have difficulties with Korean clients, or have any input or stories to share, please attend this important event. 1.0 MCLE credit will be provided! The fee for attendance will be \$10.00 (which includes lunch). Please RSVP with Gahram Kang by August 6, 2008 (Wed) at gahramkanlaw@gmail.com or simply click on (or copy & paste) the following evite link here: <http://www.evite.com/pages/invite/viewinvite.jsp?inviteId=ILWKWJFAMQOUSXLWJYMG&li=iq&src=email&trk=aei2>

Here is a glimpse of Mr. Ryul Kim's seminar outline:

1. Do stereotypes of Korean people influence the way you view and interact with Korean people?
 - a. My practice: 1/3 Korean-Americans in U.S.; 1/3 Koreans inbound to U.S. from Korea; 1/3 non-Koreans and Korean-Americans outbound to Korea
 - b. Definition: Korean speaking
2. Did you know that an English retainer agreement for legal service may not be valid for Korean clients under California Civil Code Section 1632.(b)(6)?
 - a. Void, voidable or illegal contract
 - b. Reasonable value
 - c. Korean style contingency: Flat fee plus bonus
 - d. Hourly fee: Mutual Trust
3. Do you feel obligated to treat your Korean clients to a restaurant or spend "quality" or "personal" time with them?
 - a. Two Korean-Americans law firms in Los Angeles
 - b. Community Law School
4. How can you turn "affinity discrimination" by Korean clients against Korean lawyers to your advantage?
 - a. Definition: Unequal and unlawful treatment by an individual against another person of the same race, national origin, etc.
 - b. Jewish, White, etc. vs. female Korean: female Asian is the most credible witness and litigant
 - c. Choice of language: Confirming letters and defamation
5. Will Korean-American lawyers be authorized to work in Korea independently under the FTA (Free Trade Agreement)? If so, when?
 - a. Matter of Time: Partially already opened in some areas
 - b. Criminal Violation: Unauthorized practice of law
6. Basic US-Korea legal issues to consider before and during representation of Korean clients
 - a. Criminal Extradition: White color crime prosecution in Korea in addition to U.S. civil lawsuit
 - b. Hague Convention: "Service of process"
 - c. Arbitration: Korean Court's willingness to enforce
 - d. Enforcement of Judgment: Default judgment against out-of-state defendant
 - e. Punitive Damages: U.S. Judgment unenforceable
 - f. Trial de Novo for Appeal: "Lonestar"
 - g. Statue of limitation: Out-of-state period not counted?

Here's a glimpse of Mr. Ho El Park's seminar outline:

1. Expectations of Korean clients.
2. Misconceptions by Korean clients.
3. Common legal problems facing Korean clients.
4. Dealing with Korean clients in litigation and transaction.
5. How to avoid malpractice issues.
6. Conflict between 1st generation Korean client and 2nd generation KA attorney.

5. UPCOMING EVENTS

Next General Membership Meeting - August 7, 2008 at 6:00 PM

Save the date! Please join for our General Membership Meeting to discuss various issues and to plan for our upcoming events. Every member is encouraged to attend! Our President-Elect Christian Kim will chair our meeting. We will be meeting at: Taco Rosa/Tustin Market Place, 13792 Jamboree Rd., 92670; (714) 505-6080.

Brown Bag Lunch- August 8, 2008 @ 11:45 AM-1:00

We will hold our first Brown Bag Lunch at Kring and Chung LLP, located at 38 Corporate Park, Irvine, CA. Please RSVP with Gahram Kang (gahramkanglaw@gmail.com) by August 6th! Fee is \$10. 1.0 MCLE credit and lunch will be provided!

Breakfast Roundtable- Sept. 6, 2008 @ 8-10:00. At Pacific Whey/ Crystal Cove Promenade

Please join us for breakfast to discuss some of the legal issues we face in our practice and other matters which concern us. Please RSVP with Min Chai (min.chai@oswald-yap.com) by August 31st! The cost is just \$10.

IAKL Conference- Sept. 11-14, 2008 in Philadelphia

International Association of Korean Lawyers (IAKL) will hold its 16th Annual Conference on Thursday, September 11 through Sunday, September 14, 2008 at Radisson Plaza Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania U.S.A. (<http://www.radisson.com/iakl>). If interested, please register by August 11, 2008 directly with IAKL by filling out the registration form. To obtain a registration form, please email Ho El Park (hoelpark@gmail.com) or for more information contact Jennifer Kim (jkim@rutan.com).

SD KABA Annual Installation Dinner- Sept. 19, 2008 @ 5:30 in San Diego

The Korean American Bar Association of San Diego (KABA-SD) and the Korean American Coalition of San Diego (KAC-SD) will hold its inaugural Annual Dinner and Installation of Officers which will be held on Friday, September 19, 2008 at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park (2215 Pan American Road, San Diego, CA 92101). Cocktail reception and registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner program begins at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Jennifer Yoo (Jenny.Yoo@pillsburylaw.com) or Carol M. Lee (Carol.Lee@usdoj.gov) of KABA-SD for more information. You may also contact Min Chai (min.chai@oswald-yap.com) for more information.

NAPABA Conference- November 19-23, 2008 in Seattle

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA") will hold its national convention starting November 19, 2008 through November 23, 2008 with a theme entitled: "Building on Our Legacy: 20 Years of NAPABA". It will be held at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel, 1400 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101. Early Bird Registration is NOW OPEN. Please click (or copy paste) the following link for more information: <http://www.napaba.org/napaba/showpage.asp?code=convention>

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. On Tuesday, July 28, 2008, OCKABA has sent its congratulatory letter to all Feb. 08 bar passers. Please contact Jennifer Kim (jkim@rutan.com) for a copy of said letter should you wish to distribute same to any new admittees.

2. Our President, Min Chai will be in Korea until August 7, 2008 for the OKF leadership conference. Christian Kim will be chairing our monthly meeting for the month of August.

3. Mentors

One of the membership benefits that we have been striving to offer our members, particularly those who have been in practice for 3 years or less, is the opportunity to have a professional mentor from among the esteemed, more experienced attorney members (who have been practicing for 5 years or more) within OC KABA.

The commitment to this program will be one year. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, you must review and agree to the "Guidelines" as well as the "Mentor Participation Agreement". Please contact Gahram Kang for a copy of said documents and for more information: gahramkanglaw@gmail.com or 714-661-5938.

4. Membership Application and Dues

If you have not yet already done so, please pay your membership dues for the year 2008. For all those who became attorneys within the past 0-5 years (regardless of which state), the fee is \$40. For everyone else, the fee is \$80. If you are a law student, there is no fee; however, you must fill out an application. Also, whether or not you are a new member, all OCKABA members must fill out a membership application each year. All checks should be made payable to "OC KABA"

Please mail your completed application and membership fees to:
HCC Surety Group, 9841 Airport Blvd., Ninth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90045
(Attention "John C. Yi"; RE: 2008 OC KABA Membership Application)

For a copy of the *membership application*, please email Jennifer Kim at jkim@rutan.com

5. Do you want to be published?

The California Lawyer Magazine has asked us to submit an article in their In Pro Per section. Please contact Min Chai @ mkc@oswald-yap.com or 949-788-8900 for more information.

6. Get Published Here!

If you can't get published in the California Lawyer magazine, you still have an opportunity to get published in our very own newsletter. Please share your success/horror stories with your fellow members. We want to know more about each of our members and their experiences as an attorney. Advice and tips are greatly appreciated to help our members become better attorneys. Let us know and we'll add your stories and thoughts in our next newsletter. Contact: Ho-El Park hoelpark@gmail.com

7. Questions and Comments

We're here for you! Any and all ideas/comments/ criticisms are all appreciated. Please email/call any of our board members and officers for any questions/comments. Thank you.

7. CLASSIFIEDS

1. HCP, INC. (NYSE:HCP), a S&P 500 Company, is looking for one attorney and one paralegal to add to its growing legal department of HCP. The Director - Legal Counsel will manage various real estate, general corporate and other transactional matters. The ideal candidate will have at least two years of relevant experience. The Paralegal will be primarily responsible for corporate maintenance, UCC filings, assistance with stock plan administration as well as general legal assistance. The ideal candidate will have at least three years of relevant experience. If interested please send your resume to legal-recruiting@hcpi.com.

2. The Office of Administrative Hearings is accepting applications for individuals interested in serving as an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) in the Sacramento, Los Angeles, Van Nuys or Laguna Hills offices. If you are not already in State service, you must currently be on an eligibility list. The Administrative Law Judge I Examination is continuously available online through the State Personnel Board web site at www.spb.ca.gov. The General Jurisdiction Division, with offices in Sacramento, Oakland, Los Angeles and San Diego, seeks ALJ's to preside over hearings for more than 1,000 State and local agencies and prepare detailed written decisions. The hearings involve a variety of issues including professional competence, disability determinations, municipal code enforcement, benefit entitlements, and toxic regulation. ALJ's also provide alternate dispute resolution services, and conduct settlement conferences and mediations.

The Special Education Division, with offices in Van Nuys, Laguna Hills and Sacramento, seeks ALJ's to preside in Special Education hearings, prepare detailed written decisions, provide alternate dispute resolution services, and conduct settlement conferences and mediations. These hearings involve a variety of complex issues in the area of special education law.

Applicants must be a member of the California Bar for at least five years immediately preceding application and have a minimum of two years experience in presenting evidence and examining witnesses in trial courts and/or administrative hearings. Significant experience and interest in legal writing and mediations is preferred. Some travel may be required.

If you are interested in applying, please submit your resume and Standard Form 678, State Application, to the address below. Please include your eligibility and office of interest in box 12 of the application. Office of Administrative Hearings 2349 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95833 Attn: Ronni White-Comstock. For additional information, contact Ronni White-Comstock at (916) 263-0653.

3. Expert re: South Korean Business Practices

A firm in Orange County is looking to retain an expert in South Korean business practices. Specifically, an executive with experience working for large Korean companies to testify about Korean social customs and practices when it comes to "entertaining" fellow executives (i.e. cultural practice of Korean colleagues going out after work. Please contact Gloria Lee (glee@coxcastle.com) if you know of such person or have any contacts or leads.