



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 11, 2020**

**Contact: Yang Chen, Executive Director
(646) 653-2168**

**THE ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK ANNOUNCES NEW
LEGAL REFERRAL SERVICE TO CONNECT ASIAN AMERICANS WITH
QUALIFIED LEGAL COUNSEL IN NEW YORK**

NEW YORK -- November 11, 2020 -- The Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) is proud to announce the launch of its Legal Referral and Information Service (LRIS). AABANY's LRIS will connect members of the New York Asian American community with qualified legal counsel, overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers and increasing the accessibility of legal referral services in the Greater New York area for an under-served demographic.

To reach AABANY's LRIS, those in need of a legal referral can call one of several phone numbers depending on whether they speak English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, or Japanese. During regular business hours, an Intake Coordinator will answer the call live, in the caller's native language or English. The Coordinator will ask questions and collect information to facilitate the referral, and once the LRIS Committee has identified an appropriate legal counsel for the matter, the Coordinator will connect the caller with the attorney. The initial consultation with an LRIS attorney costs only \$35. Outside of regular business hours, those seeking a referral can leave a voice message, or go to the LRIS website at lrs.aabany.org and fill out a form to leave contact information and basic details about the matter so that an Intake Coordinator can contact them.

Attorneys on the LRIS panel are vetted by AABANY's LRIS Committee through a rigorous process to ensure that they meet certain requirements in various legal practice areas. Requirements include the number of years they have practiced in their area, the types of cases they have handled, and sufficient professional liability insurance coverage. AABANY is recruiting attorneys to serve on the LRIS panel with a view towards their ability to meet the needs of the New York Asian American community. The application to join the panel asks about language capacity, including Asian languages such as Chinese, Korean, and Japanese.

Yang Chen, Executive Director of AABANY, in announcing this vital program of AABANY, states, "AABANY's LRIS has been in development since the end of 2019, and I am confident that the program will be able to connect the members of the Asian American community with experienced lawyers who will be able to handle their legal matters, without being limited by language barriers."

"We are excited to launch the LRIS and are grateful for the efforts of the LRIS Committee in aiding this program's development," states Sapna Palla, AABANY President. "The LRIS will be a very valuable addition to the Asian American community in New York by connecting those in need of qualified legal counsel with the legal assistance they are seeking, or by directing callers to appropriate legal resources and information."

For more information on how to contact AABANY's LRIS, please refer to the flyer.



**Asian American
Bar Association
of New York**

Legal Referral and Information Service

**NEED A
LAWYER?**

DON'T SPEAK ENGLISH?

516.788.8820 English
516.788.8821 Mandarin
516.788.8822 Cantonese
516.788.8823 Japanese
516.788.8825 Korean

*Experienced lawyers.
Many Types of Law.*

**** Contact us with your legal problem even if you think you cannot afford to pay for a lawyer. AABANY may be able to help.***

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNER

**ALSTON
& BIRD**

For more information, please contact Yang Chen, AABANY Executive Director, at (646) 653-2168, or direct any inquiries to main@aabany.org.

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 a New York regional affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA).

###

Additional information about AABANY is available at www.aabany.org

Follow our blog at www.blog.aabany.org

Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/aabany

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/aabany