FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 19, 2021

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

ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK TO HONOR GLENN LAU-KEE WITH NORMAN LAU KEE TRAILBLAZER AWARD AT ITS 2021 FALL CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 22

NEW YORK, October 19, 2021 – The Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) is proud to announce that Glenn Lau-Kee will receive the Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award at AABANY’s Twelfth Annual Fall Conference, on October 22, 2021, during the Reception at the end of the first day of the conference.

AABANY’s Trailblazer Award is named after Glenn Lau-Kee’s late father, Norman Lau Kee, who was a revered legal and community pillar of New York City’s Chinatown for decades. The Trailblazer Award honors an accomplished leader in the legal profession who is of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) descent or who has demonstrated dedication to AAPI issues in the community. This award honors an individual who has carved a path for others to follow, served the community as a mentor and role model, and made a lasting impact on the AAPI community through his or her dedication and commitment.

Glenn graduated from Yale and Boston University School of Law and started his law career at Coudert Brothers in banking and project finance. He then went on to join his late father, Norman Lau Kee, to form Kee & Lau-Kee, now known as the Lau-Kee Law Group. Kee & Lau-Kee, founded in 1956, was one of Chinatown’s oldest law firms.

Glenn became the first Asian American President of the New York State Bar Association (“NYSBA”) on June 1, 2014. During his term, Glenn focused on issues related to the demands of the changing legal market as well as the changing demographics of today’s legal professionals. He is a long-standing member of the American Bar Association, holding several leadership positions including serving in the ABA House of Delegates and as a member of the ABA United Nations Representative and Observers delegation. Glenn also has been a member of ABA GPSolo, the ABA’s Solo, Small Firm, and General Practice Division, since 1977.

Throughout his distinguished career, Glenn has emphasized the importance of mentoring among lawyers of every generation and the value of networking through bar association activities. Living up to his own ideals, Glenn’s professional activities and accomplishments have opened the doors for AAPI attorneys to progress to higher levels of leadership within their communities.

Glenn remains active in NYSBA, currently with their Task Force on Attorney Well-Being. On April 15, 2021, he spoke at a fireside chat, presented by AABANY’s Young Lawyers Committee, titled “Attorney Well-Being During COVID-19.” Glenn discussed how attorneys tend to experience higher levels of stress than other professionals, with young lawyers bearing the brunt of this pressure. While larger law firms have established more initiatives to promote lawyer well-being, small firms and solo practitioners are disadvantaged by limited resources. In this context, Glenn identified bar associations as a possible avenue for equalizing wellness resources.
Glenn Lau-Kee has been a trailblazer and role model in the AAPI community for generations of lawyers. Not only did he serve as AABANY president for two years (1997-98) and on the Board of Directors for six years, he was also involved with the New York County Lawyers Association (“NYCLA”), which appointed him as a delegate to the NYSBA. Glenn then became active in NYSBA, the largest bar association in New York State, where he took office as President in 2014. This historic event marked the first time in the history of the NYSBA since its inception in 1876 that an attorney of Asian American descent held the role.

Glenn’s numerous accolades and recognitions include:

- In 2020, he was named Super Lawyers in the New York Metro 2020 edition;
- In 2019, he received the ABA GPSolo 2019 Solo and Small Firm Lifetime Achievement Award for his exceptional achievements and for all he has done and continues to do for the legal profession and the community;
- In 2017, he was honored at MOCA’s 6th annual Celebration of Community Heroes;
- In 2014, he was announced as the National Association of Asian American Professionals – New York Chapter (NAAAP-NY) 2014 Most Influential Asian Pacific Islander American New Yorkers as its Public Service Honoree;
- For his long-standing service to the YMCA, he received the Order of the Red Triangle in 2013, the highest honor bestowed by the organization;
- In 2010, he was recognized along with his father, Norman Kee, as a recipient of Hon. George Bundy Smith Pioneer Award, in honor of their outstanding record of public service and commitment to providing exceptional legal services to the Chinatown community in New York City.

“AABANY is proud to bestow on Glenn Lau-Kee this honor named after his father, Norman Lau Kee,” said AABANY President Terry Shen. “Glenn is a highly respected and esteemed member of the AAPI community and in the legal profession, contributing his knowledge, experience, and leadership to improving the study and practice of law as well as the fair administration of justice for all. Beyond that, Glenn has been a true champion of the AAPI community and has been recognized numerous times for his extraordinary achievements. Throughout his distinguished career he has fully lived up to the ideals of the Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award. Please join us in congratulating Glenn on this well-deserved honor.”

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 not-for-profit 501(c)(6) professional membership organization of attorneys concerned with issues affecting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Incorporated in 1989, AABANY seeks not only to encourage the professional growth of its members but also to advocate for the AAPI 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