



**Asian American
Bar Association
of New York**

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**THE ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK AND
THE CHINESE CONSOLIDATED BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION
LAUNCH VIRTUAL COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS & MONTHLY CLINIC**

NEW YORK – March 31, 2021 – AABANY's Pro Bono and Community Services Committee ("PBCS") and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association ("CCBA") will launch monthly virtual community presentations and clinic sessions beginning April 2021. This is a joint project to serve members of the Asian Pacific American community who have limited English proficiency by providing free "Know Your Rights" presentations about various common legal issues in housing law, elder law, family law, immigration law, and employment law. Each month will focus on one specific area of law that affects the community, along with a Know Your Rights session on anti-Asian hate and harassment at every virtual presentation. We hope to raise awareness of anti-Asian violence, to inform our audience how to report a hate incident, and to provide helpful resources to victims of hate crime.

AABANY's Pro Bono Legal Clinic opened in 2015 to serve members of the Asian Pacific American community who have limited English proficiency ("LEP") so that they can have meaningful access to justice. Mobilizing the skills and experience of AABANY's diverse membership, the Pro Bono and Community Service Committee has spearheaded the Clinic's effort in helping nearly 2,000 LEP individuals in the vast, diverse, and deeply underserved Asian American community in New York through its Clinics in Manhattan's Chinatown, Brooklyn's Bay Ridge, and Queens' Flushing neighborhoods. These in-person, walk-in Clinics were suspended in March 2020 in the wake of the global health pandemic for the health and safety of the community members and volunteers. In the ensuing months from June 2020 through March 2021, remote assistance to over 400 callers in Cantonese, English, Korean and Japanese languages was provided by volunteers through AABANY's Remote Legal Clinic, organized by the Pro Bono and Community Service Committee, to meet the ongoing needs of the community.

AABANY is pleased to partner again with CCBA to provide live virtual community education presentations to community members. A Q&A session, where volunteer lawyers will answer questions from the audience, will accompany each presentation. Following the Q&A session, community members will be able to speak with a volunteer lawyer in a 20-minute individual clinic session about their legal issue related to that month's topic. These virtual clinic sessions are limited in availability and must be reserved in advance by contacting CCBA. Volunteers who speak Cantonese and Mandarin are available to help interpret the virtual community presentations and during clinic sessions. The virtual community presentations and clinic sessions will operate every first Tuesday of the month through Zoom. The first virtual community presentation and clinic sessions will be held on April 6, 2021 from 5:30pm – 8:30pm on the topic of Housing Law - Current Housing Eviction Relief and Moratoriums. The webinar presentation can be viewed at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82514124777>.

There are limited clinic session slots on Housing Law available at CCBA for April 6, 2021.

Community members seeking individual legal assistance on a housing issue must call CCBA at (212) 226-6280 or email ccbastaffs@gmail.com to request an appointment. Appointments will be made based

on availability. Volunteer attorneys will meet with community members with appointments via videoconference on April 6, 2021.

For those who do not have electronic devices to attend the program, in-person attendance in a reduced capacity is available at CCBA, located at 62 Mott St, New York, NY 10013. Contact CCBA for more information.

AABANY's volunteer lawyers will not provide legal advice or representation. Individuals will *not* be able to hire the volunteer lawyers for representation. If individuals seek to hire a lawyer, they can contact AABANY's Legal Referral and Information Service by calling 516.788.8820 (English), 516.788.8821 (Mandarin), or 516.788.8822 (Cantonese).

The Pro Bono and Community Service Committee hopes to expand the provision of individual sessions and to fully re-open its in-person clinics as soon as it is safe to do so. It is crucial to have volunteer lawyers and interpreters to do this work. If you are interested in volunteering or helping us, please send us an email at probono@aabany.org and clinic.volunteer@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).

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

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