



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 22, 2023**

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

## **ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK TO HOST 14TH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 23 AT FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL**

NEW YORK – September 22, 2023 – On Saturday, September 23, 2023, the Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”) will host its 14th annual Fall Conference at Fordham University School of Law, co-sponsored with Fordham Law School’s Center on Asian Americans and the Law. At this year’s conference, AABANY is also proud to co-host the National Asian Pacific Islander Prosecutors Association (NAPIPA) 4th Annual Conference.

This year’s Fall Conference theme is “Embracing Wellness and Well-Being: Strengthening the Legal Profession by Investing in Ourselves,” in line with the theme set forth at the start of this fiscal year by President Karen Kim. Reflecting on the challenges presented by the pandemic on Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) legal professionals and the AAPI community in general, AABANY recognizes the importance of mental health and well-being for everyone. AABANY promotes these goals and values through this year’s Fall Conference, by implementing impactful programs, sessions, and events around this theme.

The conference involves a full day of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs, including special programs such as the Diversity Career Fair, Trial Advocacy Program, and Cocktail Reception. Notably, we have a plenary lunch session, “Prosecution in the 21st Century: Discussion with Four Trailblazer District Attorneys,” featuring prominent prosecutors, including:

- Alvin Bragg, District Attorney, New York County
- Darcel Clark, District Attorney, Bronx County
- Eric Gonzalez, District Attorney, Kings County
- Thien Ho, District Attorney, Sacramento County

The program explores their unique journeys to becoming trailblazing District Attorneys and the challenges they overcame as young minority attorneys and prosecutors. The panel will be moderated by James Lin, formerly Green Zone Bureau Chief of the King’s County DA’s office, and Sabeeha Madni, First Deputy Bureau Chief of the School Advocacy and Juvenile Crimes Bureau of the King’s County DA’s office. To learn more about the full offering of CLE programs, click [here](#). To see the conference schedule, please visit <https://conference2023.aabany.org/schedule>.

AABANY is pleased to announce that James S. Lin will receive this year’s Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award. Beginning his career in the New York County District Attorney’s Office as an Assistant District Attorney in Trial Bureau 60, James has been a powerful and dynamic presence in the criminal justice and legal community for over thirty years. His numerous achievements include:

- In 2008, James helped form the Prosecutors' Committee of the Asian American Bar Association of New York, which has grown to be one of AABANY's most active and vibrant committees. He co-chaired the committee from 2009-2013 and returned in 2016.
- From 2011 until 2015, James was also a member of AABANY's Board of Directors.
- James was the Second AAPI to serve as Bureau Chief at a major trial bureau in a New York City prosecutor's office.
- Since 2010, James has been a member of the New York State Advisory Committee on Criminal Law and Procedure, which makes legislative recommendations to the Chief Administrative Judge of New York State.
- James also participated as a trainer and lecturer in the KCDA office's new NYPD Officer Training program.

The presentation of the award will take place during NAPIPA's 9th Annual Scholarship Banquet in Manhattan Chinatown, at Seng Seafood Restaurant, 39 E. Broadway.

AABANY will also hold a premiere screening of a short documentary entitled "Asian Voices against Anti-Asian Hate," produced by AABANY's Anti-Asian Violence Task Force. This video will highlight the stories of survivors who have experienced anti-Asian hate and violence in New York over recent years. The Task Force has remained committed to combating the ongoing hate and violence, authoring two comprehensive reports that delve into the alarming trends of anti-Asian hate and violence:

1. [\*A Rising Tide of Hate and Violence against Asian Americans in New York During COVID-19: Impact, Causes, Solutions.\*](#)
2. [\*Endless Tide: The Continuing Struggle to Overcome Anti-Asian Hate in New York.\*](#)

The screening will be followed by a discussion featuring members of the Task Force who helped produce the video to give further background and context on the issues raised in it.

AABANY would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our 2023 Fall Conference sponsors. The Fall Conference would not be possible without their continued support. We would like to thank the following sponsors:

- Broadridge Financial Solutions (Elite Sponsor)
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In addition, AABANY thanks our Annual Dinner Sponsors, who have provided their generous year-round support to AABANY. Notably, AABANY would like to recognize Morrow Sodali, our After-Party Sponsor, Broadridge Financial Solutions, our Diamond Sponsor, and Kirkland & Ellis, our Pre-Dinner GC Reception Sponsor. To view a full list of our sponsors, please click [here](#).

“AABANY is pleased to welcome a wide range of accomplished legal professionals to this year’s Fall Conference, where we anticipate engaging discussions and valuable insights that will further enrich our legal community,” states Karen Kim, AABANY President. “Through this event, AABANY aims to strengthen our collective commitment to advancing justice and equity, not only within our legal profession but also within the broader communities we serve. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of our speakers, program chairs, members, volunteers, and sponsors for making this year’s Fall Conference possible. Finally, thank you to NAPIPA for giving us the honor of co-sponsoring their 4th Annual Conference; we truly value their partnership, and we look forward to the meaningful interactions and bonds that this conference will provide.”

Registration for this year’s event has closed. Walk-in registration will be permitted onsite on September 23. For details about walk-in pricing, please click [here](#). Press inquiries are welcome but prior arrangements must be made; no one will be permitted entry to the event without prior authorization

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

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Additional information about AABANY is available at [www.aabany.org](http://www.aabany.org)

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