



Pro Bono Crisis Lawyering: Challenges and Lessons Learned

October 22, 2021 – 4:00pm – 5:30pm

Moderator + Speakers



BEATRICE LEONG



KAREN LIM



NICHOLAS LOH



EUGENE LOVE KIM



KWOK KEI NG

DISCLAIMERS

- ◆ The opinions expressed within the presentation are those of the speakers and do not reflect the opinions and beliefs of AABANY or the speakers' employers.
- ◆ For those requesting CLE credit, you must watch full presentation in order to receive 1 Skills credit.
- ◆ Please complete CLE evaluation form and submit to cle@aabany.org.

Program Description

- ◆ The program will examine how members of AABANY, consisting of lawyers and volunteers, unite for justice and equity in times of crisis to deploy their legal skills for communities in need. During the COVID-19 pandemic, attorneys and law students became crisis solvers and spearheaded numerous projects to support and provide legal access to low-income Asian Pacific Americans (APA) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) communities. These projects, aimed at helping indigent individuals, working-class families, and small businesses, which include: (1) community education through know-your-rights materials and presentations, (2) legal information and referrals to address particular legal needs, (3) pro bono services, (4) scholarly work and reporting on anti-Asian violence, and (5) advocacy to combat anti-Asian violence.

Pro bono & Community Services Committee

- ◆ <https://probono.aabany.org/>
- ◆ PBCS hosts walk-in legal clinics, free and open to all members of the community, every month at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, 62 Mott St. In-person capacity is limited and volunteers and clients have the option of attending remotely via Zoom.
- ◆ During the widespread shutdown of in-person services necessitated by the novel COVID-19 pandemic, AABANY's Pro Bono and Community Service Committee redirected its volunteer resources towards establishing the [Remote Legal Clinic](#), which offered bilingual assistance by telephone and other virtual modalities. Thanks to AABANY's dedicated and skilled volunteer attorneys, law students and interpreters, the Remote Clinic assisted over 400 callers on a myriad of legal matters involving housing, immigration, criminal law, fraud, family and matrimonial law, wills, and small business loans. After nearly nine months in effect through the COVID-19 pandemic, AABANY's Pro Bono Remote Clinic ceased operations in March 2021.
- ◆ Going forward, PBCS will continue working with AAPI community partners and exploring collaboration opportunities with other community partners in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens to provide legal assistance to the community.

<https://probono.aabany.org/>

<https://probono.aabany.org/resources-english#page-section-6108b12dbd6c6707060362d1>

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

* <https://probono.aabany.org/resources-english#page-section-6108b1a8a68be63f250625b4>





Asian American
Bar Association
of New York



紐約亞裔
律師協會

REMOTE PRO BONO LEGAL CLINIC

免費遙距法律諮詢

無料のリモート法律相談クリニック・ 무료 원격 법률 자문

Immigration · 移民法 (移民法 · 이민법)

Housing · 房屋法 (住宅法 · 주택법)

Family · 家庭法 (家族法 · 가족법)

Employment · 勞工法 (雇用法 · 노동법)

Elder · 老年法 (高齢者法 · 노인법)

Anti-Asian Harassment & Violence · 反亞裔騷擾與暴力
(反アジア人ハラスメント · 반 아시아 괴롭힘 및 폭력)

Small Business · 小型企業 (小企業 · 중소기업)

General Legal Information · 一般法律諮詢

(一般的な法律情報 · 무료원격 법률 상담)

Call · 查詢電話: (929) 251-3022 (English & 中文)

お問い合わせ電話 · 문의전화: (516) 690-7724 (日本語 & 한국어)

Email · 電子郵件 · Eメール · 이메일: probono@aabany.org

To receive assistance, please have all relevant information & documents available.

請準備好所有與你的案件有關的信息和文件, 사건과 관련된 모든 정보와 문서를 준비하십시오.

ケースに関連するすべての情報とドキュメントを準備してください.

To speak to a lawyer, please call & leave a message with: your name, telephone number, preferred language and legal issue.

We will get back to you as soon as possible.

如果您需要與律師交談, 請撥打電話並留下: 您的姓名、電話、語言要求及法律問題。我們會盡快與您聯繫。

변호사와 상담하기 위해선, 전화를 주시고 성함, 전화번호, 선호하는 언어와 어떠한 법률 문제를 상담하고 싶은지 메시지를 남겨주세요.

저희가 최대한 빨리 다시 연락드리겠습니다.

弁護士と相談するためには、電話をいただいてお名前、電話番号、希望する言語とどのような法的な問題を相談したいのか、メッセージを残してください。

私たちはできるだけ早く再度ご連絡いたします。

www.aabany.org/probono

Remote Legal Clinic

As of March 1, 2021, the AABANY's Pro Bono Remote Clinic will not take any calls from the telephone lines. Thanks to our volunteer attorneys, law students and interpreters, the Remote Clinic was able to assist over 400 callers since June 2020. The Remote Clinic was created as an emergency stopgap effort to provide Asian Americans with limited English proficiency access to necessary information and available resources during the pandemic when the city shut down and operation of AABANY's Monthly Walk-In Legal Clinics had to be suspended.

Legal Referral Information Services Committee

- ◆ In Fall 2020, AABANY launched the Legal Referral and Information Service (“LRIS”) as a public service primarily to help the general public, and especially the Asian American community. The goals of the LRIS are to provide information and referrals, to recommend lawyers or other resources to provide competent, ethical legal advice and representation, to educate the public about legal representation and to increase respect for the legal profession.
- ◆ Community members in need of a legal referral can call one of several phone numbers depending on language spoken: 516.788.8820 (English), 516.788.8821 (Mandarin), 516.788.8822 (Cantonese), 516.788.8823 (Japanese), or 516.788.8825 (Korean).
- ◆ For more information about LRIS, please visit legalreferral.aabany.org.

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

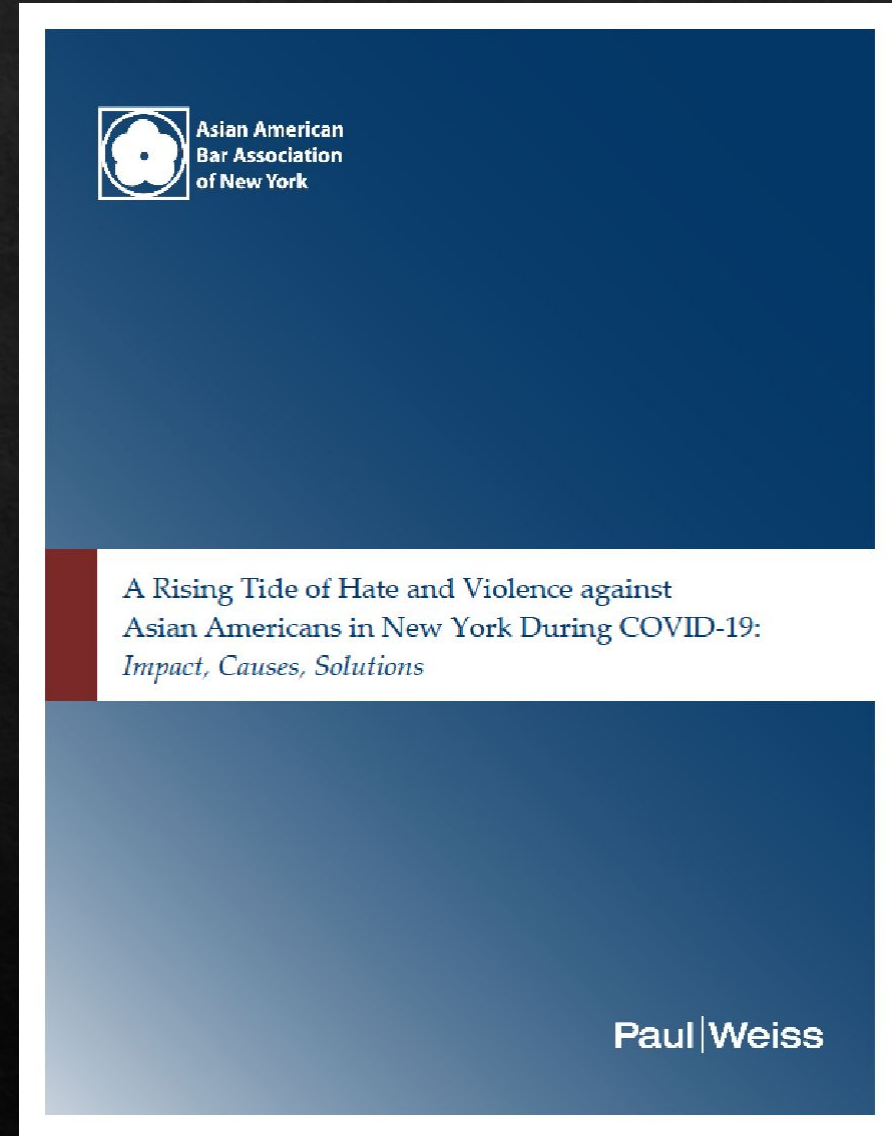
AABANY's Legal Referral and Information Service ("LRIS") connects members of the New York Asian American community with qualified legal counsel, overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers and increasing the accessibility of legal referral services in the Greater New York area for an underserved demographic.

This is a vital program for AABANY that we anticipate will greatly benefit our panelists and fellow members as well as the public, and especially the Asian American community. If you would like to apply to be considered for the LRIS panel, please fill out and submit the form below. If you have any questions, please send them to joinlr@aabany.org. If you have any questions, please send them to the same email address.

Hate Eradication Active Response Team ("HEART")

- ◆ In response to heightened anti-Asian violence during the pandemic, AABANY's Anti-Asian Violence Task Force created the Hate Eradication Active Response Team ("HEART") initiative to support community members who have suffered a bias incident or hate crime. HEART aims to help community members obtain a resolution consistent with their interests and desires, whether that means seeking justice under the law for a given hate incident or providing a referral to mental health or other services. The HEART initiative is ongoing, and more information can be found [here](#).

On February 11, 2021, AABANY held a press conference to discuss the release of its report co-authored with Paul, Weiss, *A Rising Tide of Hate and Violence against Asian Americans in New York During COVID-19: Impact, Causes, Solutions*. Since the report's release, news media across the country and around the world have summarized and cited its findings.



**AABANY
PRO BONO
FUNDRAISER**

Help fight Anti-Asian violence and the "Asian virus" propaganda! All proceeds will be donated to the AABANY ProBono Clinic.

ONE HUMANITY AGAINST THE VIRUS

Magnetic Button won't harm your clothes!

Designed by Siyan Wong, Visual Artist

 **Asian American Bar Association of New York**

Purchase your Button at www.aabany.org

**1 for \$10
2 for \$15***

*Shipping Included in Price

AABANY PRO BONO FUNDRAISER

The COVID-19 era has brought more challenges to our Asian American community in New York, with anti-Asian violence on the rise and many New Yorkers facing serious legal issues in housing and immigration, as well as challenges due to economic hardships. Our Pro Bono Clinic has gone remote to provide legal information and assistance.

To raise funds for our Pro Bono Clinic, AABANY member Joane Siyan Wong has created a "One Humanity Against the Virus" button.

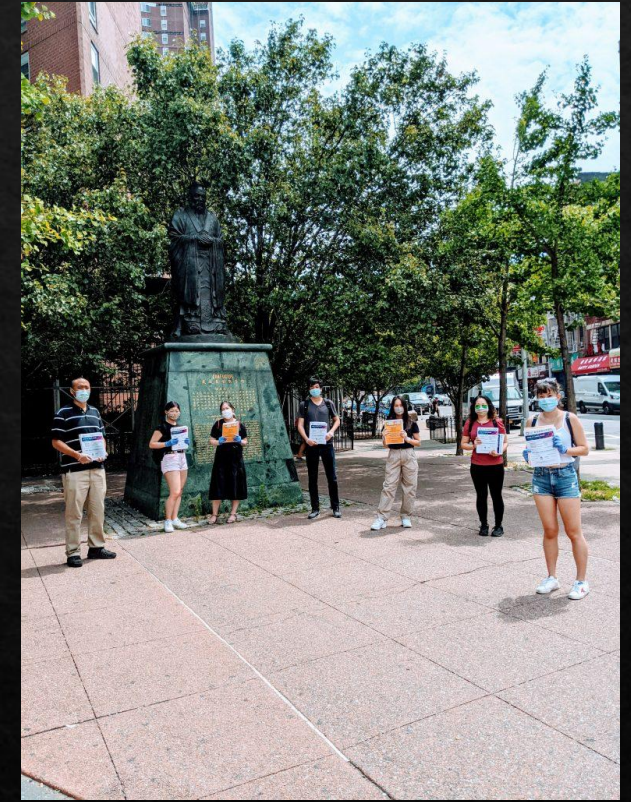
Student Outreach Committee

- ◆ AABANY's Student Outreach Committee seeks to equip APA students with concrete skills to excel academically and professionally. In addition, the Committee acts as a bridge between law students and attorneys, encouraging APA students to be active in the APA legal community. To achieve these goals, the Committee sponsors career programs, networking events, and social activities. Currently, there are more than 300 APA law student members in AABANY, and the Committee works with approximately 18 law schools in the tri-state region.

COVID RENT RELIEF 2.0

- ◆ The Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”) just concluded a virtual phone clinic to assist Mandarin and Cantonese speaking tenants in applying for the NYS Homes and Community Renewal’s (HCR) COVID Rent Relief Extension Program. This HCR program allowed NYS renters to seek a one-time rental subsidy for the months of April – July 2020. The program originally opened for submission in late July 2020, extended to August 8, 2020, and then re-opened the application process on December 18, 2020 until February 1, 2021. We assisted 83 callers in total: 87.5% of those callers had limited English proficiency, with most callers speaking Cantonese (41.1%) and Mandarin (46.4%). We handled this call volume with a dedicated team of 24 volunteers.
- ◆ In response to the program’s second extension, AABANY organized a coalition to get bilingual information and resources out to the community. Articles ran in ethnic newspapers during the weekend of January 17, 2021, announcing our COVID Rent Relief Project 2.0. The goal of the project remote clinic was (1) to provide information to callers on how to apply, (2) if necessary, to have the volunteer and caller contact HCR’s Call Center together to reach an interpreter, and/or (3) to have the volunteer act as the interpreter. No legal advice or legal representation was provided.
- ◆ At a time of increasing isolation due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and in the face of language access barriers for Mandarin and Cantonese speaking NYC residents, the AABANY Virtual Phone Clinic provided a welcome opportunity to build relationships in the community and provide assistance.

SOC's COMMUNITY OUTREACH



FREE LEGAL INFORMATION



go to:
PROBONO.AABANY.ORG

email:
PROBONO@AABANY.ORG

Visit our [Pro Bono Website](http://PROBONO.AABANY.ORG) or [Pro Bono Legal Clinic](http://PROBONO.AABANY.ORG)

COVID-19 LEGAL RELIEF
SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF
ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE
KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
HATE ERADICATION ACTIVE
RESPONSE TEAM (HEART)
PRO BONO LEGAL CLINIC
HOUSING
IMMIGRATION

Take a photo
with your phone



Tentative
**pro bono
legal clinic**

Date: Saturday, September 18, 2021
Time: 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM EST
Location: Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association
62 Mott Street, New York, NY 10013
Register: Call 212-226-6280
or email ccbastaffs@gmail.com

Thank you to our sponsors, including AABANY Student Outreach Committee, AABANY Pro Bono and Community Service Committee, AABANY Young Lawyers Committee, and the following Asian Pacific American Law Student Associations: Brooklyn, Cardozo, Columbia, Cornell, CUNY, Fordham, NYLS, NYU, Pace, Seton Hall, St. John's



COVID-19 LEGAL RELIEF

Digital Resources

- [Small Business Labor and Employment](#)
- [Restructuring and Bankruptcy](#)
- [Anti-Asian Violence, Know Your Rights](#)
 - [In Mandarin](#)
 - [In Cantonese](#)
 - [In Korean](#)
- [Chinese and Korean FAQ Pages](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)
 - [In Chinese](#)
 - [In Korean](#)
 - [In Japanese](#)

Need Help? Contact AABANY's Pro Bono Clinic

Call: (929) 251-3022 (516) 690-7724
English & Chinese *Korean & Japanese*

Email: probono@aabany.org

Generously Co-Sponsored By:

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Supported By The Following Asian Pacific American Law Student Associations:
NYU, Brooklyn, Cardozo, Columbia, CUNY, Hofstra, New York Law School, St. John's, Fordham,
Harvard Law School and Cornell Law School

SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO ORGANIZERS OF THE PRO BONO CLINICS

- ◇ 2015 - 2016: Co-chairs of PBCS - Samuel Lui, June K. Lee
- ◇ 2016 - 2017: Co-chairs of PBCS - Samuel Lui, June K. Lee, Ariana Alcasabas Pabalan
- ◇ 2017 - 2018: Co-chairs of PBCS - Samuel Lui, Ariana Alcasabas Pabalan, Pauline Yeung-Ha
- ◇ 2018 - 2019: Co-chairs of PBCS - Asako Aiba, Judy (Ming Chu) Lee, Karen Kithan Yau, Pauline Yeung-Ha
- ◇ 2019 - 2020: Co-chairs of PBCS - Asako Aiba, Judy (Ming Chu) Lee, Karen Kithan Yau, Pauline Yeung-Ha
Vice-chairs of PBCS - Kwok Kei Ng and Zhixian Jessie Liu
- ◇ 2020 - 2021: Co-chairs of PBCS - Asako Aiba, Judy (Ming Chu) Lee, Karen Lin, Karen Kithan Yau
Vice-chairs of PBCS - Kwok Kei Ng and Zhixian Jessie Liu
- ◇ 2021 - 2022: Co-chairs of PBCS - Karen King, Judy (Ming Chu) Lee, Karen Lin, and Kwok Kei Ng
Vice-chairs of PBCS - Eugene Love Kim, Olympia Moy, and May Wong
Pro Bono Secondee - Megan Gao

And none of this would've been possible
without you, our dedicated volunteers!

So please contact
probono@aabany.org if you are
interested in volunteering at our
upcoming pro bono clinics!!!

UPCOMING MONTHLY CLINICS

 **Asian American Bar Association of New York** **AABANY PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE**

FREE SATURDAY (PRO BONO) LEGAL CLINICS

OCTOBER 16, 2021
NOVEMBER 13, 2021
DECEMBER 11, 2021
12:30-3:30 PM

Location: CCBA, 62 Mott St., 2nd Floor*, New York, NY 10013

To register, call (212) 226-6280 or email ccbastaffs@gmail.com for a 30-minute one-on-one informational consultation with a volunteer attorney. Please bring all relevant documents.

APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM. IN-PERSON CAPACITY LIMITED. **FACE MASKS REQUIRED.**

Visit us online:
PROBONO.AABANY.ORG

co-sponsors:

 **紐約中華總商會**
THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF N.Y., INC.
85 BROADWAY, SUITE 2000, NEW YORK, NY 10002
TEL: (212) 222-9700 FAX: (212) 222-9700

 **亞洲人平等會**
ASIAN AMERICANS FOR EQUALITY

 **CHINESE CONSOLIDATED BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**
NEW YORK
1883
紐約中華公所

AAFE + AABANY PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

FREE (PRO BONO) LEGAL & APPLICATION CLINICS

★★★★★

Volunteers will assist individuals in applying for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) and reviewing legal documents. Please bring all relevant documents to your appointment.

Priority will be given to those who register by calling **212-979-8988**, texting **646-630-7385**, or emailing luna_fu@aafe.org for a 30-minute appointment.

Appointments are available in person and virtually (via Zoom). In-person capacity is limited and masks are required.

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MANHATTAN LOCATION: AAFE 2 Allen St, 2nd Floor New York, NY 10002	QUEENS LOCATION: One Flushing Community Center 133-29 41st Ave, 2nd Floor Flushing, NY 11354
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DATES:
October 16, 2021*, 11am-3:30pm
November 6, 2021, 11am-3:30pm
December 4, 2021, 11am-3:30pm

DATES:
October 30, 2021, 11am-3:30pm
November 13, 2021, 11am-3:30pm
December 11, 2021, 11am-3:30pm

* The October 16 clinic will be located at CCBA, 62 Mott St., 2nd Floor.

★★★★★
CO-SPONSORS:

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