

PHILIPPINE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION 34TH ANNUAL INSTALLATION AND AWARDS GALA

APRIL 6, 2021



P.A.B.A.

PHILIPPINE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Abigail Zelenski, PABA President

AMERICAN AND FILIPINO NATIONAL ANTHEMS

Emeben Vales, Broadway Performer

2021 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Abigail Zelenski, PABA President

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Presiding Judge Eric C. Taylor, Los Angeles Superior Court

introduced by Alexander Manglinong, PABA Secretary

DISTINGUISHED JURIST AWARD

Judge Teresa P. Magno, Los Angeles Superior Court

introduced by Adrian Roxas, PABA President-Elect

PABA FOUNDATION

Sandy Roxas, PABA Foundation Chair

DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATE AWARD

Toni Jaramilla

introduced by Josephine Brosas, PABA Treasurer

TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Mia Frances Yamamoto

introduced by Jason Don A. de Jesus, PABA Board Member

2021 COMMUNITY CHAMPION

Commissioner Jessica M. Caloza, Los Angeles Board of Public Works

introduced by Philip Nulud, PABA Board Member and PABA Past President

INSTALLATION OF 2021 PABA OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Judge Winston S. Keh, San Bernardino Superior Court

REMARKS FROM 2020 PRESIDENT

Cherisse Cleofe, PABA Chair

PABA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

CLOSING REMARKS

Abigail Zelenski, 2021 PABA President

SPECIAL APPEARANCES BY

U.S. Senator Alex Padilla

U.S. Representative Adam Schiff

Rob Bonta, California's Next Attorney General

Patrick J. Bumatay, U.S. Ninth Circuit Judge

Lorna G. Schofield, Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer

Kevin James, Former President of the Los Angeles Board of Public Works

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mabuhay and Welcome! I want to thank you for joining us for the **Philippine American Bar Association's 34th Annual Installation and Awards Gala!**

The past year has been historic in many ways. We have dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic, and with loved ones sick and loved ones lost. We have dealt with social-justice issues showing us that we can all do better. Black Lives Matter. We must all stand together to **Stop Asian Hate**. We have also seen what communities can do when we listen to one another, band together, and help each other. As lawyers, we have special responsibilities to seek improvement of the law, access to the legal system, and the administration of justice.

At a time like this, PABA is proud to honor four Asian American women whose accomplishments have greatly helped our communities. It is important to recognize their contributions and uplift their voices. Tonight, **we celebrate** the **Honorable Teresa Magno** as our **Distinguished Jurist**, **Mia Yamamoto** as our **Trailblazer**, **Toni Jaramilla** as our **Distinguished Advocate**, and **Jessica Caloza** as our **Community Champion**. I am grateful for their dedication to their work and the role models they are for the next generation. PABA is also honored that the **Honorable Eric C. Taylor**, Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court—the largest trial court in the nation—is our **Keynote Speaker** tonight. Presiding Judge Taylor is the second African American to hold this great position and was voted unanimously by his peers. You can learn more about Judge Magno, Mia Yamamoto, Toni Jaramilla, Jessica Caloza, and Presiding Judge Taylor in the subsequent pages of this written program.

Tonight, I also want to highlight the work that PABA has done the past year. At the start of the pandemic, PABA pivoted its programming to address some of the top concerns during these unprecedented times. I am proud to have worked on six virtual programs, free to the community, to address legal issues at the forefront of people's minds, including tenants' rights, debt-relief measures, estate planning, employment-law issues, domestic-violence and abuse issues, and immigration law. PABA also held a fundraiser and raised several thousand dollars in emergency funds to award six law students and recent law-school graduates who have suffered financial loss as a result of the pandemic. Individually and collectively, PABA and its members have also done much more. This past year, PABA has continued its social and mentoring events virtually, including our Annual Career Night, Adobo Night, and happy hours. Currently, we are more than halfway through our three-part panel series, *Fil-Ams in the Biz: Lawyers Working in the Entertainment Industry*. PABA is also proud to be a sister organization to many local, state, and national bar organizations, and, together, we have worked on legal and community programming, endorsements, and letters.

This year, the PABA Foundation has raised an unprecedented amount of scholarship funds to award to deserving law students. That could not have been done without the overwhelming generosity of PABA Members and many past PABA Presidents. Thank you to our donors, who understand the importance of maintaining a pipeline of Filipino American attorneys—because representation matters.

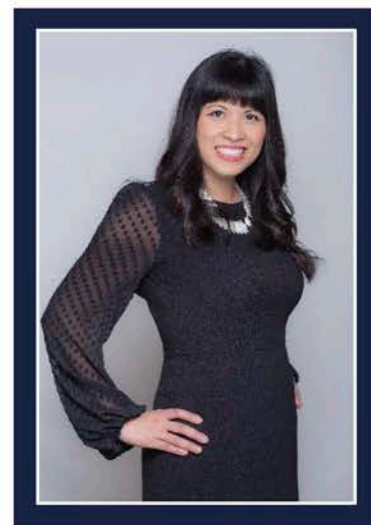
I am in awe of the dedication of the **PABA Executive Board** and **PABA Board Members** to PABA's mission of providing public service to the Filipino American community, developing and sustaining cooperation with other legal and community organizations, fostering and promoting the professional growth of its members, and providing a unified voice on social, economic, and legal matters affecting the Filipino American community. PABA is an all-volunteer board of extremely talented attorneys who have contributed many, many hours to PABA's mission. I want to say, **THANK YOU!**

I also want to thank my husband, David, for his loving support and encouragement. After practicing employment law together for the past seventeen years, being married for the past seven years, and spending *each and every* minute together for the past thirteen months, I am grateful to have a partner who understands how important PABA is in my life. Finally, I want to thank my daughter, Zoe. She is strong, independent, and kind, and, at six years old, she already embodies what it means to be Pinay.

Maraming Salamat!



Abigail Zelenski
2021 PABA President



Abigail Zelenski
2021 President
Philippine American Bar
Association

ABOUT PABA

WHO WE ARE

M A B U H A Y !

Founded over 40 years ago, the Philippine American Bar Association (PABA) is the largest local association of Filipino-American lawyers in the United States. Comprised of attorneys, judges, and law students, it was formed to address the legal issues confronting the Filipino-American community and to meet the professional concerns of Filipino-American lawyers in Southern California.

PABA provides continuing legal education seminars and professional development opportunities for its members and assists Filipino-American law students through scholarships and mentorship programs. In addition, PABA partners with community organizations to address concerns within local Filipino-American communities.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

O U R M I S S I O N

- To foster and promote the professional growth of its members through the exchange of ideas and information through networking opportunities
- To sponsor and encourage public service to the Filipino-American community
- To develop and sustain cooperation with other legal and community organizations
- To provide a unified voice for its members regarding current social, economic, and legal matters affecting the Filipino-American community



PHILIPPINE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

We congratulate
Abigail Zelenski

on her installation as PABA President
and **Camille Serrano** on receiving the

Aimee Conteras-Camua
PABA Foundation Scholarship
In Memory of Richard Lou Contreras

And salute to all of tonight's honorees
for their well-deserved recognition and the
significant impact they have made in the community.

We also congratulate our colleague,
Aimee Conteras-Camua, PABA Foundation Board Member

**MUNGER
TOLLES &
OLSON** LLP



Proudly supporting the
Philippine American Bar
Association's 34th Annual
Installation & Awards Gala

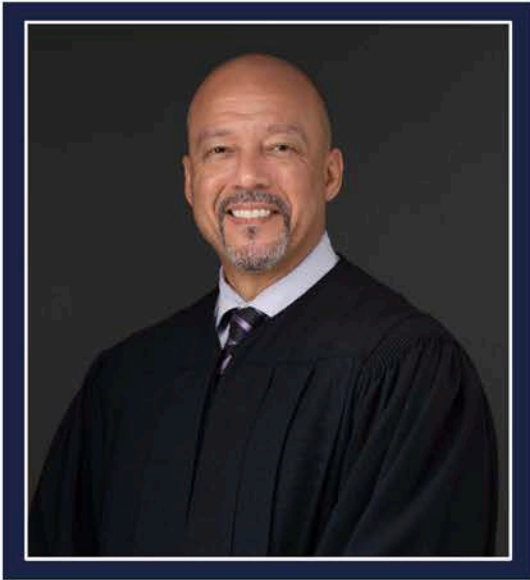
We join in congratulating all of this year's honorees
for their achievements in the legal community.

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ABU DHABI ATHENS AUSTIN BEIJING BRUSSELS CENTURY CITY CHICAGO DALLAS DUBAI
FRANKFURT HONG KONG HOUSTON KAZAKHSTAN LONDON LOS ANGELES MIAMI MUNICH
NEW YORK PARIS PHILADELPHIA PITTSBURGH PRINCETON RICHMOND SAN FRANCISCO
SHANGHAI SILICON VALLEY SINGAPORE TYSONS WASHINGTON, D.C. WILMINGTON

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



The Hon. Eric C. Taylor
Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court

On January 1, 2021, Judge Eric C. Taylor became the 71st Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court, having been elected on September 9, 2020 to serve for 2021 and 2022. Judge Taylor was previously elected Assistant Presiding Judge, serving for 2019 and 2020.

Judge Taylor was appointed to the Inglewood Municipal Court in 1998, serving as Presiding Judge prior to trial court unification. He was subsequently appointed Superior Court Site Managing Judge for the Inglewood Courthouse. In 2001, he was appointed Assistant District Supervising Judge of the Southwest District. From 2002-3, he served as Supervising Judge of the Southwest District. In his 23 years on the bench, Judge Taylor has worked on numerous LA Court committees – including Legislative, Family, Security, Civil Grand Jury, and Bench-Bar Outreach. In 2011, he was elected to the Superior Court Executive Committee, serving from 2011-13; and is currently serving as the Chair of the Court's Executive Committee.

In 2003, Judge Taylor was elected President of the California Judges Association ("CJA") after serving on its board for 2 years. While president, Chief Justice Ronald George appointed him as an advisory member to the California Judicial Council. In 2015, he became the first judge to be elected for a second time as President of CJA, and to again serve on the Judicial Council under Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

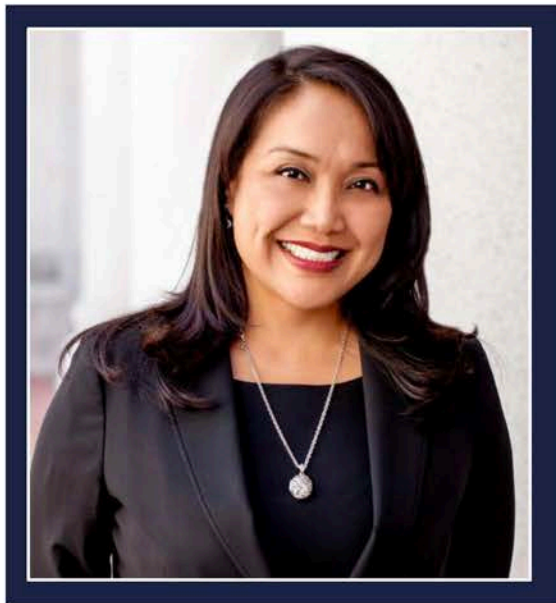
During his first presidency, Judge Taylor helped to revitalize CJA, overhauling its publications, increasing its presence in Sacramento, and traveling to over 25 counties to expand and solidify membership, and to give judges a strong voice throughout the State. In his second term, he again led efforts to promote membership and a more proactive association concerning issues related to the quality of justice in California and the dignity of the judiciary. Judge Taylor also chaired CJA's Public Information and Access Committee, and served on the editorial board of its main publication, "The Bench."

Chief Justice George appointed Judge Taylor to the Judicial Council's Access and Fairness Committee to serve from 2000-3. Judge Taylor also served on the Steering Committee for the California Judicial College, where he also served as a discussion group leader.

Prior to the bench, Judge Taylor worked as a Deputy County Counsel for Los Angeles County, practicing in the Civil Litigation, Sheriff's Civil Defense and Public Works Divisions. He also practiced as a litigation associate at Sonnenschein, Nath and Rosenthal, and the former law offices of Pettit and Martin. In 1986, he served as an extern to California Supreme Court Justice, Allen E. Broussard.

Judge Taylor holds a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, and a B.A. from Dartmouth College. At Dartmouth, Judge Taylor was a Gould Foundation Scholar and sang for four years with the Dartmouth Aires. At Virginia, he chaired the Migrant Farmworkers Legal Project and co-chaired the Law Public Services Program. Judge Taylor recently finished a 12-year term as a trustee of the Cate Preparatory School where he served as Vice President, and has taught as an adjunct professor at Loyola Marymount University since 2013.

DISTINGUISHED JURIST



The Hon. Teresa P. Magno
Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Teresa P. Magno was born and raised in the Philippines. She and her family immigrated to the United States in 1987 when she was sixteen years old. She graduated from UCLA in 1994 with a major in History and Asian American Studies. She attended UCLA School of Law and graduated in 1997.

After practicing with a civil law firm for a year and working as a research attorney for then Los Angeles Superior Court Judges Judith Ashmann-Gerst and David Horowitz, Judge Magno joined the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office in 1999, where she earned a reputation as a hardworking prosecutor dedicated to making communities safer, and seeking justice for victims of senseless gang violence. In the 15 years she was a deputy district attorney, she completed 94 jury trials.

From 2006 to 2013, she served in the elite Hardcore Gang Division where she prosecuted exclusively gang homicide cases. In the seven years she served as a gang prosecutor, she tried 41 gang murder cases and five gang attempted murder cases. In spite of the inherent challenges in prosecuting gang cases in which witnesses were required to risk their lives by appearing in court, she obtained guilty verdicts in all but two of these 46 jury trials. In 2013, she was assigned to the Organized Crime Division/Hate Crimes unit, where she prosecuted hate crimes and human trafficking cases.

In June 2014, she was elected to the L.A. Superior Court and became, not only the first Filipino American to be elected to the bench, but also the first Filipino American to successfully run in a Los Angeles county wide race. In endorsing her candidacy, the Metropolitan News indicated, "*... A canon of ethics requires that a judge be patient, dignified and courteous. For Magno, compliance would not be difficult... those qualities are part of her basic nature.*"

Judge Magno has a criminal law assignment and is currently assigned to the Compton Courthouse. As a superior court judge, she has served on several California Judges Association committees, including the Diversity & Inclusivity, Outreach, and the JET-PAC, and Los Angeles Superior Court committees, including Teen Court, Trial Jurors, and the committee of judges that selects ICDA attorneys who handle capital cases.

Judge Magno has been active in the California Asian Pacific American Bar Association (CAPAJA), serving as its president in 2019. Judge Magno is also one of the founding members of CAPAJA-PAC, a political action committee committed to assisting Asian and Pacific Islander judges who have served with distinction to defeat frivolous and sometimes xenophobic election challenges.

In 2019, she was appointed by Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye to the Court Interpreters Advisory Panel, a committee that assists the Judicial Council in performing its duties through promoting access to spoken-language interpreters and interpreters for deaf and hearing-impaired persons.

DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATE



Toni Jaramilla

In an Asian American Studies class at UCLA, Toni Jaramilla was assigned to interview an Asian immigrant. She chose her father. Her dad immigrated from the Philippines and served in the US Navy. Despite his veteran status, he faced blatant bigotry due to his national origin. He found work in Northern California as an agricultural worker. He and other Manongs experienced oppressive working conditions and low wages, which led to the Delano grape strikes and boycotts.

After settling in Los Angeles, he and Toni Jaramilla's mother worked hard to provide her with life-changing opportunities. As a result of their sacrifices, She is the first in her family to obtain a law degree. Toni Jaramilla's career as a workers' rights attorney is built on fighting discrimination and advocating for racial equality. Her determination and success are inspired, in no small part, from experiences passed down by her father.

Since 1994, Toni Jaramilla has represented hundreds of workers against discriminatory employers, achieving multiple millions of dollars in state and federal jury verdicts, settlements, and arbitration awards. Her cases are often followed by news media, such as her representation of five young women in the "take-down" of American Apparel and the ousting of its founder and CEO for sexual assault.

Her activism extends to litigating civil rights cases involving police brutality and shooting deaths, many of which have also been featured in the press. During the civil unrest following George Floyd's murder and global #BLM protests, she was invited to meet with LA Chief of Police Michel Moore and LA County Sheriff Alex Villanueva, to discuss the abuse of peaceful protestors. Along with other civil rights leaders, Toni Jaramilla advocated for greater transparency and accountability by law enforcement who abused their power.

As an advocate for women's rights and pay equity, during the #MeToo movement, she helped introduce and advance legislation directed toward strengthening protections against sexual harassment and gender discrimination. Shoulder to shoulder with her client—who had been sexually assaulted at work but missed her deadline to file her lawsuit—they testified at the State Capitol in support of Assembly Bill 9, a bill that extended the statute of limitations from one to three years for pursuing claims under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. This game-changing legislation benefits all California employees by giving them more time to file claims of discrimination and harassment. Governor Newsom signed the bill into law, effective January 1, 2020.

Toni Jaramilla is passionate about promoting diversity and inclusion, both in the practice of law and in leadership roles. In 1998, she proudly served as President of the Philippine American Bar Association, providing outreach and support to the Pilipino community. In 2004, she was selected Chair of the Labor & Employment Section of the California State Bar (the third largest), the first Pilipina to hold that position. In her first Board meeting, Toni Jaramilla proposed that they establish a diversity grant program and allocate \$75,000 to fund bar organizations, particularly multi-cultural bar organizations presenting educational programs on employment law. Almost two decades later, that grant program still exists today.

From 2011-2013, Toni Jaramilla served as Chair of the California Employment Lawyers Association (CELA), the largest statewide organization of workers' rights advocates in employment law. Under her leadership, she helped start diversity initiatives, including (1) creation of a standing Diversity Outreach Committee; (2) initiation of an annual diversity lunch with an inspirational keynote speaker; and (3) creation of scholarships and fellowships for diverse law students committed to practicing plaintiff-side employment law. She also co-founded the Foundation for Advocacy Inclusion and Resources (FAIR), the nonprofit sister foundation to CELA, which raises funds and awards fellowships to new lawyers with diverse backgrounds who seek to practice plaintiff-side employment law.

Currently, Toni Jaramilla is Vice Chair of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee of the California Lawyers Association. She helped draft and propose a speaker diversity policy, adopted by CLA, which ensures that racial and gender diversity is consistently reflected in speaker selection. They are now expanding that policy to include board and section appointments.

Recognition:

- Top 75 California Labor and Employment Lawyers, Los Angeles Daily Journal: 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017
- Southern California Super Lawyers, Los Angeles Magazine and Law & Politics, Employment Litigation: 2020 and yearly since 2005
- Best Lawyers in America, Los Angeles Times: 2020 and yearly since 2006
- Southern California Super Lawyers, Los Angeles Magazine and Law & Politics, Employment Litigation: 2018 and yearly since 2005
- Lawdragon Top 500 Employment Lawyers: 2020
- Women Leaders in the Law, Los Angeles Times, 2014
- Top Women Lawyers, Los Angeles Magazine, 2011-2013
- Women Making a Difference Award, Los Angeles Business Journal: 2013
- CELA's Joe Posner Attorney of the Year Award: 2010
- Southern California, "Rising Star", Los Angeles Magazine: 2004
- U.S. Congressional Resolution Honoree for Community Service Work: 2000
- Daily Journal, Front Page Profile "Bar President is Feisty Advocate": 10/26/98

TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Mia Frances Yamamoto (formerly Michael Francis Yamamoto) was born in Poston Relocation Camp, Arizona, in 1943. She graduated from Cal State University Los Angeles with a B.S. in Government in 1966. From 1966 to 1968, Mia served in the U.S. Army, 4th Infantry Division, USARV, and was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal.

In 1971, she received her J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, where she co-founded Asian Pacific Islander Law Student Association. Mia worked for the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles from 1971 to 1974. From 1974 to 1984, she worked as a Deputy L.A. County Public Defender and California State Public Defender and has worked in private practice since 1984.

Mia previously served as President of California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, a statewide organization of 2,500 private and public defenders; co-founder and Chair of the Multi-Cultural Bar Alliance, a coalition of minority, women's and LGBT bar associations of Los Angeles; President of the Japanese American Bar Association; and President of the Asian Pacific American Women Lawyers Alliance. She also served on the California Judicial Council State Task Forces on Jury Improvement and Access to Justice.

Mia was the co-founder of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Southern California and founding board member of International Bridges to Justice, a human rights group providing Due Process education and advocating against investigative torture for the judicial systems of China, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Africa, having previously served on the boards of the L.A. County Bar Association, Korean American Bar Association, and ACLU of Southern California. She is a Lifetime Member of Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, member of the National Lawyers Guild, and Lifetime Member of PABA.

Mia has contributed to a variety of classroom lectures, demonstrations, and panel discussions including the panel on "Race and Criminal Justice", George Washington University, for President Clinton's Initiative on Race in 1999; "Cultural Defenses, Pro and Con" and "Community Law Practice" for the ABA in 1999, Atlanta; "Miles to Go" ABA in 2000, New York City; "Cultural Defenses" and "Lawyers in the Media" for the 1999 NAPABA Convention Los Angeles; "Elimination of Bias" Consumer Attorneys of California, SF in 2008 and Los Angeles County Bar Association in 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2013. She is a frequent media commentator on issues relating to criminal law and a variety of related issues for: (print) LA Times, LA Daily Journal; (radio) KPFF, KPCC; (television) KCAL, Fox, NBC, KCET, MSNBC, CNN, Court TV and other cable and foreign media.

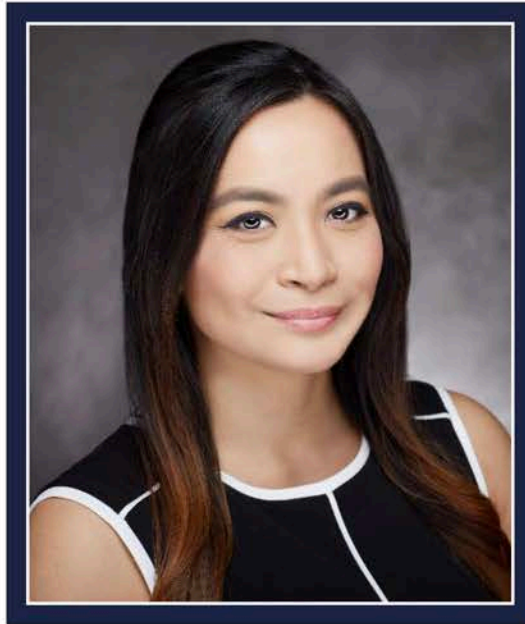
Her Past Honors include awards from the Criminal Courts Bar Association, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, and National Lawyers Guild. She was named "Criminal Defense Attorney of the Year" by the LA County Bar Association in 2002; named one of the "100 Most Influential Lawyers in California" by the California Daily Journal in 2002; "Criminal Defense Attorney of the Year" by the Century City Bar Association in 2006; and voted "Southern California Super Lawyer" by her peers, LA Magazine, each year from 2005 to 2019. She was awarded an ABA's "Spirit of Excellence" award in 2007 and NAPABA "Trailblazers" Award in 2008.

Mia is a recipient of the Rainbow Key Award from the City of West Hollywood, 2011; "Sisters Standing Up For Love" API-Equality 2012, The Harvey Milk Legacy Award, LA Pride and Christopher Street West 2012; and the Liberty Award LAMBDA Legal 2012. She served on the ABA's Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. She was one of three recipients of the inaugural Stonewall Award from the ABA on February 9, 2013. She received the Good Neighbor Award from Equality California on September 20, 2014. She was a featured speaker in Trafalgar Square for "Pride in London", June 27, 2015, as well as for the "Interlaw Diversity Panel", June 29, 2015, London, England.



Mia Frances Yamamoto

COMMUNITY CHAMPION



Jessica Caloza

Jessica Caloza is a Commissioner on the Board of Public Works, the governing and oversight body of more than 5,500 employees responsible for delivering critical services and infrastructure projects in the City of Los Angeles. She was appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti in February and confirmed by the City Council in March 2019. She is the first Filipina American to serve on the Board and is the lead Commissioner for the Bureau of Engineering.

Previously, Jessica served as Mayor Garcetti's Director of Scheduling since 2017, overseeing the Mayor's entire scheduling operation — including strategic planning, day-to-day logistics, and coordination with various Departments and agencies. She also served as Deputy Director of Scheduling, and came to the Mayor's Executive Office from the Office of Immigrant Affairs, where she helped lead the City's immigration policy, grant programs, and civic engagement initiatives focused on expanding access to resources for immigrant communities.

Prior to joining the Mayor's Office, Jessica served in the Obama Administration in the U.S. Department of Education — where she worked on higher education policy, Congressional and legislative affairs, student data and privacy, immigration policy, and gender equity issues. She has also been a campaign aide to several members of Congress, including former Rep. Xavier Becerra; former Rep. Mike Honda; and Rep. Albio Sires. In 2012, she was a community organizer for President Obama's reelection campaign and helped lead various field offices in Virginia.

Jessica is also passionate about giving back to the community and volunteers with various Asian American and Filipino American organizations. In 2014, she was selected as one of ten delegates for the Filipino Youth Leadership Program (FYLPro), an international leadership program led by the Ambassador of the Philippines. Most recently, she served on the boards of KAYA: Filipino Americans for Progress, FYLPro Executive Committee, and the Leadership Council of the Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE).

Jessica is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego and is a proud first-generation immigrant.

TO ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE



The Hon. Winston Keh

CAREER HISTORY

2017-Present	Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino <i>Supervising Judge at the Fontana Courthouse, Civil Calendar</i>
2015-2016	Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino <i>Commissioner</i>
2007-2015	Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles <i>Judge Pro Tem</i>
1999-2015	Private Practice Complex Civil Litigation

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & ASSOCIATIONS

2018-Present	California Asian-Pacific American Judges Association ("CAPAJA") <i>Fourth District Representative</i>
2018-Present	California Judicial Council – Center for Judicial Education & Research ("CJER") <i>Civil Law Curriculum Committee Member</i>
2018	B.E. Witkin Judicial College of California <i>Seminar Leader</i>
2017-Present	Asian Pacific American Lawyers of the Inland Empire ("APALIE") <i>Judicial Liaison</i>
2011-Present	Philippine American Bar Association – Los Angeles ("PABA")
2014-Present	<i>Advisory Board Member</i>
2013-2014	<i>President</i>
2011-2013	<i>Board of Director</i>
2012-2013	Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles County ("APABA") <i>Board of Director</i>

EDUCATION

J.D. *Cum Laude*, University of LaVerne, College of Law
B.S., University of West Los Angeles

2021 PABA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Marjan Kris Ramos Abubo – **The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000)**

Andrea Cadaing – **The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000)**

Gervi Cadimas – **The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000)**

Blaine Valencia – **The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000)**

Chelsea Viola – **The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000)**

Camille Serrano – **The Aimee Contreras-Camua PABA Foundation Scholarship
in Memory of Richard Lou Contreras (\$4,000)**

Kimberly Paggabao – **Vakili & Leus, LLP PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,500)**

Joseph Castro – **The Adrian & Sandy Roxas PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Romae-Anne Aquino – **The Jaramilla Social Justice PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Danielle Ocampo – **The Joe Sayas Law PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Stephanie Gimenez – **The Ben Hofileña PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Jolena Collas – **The Philip Nulud PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Jomari Lucero – **The G. Monty Manibog, Esq. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Kenneth On – **The Melissa Evidente Parisi PABA Foundation Scholarship
in Memory of Amihan A. Evidente (\$1,000)**

Mirelle Raza – **The Judith Sethna PABA Foundation Scholarship
in Memory of Virginia Cesario Sethna (\$1,000)**

Allen Sin – **The Millicent N. Sanchez PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Sierra Duplantis – **The Naoki & Evelyn (Aguilar) Shimazaki PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Rebekah Hoelscher – **The Ernie Ocampo PABA Foundation Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Eanna Marie Mejia – **PABA General Fund (\$500)**

Andrew Meily – **PABA General Fund (\$500)**

Anastasia Olano – **Past PABA Presidents' Scholarship Fund (\$500)**

THE JOSE Y. LAUCHENGCO, JR. MEMORIAL PABA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP



If you know the name Jose Lauchengco, it is perhaps for his groundbreaking Barong Tagalog lawsuit or for his work leading the first-time creation of a unified statewide Filipino political coalition that helped then-governor Jerry Brown get re-elected. He spent his life fighting for the underserved as a highly esteemed criminal defense lawyer, making an enormous impact on countless people's lives and doing so with the highest possible professional integrity. Beyond that, it was his lifelong mission to ensure future generations of Filipino Americans advanced professionally and could be represented politically. He was a tireless advocate.

Establishing the Jose Y. Lauchengco Jr. Memorial Scholarship is the perfect way to honor and continue his legacy by helping the next generation of smart, socially-minded Filipino American law students get through law school. Our father's devotion to fighting for progress for Filipino Americans was second only to his devotion to his family. So it is with great joy that we, his family and friends, announce this new ongoing scholarship in his memory. May its recipients carry on his legacy and continue to fight for the advancement of Filipino Americans and the underserved wherever they see the need.

-The Lauchengco Family: Mrs. Elisabeth Lauchengco, Birthe Lauchengco, Martina Lauchengco Jones & Christopher Jones, Duane & Pamela Lauchengco, and Lance Lauchengco & Susan Riggs

THE AIMEE CONTRERAS-CAMUA PABA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF RICHARD LOU CONTRERAS



Richard Lou Contreras

(March 6, 1967 – June 26, 1982)

This scholarship is awarded to a promising student who is interested in pursuing a legal degree, and has demonstrated a commitment to academic excellence and the advancement of the Filipino-American community. Aimee Contreras-Camua, a PABA Foundation Board Member and 2019 PABA Trailblazer Awardee, created this scholarship in honor of her brother, Richard Lou Contreras, who passed away from aplastic anemia at the age of 15 years old while he was a sophomore at Loyola High School.

Richard has been an inspiration to all who were blessed to have known and loved him, especially to his parents, Ricardo and Rebecca Contreras who adored him, and to his younger sister who looked up to him as her first friend and mentor. Richard will forever be remembered for his huge smile, dry humor, and happy personality, all of which never waned even while he bravely battled cancer. His terminal illness and sudden death took a financial and emotional toll on their family.

If not for the financial generosity and mentorship of family and strangers, Aimee would not have had been able to graduate from UCLA as both an undergraduate in 1995 and a law student in 1998. Her hope is that each recipient of this scholarship will similarly pay it forward, and in due time, serve as a mentor and provide financial assistance to future promising Filipino-American students.

P.A.B.A.

PHILIPPINE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Marjan Kris Ramos Abubo - The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship

Marjan Kris Abubo is a graduate of UCLA and is a 2L at UC Davis School of Law where he is concentrating in environmental and tax law. He was born in Quezon City and grew up in Los Angeles. He co-chairs the law school's Filipinx Law Students Association and is active in the Bay Area PALS Coalition, composed of other Filipinx law students in Northern California. Last summer, he worked at the Center for Biological Diversity and focused on impact litigation matters for environmental justice, and he hopes to continue this advocacy as an intern with the Natural Resources Defense Council. A product of a resilient immigrant community and upbringing, he hopes to leverage his interest in land use and energy law to advocate for sustainable and equitable development for low-income communities of color as an environmental attorney.



Andrea Cadaing - The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship

Andrea Lazo Cadaing is a recent UC Berkeley cum laude graduate. Andrea was born in the Philippines and moved to Carson, California at the age of seven. During her undergraduate career, she was involved with producing UC Berkeley's Filipino Journal. She also interned with JusticeCorps, where she assisted self-representing litigants and translated for Tagalog speakers. As an incoming Loyola Law School student, Andrea is interested in entertainment law but is open to learning about other ways to use her education to help others.



Gervilyn Cadimas - The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship

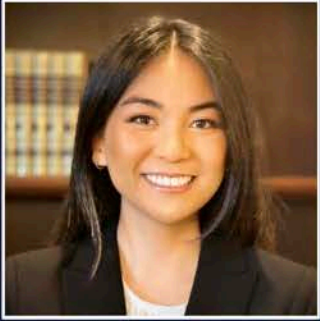
Gervi Cadimas is a graduate of California State University, Sacramento and is currently a first-year law student at the University of San Diego School of Law. Gervi was born and raised in Cebu City Philippines, and moved to the United States when she was thirteen years old. She is active in the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Immigration Law Society, First Generation Legal Professionals where she serves as a 1L representative, and Client Advocacy Team where she will serve as a Treasurer. Gervi will serve as a Diversity Fellow this summer and work at an employment and labor law firm. With her passion for public service and degrees in both business entrepreneurship and law, her life goal is to open a nonprofit organization devoted to helping immigrants with services including immigration legal counseling and guidance through the naturalization process.



Blaine Valencia - The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship

Blaine Valencia (he/him) is an aspiring litigator and 2L at UC Berkeley School of Law. Blaine earned his B.A. in Film and Media Studies and Political Science at UC Irvine and later worked in graduate student affairs. At Berkeley, Blaine serves as an Articles Editor for the California Law Review and leads the Pilipinx American Law Society and Coalition for Diversity. In 2020, Blaine was a summer associate at Perkins Coie San Francisco and Intel, and worked as a clinical student at Berkeley's Samuelson Law, Technology, and Public Policy Clinic. Blaine will be splitting his summer between Perkins Coie and Jenner and Block, Los Angeles.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Chelsea Viola - The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship

Chelsea Viola is a graduate of UCLA and an incoming 1L at Loyola Law School. She was chosen as one of the Public Interest Scholars for the 2021 entering class for her volunteer work with Fresh Lifelines for Youth, a Bay Area non-profit that empowers youth in the juvenile justice system. Chelsea was the Founder & President of the Pilipinx Pre-Law Pipeline (3P), currently the only pre-law organization for Asian American Students at UCLA. She has a strong interest in representing clients of underserved communities and hopes to work for a legal non-profit in the future.



Camille Serrano - The Aimee Contreras-Camua PABA Foundation Scholarship in Memory of Richard Lou Contreras

With the identity markers as a queer, gender fluid person of color, Camille Serrano is a strong believer in inclusion and equity. As a recent graduate from UCLA, Camille's background in gender studies coupled with their family's immigration experiences propel their intersectional perspective on social issues. During their undergraduate career, Camille completed a year long honors research project examining Pilipina motherhood and its impact on the performance of queerness of second-generation Pilipina subjects. Receiving UCLA's Research Excellence Award, this research assisted Camille in finding her deep interest in social justice and legal studies. Hoping to facilitate more productive conversation centered around difference, Camille is ecstatic to add momentum to APIA campaigns and initiatives across the country.



Kimberly Paggabao - Vakili & Leus LLP PABA Foundation Scholarship

Kimberly Paggabao graduated from Southwestern Law School. Currently, she is working at Dummit, Buchholz, & Trapp, where she uses her provisional license to defend medical malpractice and premises liability matters. She hopes to use her legal career to further create a positive reputation for the AAPI community.



Joseph Castro - The Adrian & Sandy Roxas PABA Foundation Scholarship

Born and raised in the Philippines, Joe Castro graduated from the Ateneo de Manila University and is currently a second-year law student at Pepperdine Caruso School of Law. He is the PABA student representative for Pepperdine Law and serves on the *Pepperdine Law Review*. He will be joining the Los Angeles office of Jackson Lewis P.C. this summer and will be clerking for a U.S. District Judge in Tennessee for the 2022-2023 term. Prior to law school, Joe served eight years as a United States Navy Hospital Corpsman.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



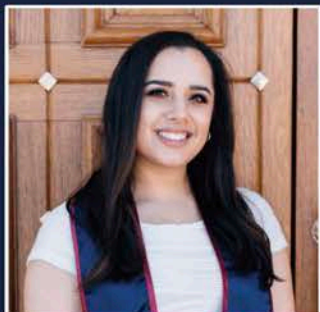
Romae-Anne Aquino - The Jaramilla Social Justice PABA Foundation Scholarship

Romae-Anne Aquino is a graduate of UC Davis and currently a second-year law student at Santa Clara University School of Law. She is a first-generation college graduate, law student, and Filipina-American immigrant. Romae is currently Community-Service Chair for the Filipino Law Society, Communications Chair for the International Law Students Association, Associate for the Journal of International Law, and recent Social Media Committee Member for Pinay Powerhouse IV. Last summer, she worked as a Cindy Avitia Fellow for the Katharine and George Alexander Community Law Center and People's Justice Fellow under Justice Catalyst's COVID-19 Rapid Response + Systems Summer Institute. Romae has a strong history and commitment to serving marginalized groups, she hopes to fiercely advocate for communities through a career in employment law.



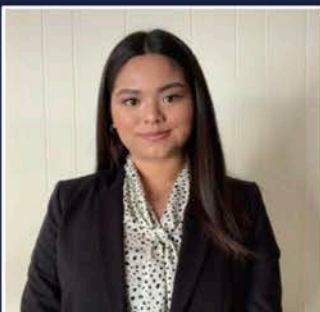
Danielle Ocampo - The Joe Sayas Law PABA Foundation Scholarship

Danielle Ocampo is currently a first year Juris Doctorate candidate at Loyola Law School. Prior to law school, she was a Business and Administrative Professional at The Climate Corporation and a Business Development Coordinator at the international law firm Paul Hastings LLP. Danielle graduated from UC Davis in 2016 with a B.A. in Political Science and International Relations and earned her M.P.A. from the University of Southern California in 2018. Originally from the Bay Area, Danielle has a strong interest in employment law and intellectual property and hopes to return to home to service Technology clients. She currently serves as the Program Director of the Empowering Pilipino Youth through Collaboration (EPYC) Ambassador Program, a youth leadership development initiative under the National Federation of Filipino-American Associations (NaFFAA) after previously mentoring Fil-Am youth as an EPYC Coach.



Stephanie Gimenez - The Ben Hofileña PABA Foundation Scholarship

Stephanie Gimenez is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University and is currently a first-year student at Loyola Law School. Stephanie was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She is an active member of Loyola's Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, and she serves as a mentor for the National Federation of Filipino Americans Associations' youth empowerment program. Stephanie has worked in the entertainment industry in various roles at BBC Studios, NBCUniversal, and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios. Stephanie is passionate about promoting diversity and inclusion in the entertainment industry, and she hopes to create future opportunities for the Filipino-American community.



Jolena Collas - The Philip Nulud PABA Foundation Scholarship

Jolena Collas is a first year J.D. candidate at Loyola Law School. She graduated cum laude from the University of California San Diego with a double major in sociology and ethnic studies. She is currently one of the 1L representatives for the Asian Pacific Islander Law Students Association at Loyola. She hopes to advocate for diverse entrepreneurs, creatives, and talent in the entertainment industry. She is also a former small business owner and both her past business ventures and current passions in law school are motivated by her dedication to the Filipino community. In her free time she hosts informal networking events for women of color at Loyola and does various types of consultation for local businesses. She also enjoys cooking, hiking, and singing at open mics such as Palms Up Academy.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Jomari Lucero - The G. Monty Manibog, Esq. Memorial PABA Foundation Scholarship

Jomari Lucero is a graduate of Lyceum of the Philippines University-Manila and is currently a second-year law student at Southwestern Law School. Jomari was born in Ilocos Norte, Philippines, and immigrated to Los Angeles after finishing his undergraduate studies. He is active in several law school organizations, including the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, where he served as a section representative. Jomari served as a law clerk at the Southwestern Immigration Law Clinic, where he conducted intake interviews with SJIS and U-Visa clients and drafted declarations and immigration forms. This summer, Jomari will extern with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.



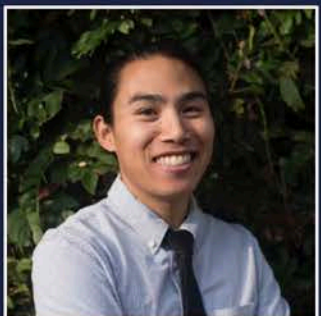
Kenneth On - The Melissa Evidente Parisi PABA Foundation Scholarship in Memory of Amihan A. Evidente

Kenny On is a 2L at USC Gould School of Law, where he currently serves as the External Vice President of the APALSA organization. He volunteers through the school's Street Law program through which he teaches at-risk youth about the law to hopefully get them interested in careers as attorneys. Kenny also regularly mentors younger students through various mentorship programs. Last summer, he worked as a law clerk in the Compton office of the Community Legal Aid of SoCal.



Mirelle Raza - The Judith Sethna PABA Foundation Scholarship in Memory of Virginia Cesario Sethna

Mirelle Raza is currently a third-year law student at USC Gould School of Law and is following her passion to fight human trafficking and sexual violence. Mirelle has held leadership roles in the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, the Public Interest Law Foundation, and the First-Generation Professionals student organization. As a student attorney for USC's International Human Rights Clinic, she worked on T-Visa applications for trafficked Filipina women and investigated the efficacy of sting operations. Post-graduation Mirelle will join the California Department of Justice as a Deputy Attorney General Honors candidate, focusing on complex white-collar fraud and human trafficking trial work.



Allen Sin - The Millicent N. Sanchez PABA Foundation Scholarship

Allen Sin was born and raised in Southern California and graduated from UC Irvine. He is currently a second-year law student at UC Hastings College of the Law and serves as the Vice President of the Hastings Pilipinx American Law Society. After working as a summer judicial intern in the chambers of the Hon. Therese M. Stewart in the California First District Court of Appeal, Allen developed an interest in public law and will be interning at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office this summer. Allen hopes to give back to the community as a deputy city attorney one day.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Sierra Duplantis - The Naoki & Evelyn (Aguilar) Shimazaki PABA Foundation Scholarship

Sierra Duplantis is a graduate of Clemson University and is currently a third-year law student at California Western School of Law. She grew up in South Carolina and moved to California to pursue a career in IP & Entertainment Law. She is active in several law school organizations, including the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, where she served as Philanthropy Chair. Sierra has externed at the San Diego City Attorney's Office and several contract litigation firms. Sierra has a strong interest in fashion and art and hopes to help protect artist's intellectual property so they may create in a worry-free environment.



Rebekah Hoelscher - The Ernie Ocampo PABA Foundation Scholarship

Rebekah Hoelscher is a graduate of UCI and is currently a third-year law student at Loyola Law School. She is active in several law school organizations, including the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association where she serves on the board as Alumni Chair. Rebekah was also the Treasurer of the National Asian Pacific American Law Student Association from 2020-2021, and has served as the APABA Student Representative for two years. Rebekah has participated in tenant self-help clinics and plans to continue working on housing rights issues in the future.



Eanna Marie Mejia - PABA General Fund

Eanna Marie Mejia is a graduate of University of California, Riverside and is an incoming first-year law student at USF. Eanna has worked as a law clerk at both family and criminal law firms. She has a strong interest in criminal law and hopes to give back to her community one day by working as a District Attorney.



Andrew Meily - PABA General Fund

Andrew Meily is a first-generation Filipino-American, born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and later moved to Los Angeles for his high school years. Andrew earned a bachelor's degree from UCLA with a major in Political Science and a minor in Film and Television studies. Upon graduating from UCLA, Andrew worked as the legal department's coordinator at Guess?, Inc., where he supported the department attorneys in fact gathering, research, and drafting. As a first year at Southwestern, Andrew is active in various student associations, including the Asian-Pacific American Law Student Association where he was selected as section representative. Andrew hopes to fuse his passions for the law and film and pursue a career as a film production attorney.



Anastasia Olano - Past PABA Presidents' Scholarship Fund

Anastasia is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara and is completing her third year at Loyola Law School. In the Summer of 2019, she served as a judicial extern at the Los Angeles Superior Court. She then worked as a law clerk at the Orange County Public Defender's Office in the Summer of 2020 through the Fall semester of 2020. Since 2019, Anastasia has participated in the Juvenile Innocence and Fair Sentencing Clinic at Loyola Law School. In her free time, she enjoys watching basketball and tending to her houseplants.

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for joining us for the 34th Annual Philippine American Bar Association Installation and Awards Gala!

Reflecting on the year that was, we must acknowledge that 2020 was a historic, unprecedented year that was challenging and, at times, painful for many. The COVID-19 pandemic changed everything. Public health and safety had to take priority, and the world went on lock-down. It was a year unlike any other.

Thinking back to January 2020, when the PABA Board was planning for the year to come, no one could have anticipated the year before us. Forced to grapple with the realities of a pandemic, we had to cancel annual events like the Gala and the Summer BBQ. But despite the challenges, PABA was resilient and found creative ways to push forward with and promote programming that focused on our priorities: to provide resources for our members, support our students, and serve our community. We also partnered with and supported our sister bar organizations and community allies to address critical social justice issues centered on race, equality, and voter rights.

In 2020, PABA offered CLEs on **Immigration Law in the Covid-19 Era** and **Ethical Duties and ESI**. We hosted networking and social events for our members, including our **Annual Kick-Off Social**, virtual happy hours, an **Adobo Night**, our **Annual Career Night & Networking Event**, and a holiday celebration.

Through the financial support of our generous donors, PABA proudly announced the establishment of four Named Scholarships:

- **The Jose Y. Lauchengco, Jr. Memorial PABA Scholarship** – 2020 Awardees: Joshua Alegado (Loyola Law School), Kimberly Morosi (Southwestern Law School), and Michael Tayag (Yale Law School);
- **The Joe Sayas Law Foundation PABA Scholarship** – 2020 Awardee: Eldrin Masangkay (UCI School of Law);
- **The Richard Lou Contreras Memorial PABA Scholarship** – 2020 Awardee: Dan Lorenz Cruz (Loyola Law School); and
- **The Ben Hofileña PABA Scholarship** – 2020 Awardee: Anastasia Olano (Loyola Law School).

To help address law students' and recent law graduates' financial hardships during the pandemic, PABA and the PABA Foundation established the **COVID-19 Emergency Scholarship Fund**. Through the generosity of our members and the community, PABA and the PABA Foundation were able to provide emergency funds to six law students and recent graduates: Darryn Albert (Loyola Law School), David Gonzalez (Loyola Law School), Karina Laigo (California Western School of Law), Gabrielle Mercurio (Notre Dame Law School), Kayla Wales (Chapman University School of Law), and Monica Zafra (McGeorge School of Law).

For our community, PABA presented a free six-part virtual webinar series to address pressing pandemic-related legal issues, including tenants' rights, debt-relief measures, estate planning, employment law, domestic violence and abuse, and immigration law. We helped promote participation in the 2020 Census. We encouraged civic engagement by participating in a voter protection program spearheaded by PABA Past-President Philip Nulud and Commissioner Jessica Caloza, the 2021 PABA Community Champion Awardee. We supported our board members' work to Stop Asian Hate. PABA also issued statements taking a stand with the Black community against systemic racism, injustice, and police brutality, encouraged our community to be anti-racist, and celebrated the Supreme Court's decision in *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*. PABA participated in an IALA event honoring Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye with a Lifetime Achievement Award from over 20 local bar organizations. PABA also supported the appointment of Assemblymember Rob Bonta as California's next Attorney General.

It has been my honor and a great privilege to serve as PABA President this past year alongside the 2020 PABA Officers and Board of Directors. I am proud of the work we have done in PABA and am grateful to the 2020 PABA Officers and Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication. I am so thankful for each and every one of you. #PABAis #Family

Thank you to Paul Kiesel, Jeffrey Koncius, and the rest of Kiesel Law LLP for supporting me and my work with PABA. Thanks also to the Hon. Helen Zukin for her mentorship and guidance. Last but not least, my deepest gratitude to my Dad and Mom, Tita Joy, Syd, Ernst, and my family and friends for their unyielding patience and encouragement. Nothing I do is possible without them, and I could never thank them enough for always believing in me.

Turning the page to 2021, I am excited about what PABA has already accomplished and what it has in store. Congratulations to 2021 PABA President Abigail Zelenski, President-Elect Adrian Roxas, Treasurer Josephine Brosas, Secretary Alex Manglinong, and Board of Directors! PABA is in exceptional hands.

Mabuhay!



Cherisse Heidi A. Cleofe
2021 PABA Immediate Past President/
Chair, PABA Board of Directors



Cherisse H. Cleofe
Immediate Past President
Philippine American Bar Association

2020-2021 ADVISORY BOARD & PABA PAST PRESIDENTS

ADVISORY BOARD

The members of the 2020-21 Advisory Board are past PABA presidents who continue to serve as mentors to PABA's current and future leadership. We are eternally grateful for their valuable guidance as we strive to carry on their legacy.

Hildegarde B. Aguinaldo
Eduardo A. Angeles
Maria C. Angeles
Rhonel T. Aquino
Angeli C. Aragon
John Ryan De La Merced
Corinne Deveza
Renato T. Domingo
Paul J. Estuar

Christine Gonong
Vincent M. Gonzales
Benjamin J. Hofileña, Jr.
Toni J. Jaramilla
Hon. Winston S. Keh
Hyacinth E. Leus
Philip L. Nulud
Francisco (Kiko) Ochoa
Corinne Deveza Orquiola

Arnold V. Pamplona
Zathrina Perez
Citadelle B. Priagula
Kenneth U. Reyes
Greg N. Santiago
Judith T. Sethna
Evelyn A. Shimazaki
Allison A. Silva
Rosario M. Tobias

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1990 – Evelyn A. Shimazaki
1991 – Maria Corazon Angeles
1992 – Maria Corazon Angeles
1993 – Vincent M. Gonzales
1994 – Millicent N. Sanchez
1995 – Emma B. Hilario
1996 – Hyacinth E. Leus
1997 – Paul J. Estuar
1998 – Toni J. Jaramilla
1999 – Rosario M. Tobias
2000 – Greg N. Santiago
2001 – Rhonel T. Aquino
2002 – Helen Diem Sunga
2003 – Darren A. Manibog

2004 – Allison A. Silva
2005 – Kenneth U. Reyes
2006 – Eduardo A. Angeles
2007 – Benjamin J. Hofileña, Jr.
2008 – Francisco (Kiko) Ochoa
2009 – Arnold V. Pamplona
2010 – Angeli C. Aragon
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2012 – Judith T. Sethna
2013 – Hon. Winston S. Keh
2014 – Hildegarde Aguinaldo
2015 – Christine J. Gonong
2016 – Citadelle Priagula
2017 – Philip Lim Nulud
2018 – Zathrina Zasell G. Perez
2019 – John Ryan De La Merced
2020 – Cherisse H. Cleofe

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ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

April 6, 2021

Philippine American Bar Association
3300 Sepulveda Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90505

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Philippine American Bar Association's 34th Annual Installation and Awards Gala.

While Asian American and Pacific Islander communities continue to face significant discrimination, PABA, its members, and tonight's honorees have shown strength and resilience. Your work is at the heart and soul of the diverse vitality that makes Los Angeles so special, and I thank you for your contributions to our community.

I would like to extend a special congratulations to this year's honorees, who continue to make groundbreaking achievements in law and public service: Jessica Caloza, T.H. Teresa P. Magno, Mia F. Yamamoto, and Toni Jaramilla.

I send best wishes for a memorable event and continued success.

Sincerely,

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor



NATIONAL ANTHEMS



Emeben Baysic Vales

Emy has performed in numerous productions of Miss Saigon, including playing the lead role of Kim (Broadway, and @ 5 th Avenue Theatre in Seattle, TUTS in Houston, in Maine, and @ Chicago/ Lincolnshire where she garnered a Joseph Jefferson Award nomination for Best Actress in a musical). Ali in Mamma-Mia! (U.S. Broadway National Tour). Marcy Park in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (MA). Aysha in Children of Eden (Papermill Playhouse, NJ, opposite Stephanie Mills). Tuptim in The King and I (Civic Light Opera in Fullerton, CA). Sister James in Doubt (South Carolina Repertory Company). She has also sung the National Anthem at MSG at a New York Knicks vs. Houston Rockets game. Emy is happily married to her loving husband (Noel Vales, also UCLA Alum) and is enjoying raising their two wonderful kids, Calista and Apolo. Emy is a proud alumnus of Whitney High School and UCLA.

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*THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION THANKS THE FOLLOWING
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RIA PASCUAL

SID KANAZAWA

THE HON. LEE TSAO

THE HON. LILLIAN Y. LIM

THE HON. RAFAEL ONGKEKO

WENDY MUSSELL

YAMAMOTO CALIBOSO

2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



Abigail Zelenski

President

ZELENSKI LAW, PC

Abigail Zelenski is the founding attorney at Zelenski Law, PC (www.zelenskilaw.com), a boutique employment-law firm. For the past eighteen years, Abigail has focused extensively on labor and employment matters, successfully representing businesses and individuals in wage-and-hour, discrimination, harassment, and wrongful-termination matters. She also provides management-side advice and counsel on workplace policies and procedures. Throughout her career, she has worked to settle over forty class actions and mass actions, recovering millions on behalf of employees and consumers in a wide range of industries. For nine years in a row, from 2013 to 2021, Abigail has been honored as a Super Lawyer Rising Star and Super Lawyer. Abigail currently sits as a Commissioner on the inaugural Los Angeles Civil and Human Rights Commission. The Commission manages and advises on anti-discrimination efforts, provides remedies for such discrimination, promulgates policies and regulations, and makes recommendations to the Mayor and City Council.

Abigail earned her J.D. at the UCLA School of Law and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Southern California, magna cum laude. Abigail served on the Board of the Filipino American Library and Filipino American Heritage Institute for seven years, including two as Vice President. Abigail also served on the Board of the non-profit community service group Search to Involve Pilipino Americans in Historic Filipinotown.



Adrian Gidaya Roxas

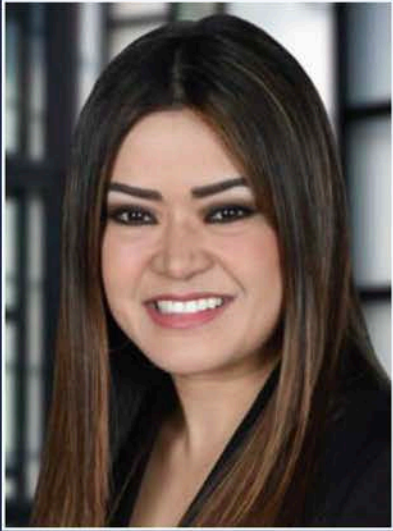
President-Elect

ROXAS LAW, APC

Adrian Gidaya Roxas is a Partner at Roxas Law, APC, a boutique law firm in Torrance, California. Adrian is the firm's lead Trial Attorney, handling all aspects of family-law related matters. Adrian has zealously litigated high-conflict family law disputes, mediated cases, and obtained or defended restraining orders. Prior to Roxas Law, APC, Adrian was a Prosecutor with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office from 2007-2020, where he conducted jury trials to verdict and was member of the Sex Crimes Division and the Victim Impact Program. Adrian has successfully tried cases involving sexual assault, child molestation, child abuse, domestic violence, murders, and special circumstance murders. He has lectured on trial techniques and criminal investigations for the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, the California District Attorneys Association, and the California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center.

Adrian was born and raised in Carson, California. He earned his B.A. in English, Summa Cum Laude, from Cal Poly Pomona and his J.D., with Honors, from Southwestern Law School.

2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



Josephine Ann Brosas

Treasurer

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

Josephine Ann Brosas is a Partner at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP. She is a registered patent attorney and focuses her practice in the areas of intellectual property and technology matters, and in establishing, protecting, and defending intellectual property rights. She represents clients in a range of industries including food, nutritional supplements, apparel, medical devices and pharmaceuticals. She earned her B.S. in Biochemistry from UCLA, magna cum laude, and her J.D. from Southwestern Law School, magna cum laude. She is fluent in Tagalog.

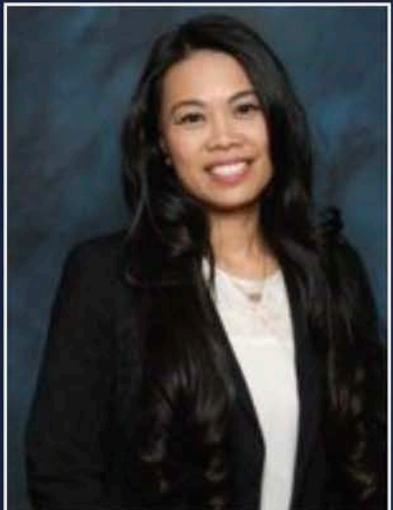


Alexander Manglinong

Secretary

SANDERS ROBERTS LLP

Alexander Manglinong is an associate at Sanders Roberts LLP, where he practices business litigation. Alex earned his J.D. from the USC Gould School of Law and his B.A., summa cum laude, from UCLA. In law school, he was a senior copy editor for the Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal.



Cherisse H. Cleofe

Chair of the Board

KIESEL LAW LLP

Cherisse H. Cleofe is an associate at Kiesel Law LLP. Her practice focuses on mass tort litigation against pharmaceutical companies and medical device manufacturers, consumer class actions, catastrophic personal injury, and other complex litigation in federal and state courts. She received a B.S. in Management Science from the University of California, San Diego and earned her J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law.

In addition to PABA, Cherisse is on the LACBA Litigation Section Executive Committee, serving as Co-Chair of the Legislation Committee. She is also on the USF School of Law Board of Governors and the APABA Public Appointments & Judicial Endorsements Committee. Cherisse is a member of CAALA, AAJ, FBA, ABTL, NFALA, and NAPABA.

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Maridex E. Abraham

REEVES IMMIGRATION LAW GROUP

Maridex E. Abraham is an associate attorney at Reeves Immigration Law Group in the firm's Pasadena office. In 2015, Maridex moved from the Midwest to California to live out her passion to serve immigrant communities. Maridex has made numerous appearances before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service based on matters such as asylum, adjustment of status, removal of conditions, and naturalization. She also represents clients in bond and removal proceedings before the Executive Office for Immigration Review. Maridex has secured waivers of inadmissibility for unlawful presence, misrepresentation and criminal grounds, as well as relief for victims of crimes and abused spouses. Maridex also handles employment-based immigration matters involving intracompany transferees, immigrant investors and individuals of extraordinary ability.

Maridex attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Arts and certificate in Asian American Studies. She earned her JD from the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, Minnesota. During law school, Maridex served as the 2L Class Representative and Secretary of UST School of Law Student Government and was an active member of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association.



Marlon B. Baldomero

LAW OFFICES OF MARLON B. BALDOMERO

Marlon B. Baldomero obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines College of Law and his undergraduate Bachelor's degree from the Ateneo de Manila University. Upon migrating to the United States, he took up and earned a Master of Laws degree from Whittier Law School with a focus on the U.S. legal system for foreign-trained lawyers.

Because of his background, Mr. Baldomero is very sensitive to the needs of southern California's immigrant communities, particularly in the area of Immigration law. He has helped countless of immigrants obtain legal permanent resident status and US citizenship. He has appeared before Immigration judges in behalf of clients in removal proceedings and has successfully argued to terminate their deportation cases. He currently practices as a solo attorney with offices in Glendale and Torrance, California.

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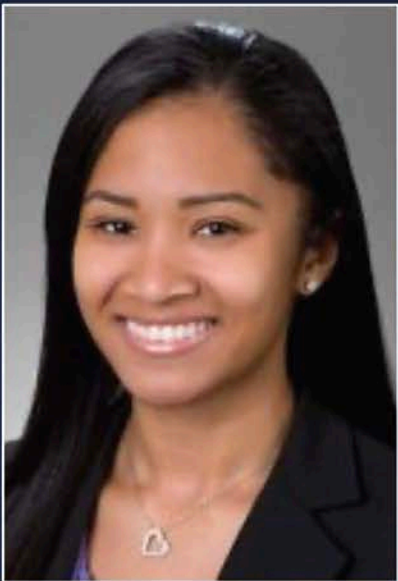


Tristan S. Bufete

SACKS, GLAZIER, FRANKLIN & LODISE LLP

Tristan Bufete is an associate with Sacks, Glazier, Franklin & Lodise LLP. Tristan focuses his practice exclusively on probate litigation, with an emphasis on trusts and estates. Prior to joining Sacks Glazier, Tristan was an associate at the Los Angeles office of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, where he handled a variety of commercial litigation matters.

Tristan received his J.D. from UCLA School of Law. He earned his B.A. in Economics and Political Science, summa cum laude, from California State University, Fresno. While in law school, Tristan participated in the UCLA Supreme Court Clinic and served as associate editor of the UCLA Law Review. Prior to law school, Tristan worked as a paralegal at Public Counsel Law Center, the nation's largest pro bono law firm.



Mercedes Cook

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

Mercedes Cook graduated from the University of Southern California with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Forensics and Criminality. She attended UCLA Law School and graduated in 2012. Upon graduation, she worked as an associate at Sheppard Mullin Richter and Hampton, LLP in their Business Trial Practice Group, representing large businesses in commercial litigation.

After 5 1/2 years of civil litigation, she switched practice areas. She is currently a Deputy Public Defender at the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office. She is on the Board of the Black Public Defenders Association and is a Board Member and Lifetime Member of the Philippine American Bar Association.

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Jonathan Cruz

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

Jonathan is a trial attorney for the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office where he represents indigent defendants in matters that range from public intoxication to homicide.

He received his B.A. in Sociology with a minor in Music from the University of California, Santa Barbara and J.D. from Loyola Law School.



Edward P. Dailo

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

Edward P. Dailo is an associate attorney at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, and is a member of the firm's Medical Malpractice and Elder Law Practice Group. Previously, he worked as an in-house staff counsel for a major insurance company. Mr. Dailo earned his B.A. in International Relations from the University of Southern California and his J.D. from the University of La Verne-College of Law.

Previously, Mr. Dailo served as president of the USC Alumni Club of the Inland Empire and a member of the University of La Verne College of Law Alumni Advisory Board. Mr. Dailo has also co-authored an article entitled "Filipinos on the Bench—Challenges and Solutions for Today and Tomorrow's Generations" published by The Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession in 2017. He enjoys basketball, soccer, dancing, hiking, traveling, and Broadway musicals.

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Jason Don A. de Jesus

PARKER, MILLIKEN, CLARK, O'HARA & SAMUELIAN, A PROF. CORP.

Jason Don A. de Jesus is a litigation associate at Parker, Milliken, Clark, O'Hara & Samuelian, a Prof. Corp and is a member of the firm's Labor and Employment group. Prior to joining Parker Milliken, he worked as an in-house staff counsel for a major insurance company.

Jason earned his B.S. in Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics from UCLA and his J.D. from Loyola Law School. During law school, he served as a judicial extern at the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California to the Honorable S. James Otero. Jason also served as a Developments Editor for the Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review and worked for the Disability Rights Legal Center and Central Health Plan of California. Prior to law school, Jason worked as a histotechnologist and research associate at UCLA Neuropathology, where he co-authored several peer-reviewed journal publications examining the fields of neuro-oncology and Alzheimer's disease.



John Ryan De La Merced

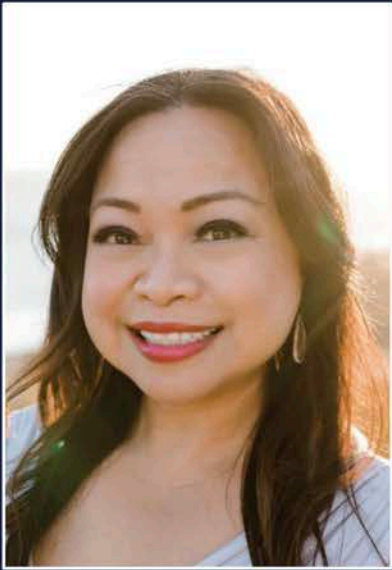
STUBBS ALDERTON & MARKILES LLP

John Ryan De La Merced is an attorney at Stubbs Alderton & Markiles, LLP, and is a member of the firm's Business Litigation group. John has represented clients in a variety of contentious matters, including breach of contract claims, fraud claims, breach of fiduciary duty claims, intellectual property disputes, partnership disputes, real estate disputes, judicial dissolution, and other complex commercial disputes in federal and state court, and in arbitration proceedings before JAMS and the American Arbitration Association.

John earned his J.D. from UCLA School of Law and his B.A., cum laude, from UC Riverside. An active member of the community, John is a member of the Board of Directors of the Philippine American Bar Association after having served as its President in 2019. John also serves as Vice President of the UCLA Law Alumni Association Board of Directors, and is a member of the Board of Governors for the National Filipino American Lawyers Association. Previously, John served as a member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles County Board of Governors. John also mentors current and future law students, as well as junior attorneys in the Southern California area.

Outside of the law, John enjoys spending time with his wife, Nancy, and their dog, Rupert, cooking, exploring restaurants, and cheering on their UCLA Bruins and Los Angeles Rams.

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Jessica Gillette

L.A. CARE HEALTH PLAN

Jessica Gillette is in-house counsel for L.A. Care, which is the nation's largest publicly operated health plan. She provides advice on a wide range of subject matters including employment, public law, tax and licensing, and other legal matters for the organization and internal clients. Jessica manages and oversees investigations, pre-litigation matters, administrative proceedings and lawsuits.

Jessica was born and raised in the Philippines. She received her B.A. from the University of California, Davis, where she double majored in Sociology (Law & Society) and Rhetoric & Communication. She earned her J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law and was a Public Interest Law Scholar. She has been recognized as California's 2010, 2011 and 2012 "Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers* magazine.



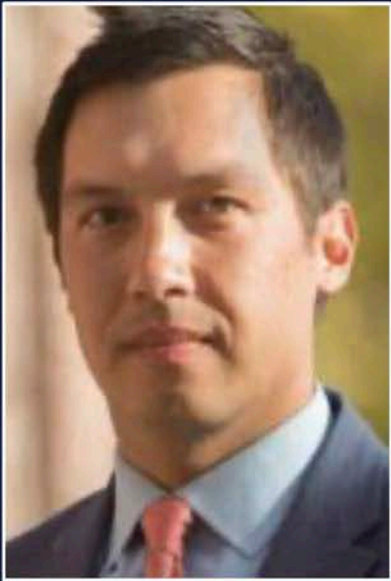
Benjamin J. Hofileña, Jr.

NETFLIX

Ben Hofileña is a Business and Legal Affairs executive at Netflix where he works in its Original Independent Film division. Prior to joining Netflix, Ben was at Twentieth Century Fox where he worked as a production attorney in feature films. For twelve years prior to joining Fox, Ben worked at the global law firms of McDermott, Will & Emery LLP and Orrick, Herrington, & Sutcliffe LLP where his practice focused on intellectual property matters. Ben served as President of the Philippine American Bar Association in 2007-2008 and is the Immediate Past President of the PABA Foundation.

Throughout his career, Ben has been committed to his pro bono work on behalf of children and domestic violence victims primarily working with Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), The Alliance for Children's Rights, and Public Counsel. Ben earned his B.S. in Physiological Science at UCLA and his J.D. from Loyola Law School. While in law school, Ben won the national championship for the Giles Sutherland Rich IP Moot Court Competition sponsored by the AIPLA and was a judicial extern to the Honorable Stephen R. Reinhardt of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Ben loves all things UCLA, underwater photography and is a PADI Scuba Diving Instructor.

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Justin Hoyt

JAMS

Justin Hoyt is an arbitrator, mediator, and discovery referee specializing in the resolution of commercial, entertainment, employment, and personal injury disputes. He also serves as a research attorney at JAMS where he assists neutrals in the resolution of similar types of cases. Justin is also an adjunct professor at the USC Gould School of Law where he teaches Arbitration in the United States and ADR Clause Drafting.

Justin earned his B.A. in Philosophy from San Diego State University; J.D. from Brooklyn Law School; and LL.M. in Alternative Dispute Resolution from USC Gould School of Law.

Earlier in his career, Justin clerked for multiple federal and state judges in California and New York, and was a litigation associate at a few New York City-based law firms. Outside of the law, Justin is a classically trained musician, avid golfer, and aspiring surfer.



Diana Martinez

POLSINELLI LLP

Diana Martinez is a third year associate at Polsinelli LLP where she litigates and counsels clients on employment matters. She earned her B.A., summa cum laude, from McMaster University in Psychology, Neuroscience & Behavior with a specialization in Music Cognition.

Diana received her J.D. from Loyola Law School. During law school, she served as an editor on the Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review, and her note on data privacy and augmented reality was published. She has been a PABA member since her second year of law school.

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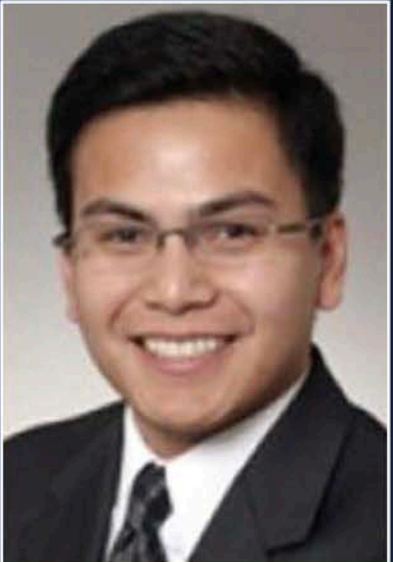


Philip L. Nulud

BUCHALTER

Phil is an intellectual property attorney at Buchalter. His practice focuses on counseling clients in all aspects of intellectual property—in developing, protecting, enforcing, and licensing their valuable brands and ideas. Phil regularly services the fashion industry. He engages in negotiating and drafting license agreements as well as influencer agreements and endorsement deals for many brands, fashion houses, celebrities, retailers, artists, and consumer product companies.

He earned his J.D. at Loyola Law School and his B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Southern California. While in law school, Phil clerked for the Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines. Phil also serves as a Director of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), President of the Loyola Law School Alumni Association, and a founding board member on the California Asian Pacific American Bar Association.



Ernie A. Ocampo

REED SMITH LLP

Ernie A. Ocampo is a Partner in the Entertainment & Media Industry Group of Reed Smith LLP. Ernie advises entertainment clients in connection with investments, joint ventures and business launches, and advises real estate clients on acquisitions and development of renewable energy facilities and commercial properties.

Ernie serves on the Board of Directors of the USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association and Filipinos in Institutional Real Estate. He also serves as pro bono counsel for Search to Involve Pilipino Americans. Each fall, Ernie co-hosts a welcome reception for first-year USC students from the Philippines.

Ernie earned his J.D. from Cal and his B.S. in Public Policy, with a minor in Business, from USC.

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Elywill M. Zamora Paja

WEBTOON ENTERTAINMENT INC.

Elywill M. Zamora Paja is Associate General Counsel at WEBTOON, the world's largest digital comics platform. She leads the business and legal affairs and legal operations teams of WEBTOON US and Latin America. Her areas of responsibility include content licensing and acquisitions, creative and commercial transactions, compliance and risk related to production, advertising, marketing, trust & safety, e-commerce, and product/platform, as well as legal tech and operations. She supports the General Counsel and NAVER on various matters, including corporate and global affairs, litigation, and M&A deals and due diligence.

Elywill earned her LL.M. from USC Gould with certifications in Entertainment Law, Business Law, and Transnational Law. She graduated with the Silver Medal of Excellence and Salutatorian of her JD, MBA class at the FEU-DLSU Consortium. She received her BA in Asian American Studies at UC Davis, where she developed holistic retention programs for underrepresented communities. She currently serves on the Board of Governors of the USC Gould Alumni Association (Los Angeles Committee).

She is admitted to practice law in California and the Philippines.



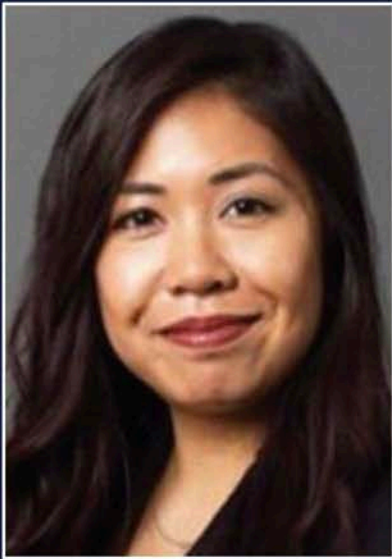
Pam Palpallatoc

JACKSON LEWIS

Pam Palpallatoc serves as an Associate Attorney at Jackson Lewis, where she represents employers in workplace law matters, including defending businesses through all phases of multi-party and single-plaintiff actions, preventative advice and counseling, and anti-bias, anti-racism training for workplaces. She has worked in-house and for general counsels, including the Office of the General Counsel for the University of California Office of the President. In addition to employment and civil litigation, she has advised on privacy, cybersecurity, automation, professional liability, commercial transactions, charitable trusts, corporate social responsibility, and community - police relations.

She served as the Filipino Bar Association of Northern California's in-house counsel committee co-chair, and completed the inaugural mid-career fellowship for the California Asian Pacific American Bar Association Leadership Education for Attorney Development program. She has obtained mindfulness, spaceholder, and instructor certifications including Yoga Alliance Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT) 200, Office Yoga(TM), and Mental Health First Aid (Catholic Charities). She completed a judicial clerkship for the California Superior Court for the County of Alameda and a judicial externship for the U.S. District Court Northern District of California. Her leadership earned the University of San Francisco School of Law the Henry J. Ramsey Jr. Diversity Award. At the University of California Davis, she served a preeminent appointment with now Chancellor Emeritus Larry N. Vanderhoef, one of her earliest professional experiences contributing to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEI) initiatives. She credits her foundation for nearly two decades of professional contributions to DEI, to mentorship by the UC Davis Departments of African American & African Studies and Asian American Studies, the UC Davis Cross Cultural and LGBTQIA Resource Centers, and The Greenlining Institute.

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Ria Pascual

GOODWIN PROCTER LLP

Ria Pascual is a corporate associate in Goodwin Procter LLP's Technology and Life Sciences group. Her representation of companies and investors spans the entire corporate life-cycle, including pre-incorporation planning, general corporate representation and counseling, venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, corporate governance and public company representation.

Ria received her B.A. in 2012 from the University of California, San Diego, where she double majored in Political Science and Communication. She received her J.D. in 2016 from UCLA School of Law. During law school, Ria served as a judicial extern at the California Supreme Court to Associate Justice Goodwin Liu.



Zathrina Zasell G. Perez

GIBSON DUNN

Zathrina Perez is a senior associate at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. Ms. Perez has extensive trial experience. She has served as lead trial associate on multiple trial teams, including in lengthy jury and bench trials. She has argued complex motions, conducted cross and direct examinations of many witnesses, prepared and presented testimony from experts, and taken and defended depositions. Ms. Perez also has extensive arbitration experience. She has represented clients in connection with seven arbitrations and arbitration-related litigation. She has litigated all stages of arbitration proceedings, from demands for arbitration through arbitral hearings to arbitral awards and judicial review of arbitral awards. In addition, she has conducted investigations as outside counsel for corporations.

Ms. Perez has represented one of the world's most valuable apparel brands, a major travel retailer of luxury products, a technology start-up engaged in data services, a global financial institution, American sports icons and athletes, and major corporate sponsors of sporting events. She has developed significant skills as a litigation generalist with specific experience in investigations, government and governing body disputes, consumer and enterprise sales and marketing, data licensing and privacy, sports entertainment, and employment disputes.

Ms. Perez received her Juris Doctor degree magna cum laude in 2009 from Georgetown University Law Center, where she was elected to the Order of the Coif. While at Georgetown, she interned for the Honorable Judge Paul L. Friedman of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Ms. Perez graduated magna cum laude from the University of California, Los Angeles, with a major in International Economics and a minor in Political Science.

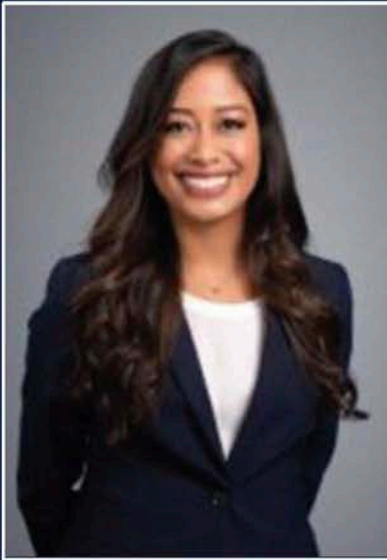
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Alexander P. Sario

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

Alexander P. Sario is a senior felony trial attorney for the Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender's Office. He handles serious and violent felonies including homicides. He previously practiced public criminal defense in Riverside County and business litigation in downtown Los Angeles. He received his B.A. in Ethnic Studies from the University of California, San Diego, and his J.D. from Loyola Law School.



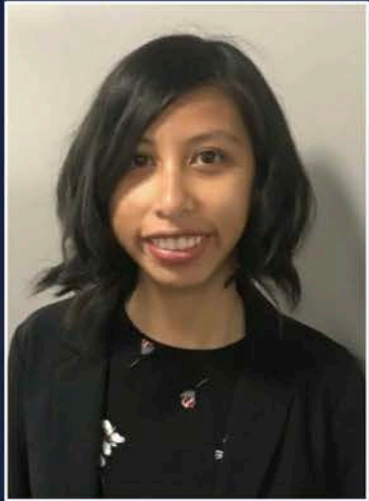
Stacey A. Villagomez

ALLEN MATKINS

Stacey A. Villagomez is a litigation associate in Allen Matkins' Los Angeles office. She practices in all aspects of general business and real estate litigation in both state and federal courts.

Stacey received her bachelor's degree in English, with a minor in Asian American Studies from UCLA. She received her J.D. from USC Gould School of Law where she served as Topic Editor for the Hale Moot Court Honors Program and Secretary for the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. While in law school, Stacey also obtained a Certificate in Alternative Dispute Resolution. Prior to entering law school, Stacey worked as a paralegal for five years at an Orange County law firm. She also clerked for boutique litigation and appellate firms in Los Angeles while completing her law degree. Stacey is currently Co-Chair of the General Real Property Subsection of LACBA and is an active member of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles.

2021 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND RECENT GRADUATES



Marguerite "Ashley" Bangunan

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW

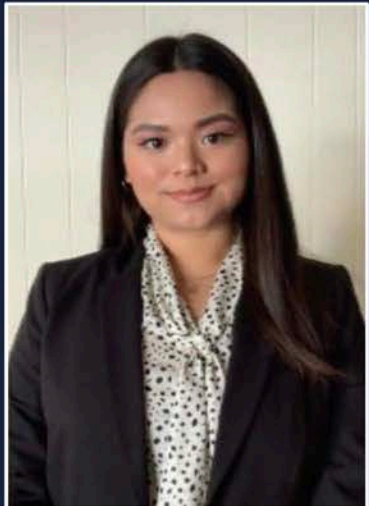
Ashley Bangunan is a third year law student at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. She graduated from UC Irvine in 2014 with a B.A. in English. During her law school career, she was a Saks Scholar and served as the Fundraising Chair for USC Gould OUTLaw. She also completed the Veterans Legal Practicum and is currently involved with the Children's Legal Issues Practicum where she interns with Public Counsel's Children's Rights Project. Ashley is dedicated to public interest work and wishes to pursue a career in homelessness advocacy.



Joseph Castro

PEPPERDINE LAW SCHOOL

Born and raised in the Philippines, Joe Castro graduated from the Ateneo de Manila University and is currently a second-year law student at Pepperdine Caruso School of Law. He is the PABA student representative for Pepperdine Law and serves on the *Pepperdine Law Review*. He will be joining the Los Angeles office of Jackson Lewis P.C. this summer and will be clerking for a U.S. District Judge for the 2022–2023 term. Prior to law school, Joe served for eight years as a U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman.



Jolena Collas

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL

Jolena Collás is a first-year J.D. candidate at Loyola Law School. She graduated cum laude from the University of California San Diego, where she double majored in Ethnic Studies and Sociology. Having started her small business post-grad, Jolena is interested in making intellectual property rights more accessible to Filipino entrepreneurs, creatives, and artists. She is particularly invested in the debate around IP law's shortcomings in effectively preventing the misuse and appropriation of cultural expression. Currently, she is the 1L representative for the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association at Loyola and a member of the Women in Entertainment Law Society. In her free time, she organizes informal networking events for women of color at Loyola and various consultation types for local businesses. She also enjoys cooking, hiking, and singing at open mics such as Palms Up Academy.

2021 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND RECENT GRADUATES



Gerardo Valentino Gorospe IV
UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Gerardo Valentino Gorospe IV is a first year J.D. candidate at the UCLA School of Law. He graduated cum laude from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2019 with a major in Political Science and a minor in Psychology. He is currently a 1L Rep for the Asian/Pacific Islander Law Students Association at UCLA. He is also a Staff Editor for the UCLA Asian/Pacific American Law Journal. This summer he will extern for the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the US Air Force. Prior to attending law school, he worked for McReynolds | Varandyan LLP, a private litigation firm in Glendale. His hobbies include being overconfident in his karaoke abilities, dancing, and card magic. He is also passionate about cooking, and hopes to one day open his own restaurant.



Karen Maala
SOUTHWESTERN SCHOOL OF LAW

Karen Maala is completing her final year at Southwestern Law School, where she is pursuing her Juris Doctor with a concentration in Entertainment and Media Law. She is the out-going Co-President of APALSA, out-going Day Vice President of the Student Bar Association, and a Student Representation for the Philippine American Bar Association. After interning with WEBTOON Entertainment Inc. for Fall 2021, she accepted a role as a Contract Specialist. Karen loves to read WEBTOON's stories, watch movies, and talk to her many plants.



Anastasia Olano
LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL

Anastasia is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara and is completing her third year at Loyola Law School. In the Summer of 2019, she served as a judicial extern at the Los Angeles Superior Court. She then worked as a law clerk at the Orange County Public Defender's Office in the Summer of 2020 through the Fall semester of 2020. Since 2019, Anastasia has participated in the Juvenile Innocence and Fair Sentencing Clinic at Loyola Law School.

2021 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND RECENT GRADUATES



Kimberly Paggabao

SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL

Kimberly Paggabao graduated from Southwestern Law School. Currently, she is working at Dummit, Buchholz, & Trapp, where she uses her provisional license to defend medical malpractice and premises liability matters. She hopes to use her legal career to further create a positive reputation for the AAPI community. She earned her bachelor's degree in Business Associations with an option in Business Law at California State University Northridge.



Brendan Pratt

UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Brendan Pratt is a third year J.D. candidate at the UCLA School of Law. He graduated *magna cum laude* from New York University in 2011 with a major in English & American Literature and a minor in History. Last year, as Co-Chair for the Asian/Pacific Islander Law Students Association, he was presented with UCLA Law's 2020 Student Organization of the Year Award. He was an Articles Editor for the UCLA Law Review and is a current Production Editor for the UCLA Criminal Justice Law Review. His article, *Cages and Compensatory Damages: Suing the Federal Government for Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress*, will be published this year in the UCLA Law Review. During his 1L summer, he served as a judicial extern for Judge Kim McLane Wardlaw on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Last summer, he worked as a certified law clerk for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. In his free time he likes to cook, golf, and write poetry.

THE PABA FOUNDATION

The PABA Foundation was organized to encourage, support, and foster the education and careers of Filipino-Americans in the legal profession and to promote and sponsor legal scholarship and public interest activities that will directly benefit the Filipino-American community in Southern California. The Foundation seeks contribution from individuals, organizations, and agencies in the public and private sectors to generate sufficient resources to:

- *Provide financial assistance to qualified law students who have demonstrated academic excellence in their legal studies and a commitment to social leadership.*
- *Establish and operate academic and clinical fellowships in various Southern California law schools, government agencies, and charitable organizations for legal professionals and law students pursuing careers in academia or public interest and providing community service to the Filipino-American Community.*
- *Develop and subsidize educational programs, resources, and events that promote legal awareness among the Filipino-American community such as (a) legal resource clinics to town hall meetings on relevant legal developments which directly impact the Filipino-American community, including, but not limited to, family law, immigration, business ventures, estates and trusts, criminal matters, taxes, and real estate; (b) pamphlets which summarize legal rights and resources (in various dialects); (c) television, radio, internet "roadshows," and segments; and (d) local legal resource centers and libraries.*
- *Develop and provide programs or other assistance to Filipino-American lawyers and judges to assist them in the advancement of their legal careers.*

The PABA Foundation is a tax-exempt public charity organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Proceeds generated from Foundation fundraising activities will be used to provide scholarships and grants to eligible individuals in Southern California and to further the Foundation's mission. Please contact any of the Foundation's officers if you would like to assist the Foundation in accomplishing its goals.

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