



## **MENTOR PROGRAM**



# MENTORS AND OUR MISSION

The mission of the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys (NCVAA) is to promote the education and the professional development of Vietnamese Americans in the legal community, to support research and education on legal issues of significance to the Vietnamese American community, and to provide a national network for Vietnamese American attorneys to exchange ideas relating to the legal profession.

The NCVAA Mentor Program is dedicated to enhancing the skills and careers of Vietnamese American attorneys and law students. The Mentor Program does this by pairing mentor and mentee members in each region of the U.S.

## THE MENTOR PROGRAM

### I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### A. The NCVAA Mentor Program

- Matches mentors from a variety of legal fields with mentees
- Law students and young attorneys who are NCVAA members will have an opportunity to join the Mentor Program
- Provide committed, encouraging, motivating, and supportive mentors
- Is a program geared toward the professional and social advancement of Vietnamese American attorneys and law students

#### B. Goals and Objectives of the Program

- Promote NCVAA mission
- Serve as a professional resource for young attorneys navigating the demanding legal practice and students navigating the law school experience [not intended to be a career placement resource for mentees]

#### C. General Obligations

- One-year commitment to the program (minimum)
- Fulfillment of your mentee or mentor responsibilities, including agreed upon contact with your mentor/mentee (minimum)
- Participation in NCVAA mentor/mentee programming

## **ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE MENTEE**

### **A. Mentee Roles**

The NCVAA Mentoring Program has three main goals for the mentee: (1) supporting the mentee; (2) providing mentors as a professional resource; and (3) helping a mentee achieve his/her goals. Mentees are expected to work with their mentors by taking an active role. The quality of the experience a mentee has with his or her mentor and the program in general will depend partially upon the mentee's efforts. Below are some general roles that a mentee should expect to play.

#### **1. Team Player**

- Identify and share your needs and concerns with your mentor
- Be receptive to feedback

#### **2. Planner**

- Set realistic goals with your mentor
- Contribute ideas to solving problems, not just ask for answers

#### **3. Communicator**

- Don't be afraid to ask questions
- Communicate clearly and effectively; listen and be respectful

### **B. Mentee Responsibilities**

#### **1. Respect**

- Respect your mentor's time and confidentiality as if it were your own
- Respond to your mentor's e-mails or calls in a timely fashion. Keep scheduled appointments with your mentor. Do not share a mentor's personal feelings or ideas with a third party unless authorized by your mentor.

#### **2. Communication**

- Be clear about your needs and limits
- Discuss preferred method of communication, the best days to be reached, and time constraints

#### **3. Professionalism**

- A professional relationship should be maintained at all times

#### **4. Evaluation**

- Continually evaluate how well you are meeting your goals
- Be committed to self-development

## **MENTEE PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS**

The NCVAA Mentor Program expects all mentees to be committed to the program. We understand that conflicts may arise. Please make every effort to manage your schedule accordingly and notify your mentor immediately of any changes that will affect your meetings, whether in-person or via Skype or telephone. If you cancel or reschedule an appointment with your mentor more than three times in a year, you will not be permitted to continue participation in the program. If at any time you feel you cannot work with your mentor, please contact an NCVAA Mentor Regional Coordinator. The Mentor Program Regional Coordinator will work to resolve the issue or reassign mentees. If you no longer wish to participate in the program, please contact your NCVAA Mentor Regional Coordinator as soon as possible.

**The email below is sent to each participant after he/she has been matched.**

Dear Mentee,

Thank you for registering as a mentee with the NCVAA Mentor Program. We are happy to have you as a part of our community. We applaud your initiative and hope your experience with this program will enhance your knowledge and assist you in building lasting relationships and a successful legal career.

### **MENTEE GUIDELINES**

The NCVAA Mentor Program is designed to provide lawyers and students with an opportunity to get to know each other within the context of the legal profession. You will be assigned to a mentor based upon your stated interests and those of the mentors who are participating in the Program. You are encouraged to attend the program's orientation and any regional meetings. The quality of the experience you have with your mentor and the program in general will depend partially upon your efforts. Listed below are a few guidelines to be considered.

1. You should make the initial call to your assigned mentor to arrange a meeting in person. If you do not get a response from your mentor within two weeks after initial contact, please contact your Regional Coordinator.
2. Do not assume your mentor knows how often you would like to meet or talk. Therefore, feel free to make periodic phone calls to seek advice or to simply talk with your mentor and share any concerns.
3. You should share the responsibility for arranging periodic meetings. These meetings will help you get to know each other and enable your mentor to help you more effectively. Manage your schedule accordingly so you are able to keep your appointments with your mentor.
4. Take the initiative to contact your mentor and return calls or e-mails in a timely fashion.

Below are some suggestions for activities to do together:

- Meet for coffee, lunch, dinner, drinks, or entertainment.
- Ask your mentor to attend your moot court arguments (if in law school).
- Ask your mentor to attend a Bar Association event or CLE course
- Attend the annual NCVAA Conference.

## **NCVAA MENTOR PROGRAM**

### **Attorney Fact Sheet**

#### **Program Overview**

If you are considering becoming a mentor you may have asked yourself the following types of questions: How can I have an impact on a law student's or young attorney's life through mentoring? Do I have the time? The NCVAA Mentor Program provides you with the opportunity to make a significant difference in a law student's career with a minimum time commitment!

NCVAA Mentors provide support and advice on how to handle the unique challenges confronting minority law students during law school and early career development. One of the many benefits of the NCVAA Mentor Program is its flexibility. Once matched, mentors and mentees tailor the mentoring relationship to their individual needs and interests.

#### **Who is Eligible?**

Any licensed attorney practicing in any legal area may serve as a NCVAA Mentor. The Mentor Program matches Vietnamese American attorneys and law students with volunteer mentors.

#### **What do NCVAA mentors and mentees do?**

Because of the busy lives of attorneys and law students, most contact is done via telephone and e-mail. Some mentor/mentee in-person activities include: attending NCVAA events, bar association events, attending court activities, and meeting for lunch, dinner, drinks, or entertainment.

#### **Benefits of NCVAA mentoring to the mentee:**

- Students and young attorneys experience greater success, self-confidence, self-esteem and motivation
- Mentoring provides a sounding board for issues or dilemmas that arise from the demanding and stressful legal practice
- Mentees gain networking opportunities and insights into a practice area or practice setting

#### **Benefits of being a NCVAA mentor:**

- Increased involvement in the community, as well as participation in efforts to increase diversity in the legal field
- The ability to foster insight, identify needed knowledge, and support academic and career endeavors for your assigned mentee
- Helping to expand growth opportunities for a Vietnamese American attorneys
- The satisfaction of helping a law student or young attorney reach milestones and achieve success

# **NCVAA Mentor Program Contact Information**

## **Mentor Program Executive Director**

Bill Pham

Pham Law Group, Inc.

633 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90071

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# **THE NCVAA MENTORS**



### **East Region Mentors**

Minh N. Nguyen (Atlanta)  
Paul D. Nguyen (Virginia/DC)  
Phong D. Nguyen (DC)  
Chinh H. Pham (Boston)  
Hon. John M. Tran (Virginia/DC)  
Nguyen T. Vu (DC)

### **South Region Mentors**

Prof Huyen Pham (Texas)  
Prof. Joseph Thai (Oklahoma)  
Catherine Than (Texas)  
Hoang "Quan" Vu (Texas)

### **West Region Mentors**

Washington State  
Huyen-Lam Nguyen-Bull

Northern CA  
Hon. Thang Nguyen Barrett  
Hon. Jacqueline Duong  
Mai D. Phan  
Duy Thai

Southern CA  
Sang N. Dang  
Amanda Dwight  
Kim H. Luu-Ng  
Hon. Jacqueline H. Nguyen  
Hon. John Nho Nguyen  
Tasha Nguyen  
Thien T. Nguyen  
Tita Nguyen  
Bill Pham  
Teri T. Pham  
Trang C. Pham  
Luan K. Phan  
K. Luan Tran  
Ken Vu  
Nhan T. Vu

## ***The Honorable Thang Nguyen Barrett***

### **Judge of the Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara**

Judge Thang Nguyen Barrett was the first Vietnamese American municipal court judge in California when he was appointed to the bench by Governor Pete Wilson in 1997. When he was elevated the following year to the superior court through court unification, he became the first Vietnamese American superior court judge in California and the first Vietnamese American in the United States to sit on a court of general jurisdiction.

Judge Barrett's judicial experience includes both civil and felony trial assignments. He had served as presiding judge of the appellate division of the Santa Clara County Superior Court, supervising judge of the Palo Alto Courthouse, and assistant supervising judge of the criminal division (Felonies). He is currently serving as supervising judge of the criminal division of the Santa Clara County Superior Court (term to end in January of 2016).

Judge Barrett received his undergraduate degree from American University in 1985 and his law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 1988. Prior to taking the bench, he was a deputy district attorney in Santa Clara County.

In 2000, Judge Barrett was selected by New Horizon publication as one of the 25 Vietnamese Americans in the country "who have made significant contributions to the Vietnamese community and to the fabric of American society in the past 25 years." He was a recipient of the Legal Impact Award from Asian Law Alliance, the Freedom Award from Asian American for Community Involvement, and the Unsung Heroes Award from the Minority Access Committee of the Santa Clara County Bar Association. In 2006, Judge Barrett was presented with the Trailblazer Award at the first National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys.



# *Sang N. Dang*

## **Partner / Shareholder Blue Capital Law**

Mr. Dang has successfully represented clients in large-scale intellectual property litigation matters, involving a diverse array of technologies, such as liquid crystal displays, 3D glasses and equipment, computer peripheral devices, group collaboration software, scanning devices, memory, and core logic chipsets.

Being registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Mr. Dang has also prosecuted patents on behalf of Intel Corporation, Nortel Networks, Sun Microsystems, Siebel Systems, Silicon Engineering, and Maxim Semiconductor, among others, in a wide range of technologies including microprocessors, communication chips, communication devices, memory controllers, I/O controllers, and various video and audio based technologies. In addition, Mr. Dang has prepared numerous patent opinions providing infringement, validity, clearance, or design-around legal analysis.

Before becoming an attorney, Mr. Dang worked as a System Engineer at Xerox Corporation for nearly 13 years. Mr. Dang received a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola of Los Angeles School of Law in 1998, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of California, Irvine in 1986. He is admitted to practice in California, all United States District Courts in California, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Mr. Dang reads, writes, and speaks fluent Vietnamese.



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Email: SDang@bluecapitallaw.com

### **Education:**

U.C. Irvine (B.S., Computer Science, 1986)

Loyola of Los Angeles School of Law (Juris Doctor, 1998)

### **State Bar Admissions:**

State of California  
Calif. State Bar License No.: 214558

Admitted to practice before:

- All State Courts of California (including Supreme Court of California)
- United States District Court (Central, Southern, Eastern and Northern)
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

### **Specialties:**

Registered patent attorney with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

### **Representative litigation matters that Mr. Dang has handled include:**

- *X6D Limited vs. Li-Tek Corporation Company* (C.D. Cal.) (3D glasses and equipment)
- *LG Electronics, Inc. vs. Quanta Computer Inc.* (N.D. Cal.) (notebook computers and components)
- *Syscan, Inc. vs. Plustek Inc.* (N.D. Cal.) (scanners)
- *ATEN International Co., Ltd. vs. Emine Technology Co., Ltd.* (N.D. Cal.) (KVM)
- *Sharp Corporation vs. AU Optronics Corporation* (N.D. Cal.) (liquid crystal displays)
- *Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. vs. Quanta Computer Inc.* (N.D. Cal.) (notebook computers and components)
- *AU Optronics Corporation vs. Sharp Corporation* (N.J.) (MPEG processors)
- *Sharp Corporation vs. AU Optronics Corporation* (C.D. Cal.) (liquid crystal displays)
- *AU Optronics Corporation vs. Sharp Corporation* (E.D. Texas) (optics)
- *Semiconductor Energy Laboratory vs. Acer Inc.* (N.D. Cal.) (liquid crystal displays)
- *Syscan, Inc. vs. Portable Peripheral Co., Ltd.* (N.D. Cal.) (scanners)

## ***Hon. Jacqueline Duong***

### **Judge of the Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara**

Judge Jacqueline Duong, appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger on May 23, 2007, is the first Vietnamese American woman appointed to the bench in Northern California.

Judge Duong was born in Vietnam and immigrated to the United States with her family in April of 1975, first to Pennsylvania then, in 1980, to California. She is a graduate of the California public education system, starting with Franklin-McKinley Elementary School, J.W. Fair Middle School, Yerba Buena High School, then graduating Magna Cum Laude from San Jose State University in 1991 with a degree in Political Science. She later obtained her Juris Doctorate degree in 1994 from the University of California, Davis School of Law.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Duong has spent most of her legal career in the public sector. She initially worked in private practice for approximately one year then joined the Santa Clara County Office of the Public Defender for three and half years. She transitioned from criminal to civil practice when she joined the Santa Clara County Office of the County Counsel in 1999, where she worked for eight years until her appointment to the bench.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Judge Duong has a long history and a wide-range of community service. She has served on a variety of Boards and Commissions, including as a member of the Asian Law Alliance Board of Directors and was a past President in 1999 and 2000, and a member of the Santa Clara County Bar Association (SCCBA) Blue Ribbon Diversity Commission, the KNTV Community Board, the East Side San Jose Community Law Center Advisory Board, the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, and the San Jose Mercury News VietMercury Advisory Board. She was also a coach for the Mocktrial program for her alma mater Yerba Buena High School.

Judge Duong was the Co-Founder and the first President of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California. In 2006, she spearheaded the inaugural National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys attended by more than 150 Vietnamese American attorneys from across the country. Judge Duong is also the Founder of the Vietnamese American Professional Women of Silicon Valley.

Judge Duong has been the recipient of various awards, including the East Side School District Hall of Fame (2011), the SCCBA Women Lawyers Award (2010), the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Alumni Award (2009), National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys Trailblazer Award (2008), Asian Law Alliance Legal Impact Award (2008), the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California Trailblazer Award (2007), the Santa Clara County Bar Association MAC Unsung Heroes Award (2007), the County of Santa Clara County Executive Unity in Diversity Award (2006), and the Helen Tsao Community Service Award (1999). In 2008, she was named as one of the "Women of Influence in Silicon Valley" by the Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal.

Judge Duong is currently assigned to the criminal division conducting felony trials. She has served as the Presiding Judge of the Santa Clara County Superior Court Appellate Division for two years, and presently serves on the state Judicial Council's Access and Fairness Advisory. Judge Duong is a firm believer in giving back to her community through opportunities to mentor students and young professionals.



## *Amanda Dwight*

### **Owner Dwight Law Group**

Amanda Dwight is the owner of Dwight Law Group, an intellectual property law firm in Irvine, CA, focused on intellectual property prosecution and litigation. Ms. Dwight is a graduate of the UCLA School of Law where she was the recipient of two fellowships. At UCLA, Ms. Dwight served as the Chief Articles Editor of the Pacific Basin Law Journal and judicial extern for the Honorable Gary L. Taylor, U.S. District Court of California, Central District. Ms. Dwight also created a program to intake asylum seekers for the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law.

Ms. Dwight is co-author of a leading treatise on trademark prosecution law, Trademark Registration Practice (Thomson-Reuters), and the only practice guide in the U.S. concerning trademark examining procedures, Practitioner's Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure (Thomson-Reuters).

Prior to attending law school, Ms. Dwight was a computer programmer and systems consultant for Andersen Consulting (now Accenture) and an in-house systems analyst for Gannet, Co. At Andersen, Ms. Dwight developed distribution control systems for Fortune 500 companies. At Gannet, Ms. Dwight installed and supported advertising systems for over fifty newspapers throughout the country. Ms. Dwight received her Bachelor of Science as an honors graduate from the University of Virginia, McIntire School of Commerce with a major in Management Information Systems and Marketing.



## ***Kim H. Luu-Ng***

### **KLN Firm, Los Angeles**

Kim H. Luu-Ng is the founder of the KLN Firm in Los Angeles where she advocates for and represents victims of torture and trafficking in immigration proceedings. She works extensively with detained and non-detained immigrants on asylum, T-visa, U-visa, VAWA, and other violence based matters before US Immigration Courts, the Board of Immigration of Appeals, and the Ninth Circuit. Kim previously worked as a detention attorney at the San Pedro and Mira Loma Detention Centers under the auspices of the Executive Office of Immigration Review's Legal Orientation Program, providing legal orientation to indigent immigrants and coordinating pro bono representation. From 2009 to 2012, she chaired the Refugee Forum of Los Angeles County, a consortium of NGOs, refugee resettlement agencies, and government agencies that advocates for the needs of immigrants fleeing persecution and seeking refuge in Los Angeles County. Kim frequently trains and presents on immigration and human rights issues.

Kim started her legal career as a litigation associate at the law firm Reed Smith LLP. She received her JD and MA in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh, and graduated cum laude with departmental honors from the University of Southern California where she studied International Relations and East Asian Languages and Culture. She speaks Mandarin and Vietnamese.

Kim loves to travel and eat her way around the world with her chef husband. They are proud parents of a Yorkshire Terrier named Teddy Roosevelt.



## ***Hon. Jacqueline H. Nguyen***

### **Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

Jacqueline H. Nguyen is a Circuit Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She was nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in a 91-3 vote on May 7, 2012. Judge Nguyen is the first and currently the only Asian American woman on the federal Court of Appeals. Prior to her elevation, Judge Nguyen was a trial judge for nearly ten years. From 2009 to May 2012, she served as a district judge on the U.S. District Court, Central District of California. Prior to that, she served for seven years as a judge on the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Before she began her judicial career, Judge Nguyen was a federal prosecutor, serving as an Assistant United States Attorney from 1995 to 2002 in the United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California, including a two-year stint as a Deputy Chief in the General Crimes Section. Judge Nguyen began her legal career in private practice at the law firm of Musick, Peeler & Garrett in Los Angeles, from 1991 to 1995.

Judge Nguyen received her A.B. from Occidental College in 1987. She also received an honorary degree for a year-long study at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, from 1985 to 1986. Judge Nguyen received her J.D. from UCLA Law School in 1991.

Judge Nguyen has been active in the legal community, particularly the Asian Pacific Islander American community, for many years. She has served on the board of various bar associations, including the Women Lawyers' Association of Los Angeles County, the Southern California Chinese Lawyers' Association and the Japanese American Bar Association. Judge Nguyen co-founded and served as President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association from 1999 to 2000.

Judge Nguyen was born in Dalat, Vietnam. She came to the United States at the age of 10 with her family when South Vietnam fell to Communist forces. Judge Nguyen has two children, ages 11 and 13.



## ***Lam Nguyen-Bull***

### **Senior Corporate Counsel - Litigation, Univar**

Ms. Nguyen-Bull is a Senior Corporate Counsel for Univar, a leading global chemical distribution company.

Before joining Univar, Ms. Nguyen-Bull was an associate practicing in the litigation group at Garvey Schubert Barer. She was a law clerk to Judge John C. Coughenour of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington, where she worked on civil and criminal matters ranging from environmental cases to intellectual property disputes.

She earned her Juris Doctorate from Yale Law School in 2003. Ms. Nguyen-Bull is the 2010 President of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Washington, and a board member from 2007-2009. She is also a 2009 Fellow of the Washington State Bar Association Leadership Institute.

At the Yale Law School, Ms. Nguyen-Bull served as an editor of the Yale Law Review, and was very active in the field of law and technology. She worked as a summer intern in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn, where she was given responsibility for civil forfeiture and Social Security cases.

Ms. Nguyen-Bull graduated from Harvard University magna cum laude with a degree in East Asian Studies. During and following her undergraduate education, she lived and worked as a business strategy consultant in Paris, Barcelona and Lisbon, focusing mostly on Internet and wireless technology businesses.





# *Minh N. Nguyen*

## **Founding Partner Next IP Law Group LLP**

**Minh N. Nguyen** is a founding partner of Next IP Law Group LLP and practices in the area of intellectual property law. A registered Patent Attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Mr. Nguyen has experience in drafting and prosecuting electrical, computer and mechanical patent applications. Mr. Nguyen's specific experience includes electronics, electro-mechanical systems, radio frequency systems, GPS devices and systems, memory chips, microprocessor, networking devices and systems, call center systems and applications, telecommunication, data networking, application software, aviation systems, business methods, container/packaging systems, conveyor/processing systems, integrated circuits, Internet-enabled systems, spa designs, medical devices, and system testing and measuring (electrical and optical).

Mr. Nguyen has experience in patent litigation, particularly in litigation strategy and support, infringement investigations, and validity investigations, and in rendering patentability, noninfringement, invalidity, and freedom-to-operate opinions to reduce clients' risks.

Mr. Nguyen further has experience drafting agreements, particularly the intellectual property and indemnification terms of a sales agreement, a click-wrap agreement and non-disclosure agreements.

Before entering the legal profession, Mr. Nguyen was a radio frequency design engineer, designing low power wireless products. In particular, he designed ferrite antennas, superhet receivers and transmitters in both VLF and UHF that are compliant with FCC and EMI/EMC standards.

Mr. Nguyen is a 2002 graduate of Marquette University Law School and a graduate of Marquette University (B.S., Electrical and Computer Engineering).



### **Select Matters**

- Analyzed and evaluated a sales agreement to determine scope of indemnification as part of providing litigation support to a communications solution company (Movius Interactive Corp.) in a matter related to Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology that resulted in a withdrawal of a patent assertion
- Drafted the intellectual property and indemnification terms of a sales agreement (SAP)
- Drafted non-disclosure agreements for several software companies
- Drafted an exclusive recording agreement and a termination agreement between an artist and a recording company
- Drafted a click-wrap agreement for an online service company
- Represented AT&T on various patent prosecution matters in the area of digital messaging.

### **Experience**

- Duane Morris LLP
- Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley LLP

### **Education**

- Marquette University Law School, J.D.
- Marquette University, B.S.

### **Professional Activities**

- National Association of Asian American Professionals
  - Co-Chair, Professional Development, 2006
- Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association
  - Chair, Volunteers for SE Regional Conference, 2008
  - Secretary, 2006
  - Board Member at Large, 2004-2005, 2007-present

### **Admissions**

- Wisconsin
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

### **Select Publications and Speaking Engagements**

- Co-author, "Nonpublication Requests May Be Traps For Unwary", The National Law Journal, May 10, 2004;
- Speaker, U.S. "Patent Laws and Prosecution Procedures," National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam, 2007; and
- NCVAA Moderator, Panel Discussion at the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys, 2007.

## ***Judge Nho Nguyen***

### **Judge of the Superior Court of California in Orange County**

#### **Adjunct professor, Western State College of Law**

Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Nguyen was hired by Attorney General Daniel E. Lungren to serve as a Deputy Attorney General in the California Department of Justice. In that capacity he prosecuted, on behalf of the State of California, people who committed frauds against innocent citizens and consumers. He also represented the State and its agencies in writs and appeals before the various Federal and State trial and appellate courts.

Since July 2000, Judge Nguyen sits as a trial judge at the Orange County West Justice Center (WJC) handling a criminal trial calendar, presiding over thousands of criminal cases, including misdemeanor, serious felony, and three strike cases. When he began his judicial career at the WJC he handled a six month civil trial calendar. During that time he instituted for the first time the posting of tentative rulings on law and motion matters at WJC on the internet and on the front door of his department one day prior to the hearing date. In the civil assignment, Judge Nguyen issued approximately 500 written rulings with detailed factual and legal analysis.

Judge Nguyen has taught at Chapman University School of Law, Whittier College of Law, and Western State University College of Law as an adjunct professor on International Law, Human Rights Law, Trial Practice and Mediation and Arbitration.

In 2001, Judge Nguyen was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Western State University Law School which also named a scholarship for Asian American law students in his honor. In 2002, he was elected by his peers to serve as President of the California Asian American Judges Association. In 2005, Judge Nguyen was elected Secretary of the National Asian American Judges Association at its conference in Philadelphia and has served in that capacity to the present. In 2007 the Board of Governors of the State Bar of California appointed him Commissioner of the Commission on Access to Justice which serves to enhance the dispensation of justice in our court system.

Judge Nguyen received the Trailblazer Award from the National Pacific American Bar Association in 2006, and from the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys in 2007. In addition, he was awarded the “Doctor of Laws” by both Whittier Law School and Western State University College of Law, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Korean American Sister Cities Association, the “Patrick McCray Judge of the Year” award from the West Orange County Bar Association, the “2008 Judge of the Year” from the Orange County Women Lawyers Association, and the “Role Model” award from the Orange County Asian American Business Association.



## ***Paul D. Nguyen***

Paul D. Nguyen was admitted to the bar of the State of New York in March, 1979. He retired from the Law Department of The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in 2007. During his tenure at the Port Authority, he was the lead negotiator for the agency's various seaport and airport development projects (1995-2007).

Mr. Nguyen was also an adjunct professor at the Real Estate Institute, New York University, where he taught a course on Legal Issues in Real Estate Lending, Investment and Development (1998-2005).

Prior to joining the Port Authority, Mr. Nguyen was Of Counsel and Country Manager of White & Case, LLP., responsible for the establishment and operation of White & Case Representative Offices in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (1994-1995). From 1981 to 1993, he served in the Office of Corporation Counsel, City of New York, as Corporate Law Specialist; during which time he represented the City as lead counsel in major economic development transactions, including the South Street Seaport redevelopment project in lower Manhattan, the conversion of the USS Intrepid into an air and space museum, and the renovation of Carnegie Hall. Prior to becoming counsel to the City, Mr. Nguyen was an associate at Proskauer Rose Goetz & Mendelsohn.

Before 1975, Mr. Nguyen was Director of Credit and Commerce, Housing Development Agency, Saigon, Vietnam, during which time he was in charge of a program to build low-cost housing for the Republic of Vietnam. He was also an adjunct professor at Can Tho and Hue Law Schools, Vietnam (1973-1975).

Mr. Nguyen has been very active in professional activities and community services. He is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He was a member of the ABA's Asia Law Initiative Advisory Board (2004-2008). He was President of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (2000-2001) and the Northeast Regional Governor of NAPABA (1999-2000). He also served as a member of the New York State Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights (2000-2007). Mr. Nguyen was a member of the Community Outreach Standing Committee, Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section (RPPT), ABA (2003-2008). He was Chair of the Equity Participation Subcommittee, Commercial Leasing Committee, RPPT(1993). Mr. Nguyen was Honorary Chair of the Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights, Vietnamese Legal Protection Fund, which successfully challenged the unfairness of the screening procedures of Vietnamese boat people in the Hong Kong refugee camps (1990-1994). He was a Director of the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, a Washington, D.C.-based refugee and human rights advocacy organization (1990-1997). He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Asian American Law Fund of New York, Inc. for over a decade.

Mr. Nguyen was the recipient of many honors: the National Legion Honor, Office of the President, Vietnam (1970); the Outstanding Performance award as an Assistant Corporation Counsel, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York's Committee on Municipal Affairs (1986); the NAPABA Trailblazer award (2009); and the NCVAA Trailblazer award (2011).

Mr. Nguyen received his law degree in Vietnam (1965) and an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin (1973). His biography is listed in the Marquis Who's Who in American Law (1987).

After his retirement from the practice of law in New York City, he and his wife moved to Fairfax County, Virginia in June 2007. Together they enjoy golf, reading, traveling and spending time with their two grandchildren. He continues to do pro-bono works for some not-for-profit organizations.

## ***Phong D. Nguyen***

### **Partner BakerHostetler**

Phong D. Nguyen is experienced in managing patent portfolios for major global corporations. He has filed and prosecuted semiconductors, computers, software, medical devices, oil field equipment, polymers, automotive, mechanical, chemical, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology inventions. Additionally, he is active in PCT patent practice, reexaminations, patent infringement, patent prosecution appeals, patentability opinions and searches, patent validity and clearance opinions, due diligence and patent litigation.

Mr. Nguyen received his B.A. in Biology and a Minor in Chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin, M.S. in Biotechnology from University of Texas at San Antonio and J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law.

Mr. Nguyen has performed research on molecular systematics and on nuclear proteins expression levels as an index for immediate early gene activation.

Prior to becoming a partner at BakerHostetler, Mr. Nguyen started his legal career as an Assistant City Attorney where assisted the City of San Antonio in their intellectual property matters and first chaired criminal jury and non-jury trials.

Mr. Nguyen has received an ABA Presidential Appointment to the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity (2013-Present) and to the Standing Committee on Technology and Information Systems (2010-2013). He has also served as a Liaison to ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline (2010-Present), ABA Business Law Ambassador to the Cyberspace Committee (2008-2010) and IP Committee Program Co-Chair for the Business Law Section (2012-Present).

Mr. Nguyen gives back to the Asian community by being active on various bar associations including AEF (Asian Education Fund---Former Board Member (2006-2008), APABA-DC (Asian Pacific American Bar Association---Co-Chair for Partners Forum (2008-2010) and Co-Chair Nominations Committee (2008-2011)), VABA-DC (Vietnamese American Bar Association---Founding Board Member (2007-Present), NAPABA (National Asian Pacific American Bar Association---Co-Chair IP Committee (2012-Present), and NCVAA—Board Member.



## ***Tasha Nguyen***

### **General Counsel Tosoh America, Inc.**

Tasha Nguyen is General Counsel at Tosoh America, Inc. The Tosoh Group is a chemical and specialty products and materials group that is headquartered in Japan, with 133 companies worldwide and a multiethnic workforce of more than 11,000 people. The Tosoh Group's principal markets include the chemical and petrochemical, construction, automotive, consumer electronics, information technology, bioscience, and environmental markets. Tosoh America is the US holding company for the Tosoh Group. As General Counsel, Tasha is responsible for all legal functions at the Tosoh Group America companies.

Prior to joining Tosoh in 2006, Tasha was a partner specializing in corporate and M&A at Holland & Knight LLP and prior to that at Whitman Breed Abbott & Morgan LLP.

Tasha was recognized in 2002 as one of the "Best Lawyers Under 40" by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association and in 1997 as one of the "50 Most Powerful Women in Los Angeles Law" by the Los Angeles Business Journal. She also was included in the list of "Super Lawyers" during 2004 - 2006.

Tasha graduated from Harvard Law School in 1986.

## ***Tita Nguyen***

### **Deputy Attorney General Office of the Attorney General for the State of California**

Tita Nguyen is a Deputy Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General for the State of California in Los Angeles. Since joining the Office's Criminal Division in the Appeals, Writs, and Trials Section in 2003, Tita has been prosecuting appeals at all levels of the state courts in California and litigating habeas corpus cases in state and federal courts, as well as litigating special trial matters. As a prosecutor, she represents the People of the State of California in the full range of criminal cases from simple misdemeanor to felony and capital cases. Previously, Tita worked on complex, patent cases as a litigation associate at the intellectual property firm formerly known as Townsend Townsend and Crew LLP. Before that, she tried numerous cases to verdict as a Deputy District Attorney for the County of Santa Clara.

In 2009, Tita was appointed to be, and continues to serve as, a member of United States Senator Barbara Boxer's Judicial Advisory Committee for the Central District. This Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Senator for the positions of United States District Court Judge, United States Attorney, and United States Marshal.

Tita has also served on the governing boards of the Vietnamese American Bar Associations and other Asian American, local, and county bar associations in both Northern and Southern California. She was a founding member of the inaugural NCVAA in 2006 and has served on the organizing committees for each conference thereafter, co-chairing the NCVAA held in Orange County, California, in 2007, and in Houston, Texas, in 2012. Tita was also a founding incorporating officer for the NCVAA national bar and 2012-2013 President.

## ***Thien T. Nguyen***

### **Senior Patent Counsel, Managing Attorney Qualcomm Incorporated**

#### **Education**

- Juris Doctor, with Great Distinction, May 1998  
University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law,  
Sacramento, California

#### **Academic Awards/Honors:**

- Valedictorian Award, Evening Division
- Outstanding Graduating Senior Award, Evening Division
- Commencement Class Speaker, Evening Division
- Pacific Law Journal, Member
- The Order of the Coif, Member
- Master of Science, Computer Science and Engineering, April 1991  
Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan
- Bachelor of Science, Cum Laude, Electrical & Electronics Engineering,  
June 1985, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California  
Member, Eta Kappa Nu and Tau Beta Pi

#### **Bar Membership**

- Admitted To Bar, 1998, California and U.S. District Court, Eastern  
District of California
- Registered To Practice Before U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, February  
1999

#### **Professional Experience**

- QUALCOMM Incorporated, San Diego, California  
2003 – Present  
Current Position: Senior Patent Counsel and Managing Attorney
- Blakely Sokoloff Taylor & Zafman, LLP, Sunnyvale and Costa Mesa,  
California  
1998 – 2003  
Patent Attorney
- Electronic Data Systems (EDS) Corporation  
1986 – 1998  
Last Position Held: Systems Engineer Manager

## ***Bill Pham***

### **Shareholder - Los Angeles Pham Law Group, Inc.**

Bill Pham has been involved in all aspects of real estate transactions for a wide variety of private and public clients, including three-dimensional air space subdivisions, land use entitlements, negotiation and documentation of acquisitions, dispositions, development, and financing of mixed-use developments. He focuses his practice on assisting developer clients with creation, development, financing, and operation of three-dimensional airspace subdivisions, high-rise condominiums, retail/residential mixed use projects, and master planned communities.

Bill was honored as an Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year in 2005 by the Los Angeles County Bar Association Real Property Section.

Bill has extensive expertise in drafting and negotiation of CC&Rs, purchase and sale agreements, architect agreements, broker agreements, construction loan documents, and corporate formation documents. He also advises developer and lender clients on complex risk management strategies with respect to new construction condominiums as well as mixed-mixed-use residential-commercial developments.

Bill served as legal counsel for the Cities of Cerritos, La Canada-Flintridge, Monterey Park and San Dimas with primary emphasis on Subdivision Map Act, condominium developments, and affordable housing.

While a student at the University of Southern California Law School, Bill was a participant in the Hale Moot Court Honors Program and Vice-President of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. He also attended the Harvard Graduate School of Business in 1987, participating in the Venture in Business Management program.

#### **Education**

- J.D., University of Southern California School of Law, 1996
- B.S., University of Illinois, Phi Kappa Phi All-University Honor Society

#### **Bar Admissions**

- California

#### **Publications**

- Chapter 1, "Nature and Characteristics of Common Interest Developments," CEB Forming California Common Interest Developments (updates 2013 – 2016)
- "Creating Value Out of Air," Urban Land, March/April 2010 (Article on three-dimensional subdivisions — airspace lots or parcels created vertically and horizontally within a building to establish separate legally transferrable lots.)
- "The Interstate Land Sales Act," California Real Estate Journal, April 5, 2010

#### **Seminars and Presentations**

- Presenter: "Mixed-Use Development: Creating Value, Protecting Diverse Interests and Avoiding Conflict," July 11, 2012.
- "Busted Condos: Where are the Bodies Buried in a Distressed Condo Construction Loan?," at the USC Gould School of Law 2010 Real Estate Law and Business Forum, April 2010
- "Unique Issues Related to Mixed-Use and Multi-Family Projects, Condominiums and Airspace Subdivision Ownership," at the Distressed Real Estate Seminar by Law Seminars International, September 2008
- "SB 800 Right to Repair Forum," at the Recent Real Estate Development Forum, March 2004
- "Ten of the Best and Ten of the Worst Recent Developments in Real Estate Law" at the USC Law School Institute - LACBA Benjamin S. Crocker Symposium on Real Estate Law and Business 2004

**Practices:** Real Estate (Real Estate Development, Real Estate Finance, Subdivisions and Condominiums, Land Use, Entitlements and CEQA, Construction Contracts and Disputes), Construction & Engineering

**Industries:** Construction & Engineering, Real Estate

**Professional Activities:** State Bar of California (Real Property), Building Industry Association of Southern California, American Institute of Chemical Engineers, past member



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## ***Chinh H. Pham***

### **Shareholder Greenberg Traurig, LLP**

Chinh H. Pham is a Shareholder at the international law firm of Greenberg Traurig, LLP, where he co-chairs the Intellectual Property practice in the Boston office, co-leads the firm's Emerging Tech practice, and heads the firm's Nanotechnology practice. He is particularly experienced in the strategic creation, implementation, and protection of intellectual property rights for technology and life science clients.

Chinh represents and counsels start-ups as well as multi-national corporations, many in the emerging technology area, including nanotechnology, medical device, video gaming, social media, telecommunications, software, electronic commerce, and life sciences.

In connection with his practice, Chinh advises clients on the creation and development of patent portfolios through the preparation and filing of patent applications, the acquisition and exploitation of intellectual property rights through licensing and strategic collaboration agreements, and the evaluation of competitor portfolios, among other things.

For many of his emerging technology clients, Chinh assists them with strategies for leveraging their IP portfolio for high-value commercial opportunities, connect them to funding sources, as well as help to identify and establish strategic alliances with industry leaders.

Chinh is the founder of the Nano •• Technology and Business Forum, a forum dedicated to the business of nanotechnology. He is recognized as a "Top 10 Intellectual Property Lawyers Influencing Nanotechnology," by Nanotechnology Law & Business, and as one of the 2011 "Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business" by the Asian American Business Development Center in N.Y. City. Chinh is also a frequent speaker and writer on the intersection between technology, intellectual property, and business.

In addition to his work, Chinh routinely engages law students at Boston area law schools to talk about life as a diverse lawyer and strategy for success. Chinh also volunteers his personal time to serve as a mentor to many law students and young lawyers, often working with them on their resume writing and interviewing skills.

Prior to practicing law, Chinh worked in the biotechnology industry. Chinh received his B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley and his J.D. from the University of San Francisco. For more information on his background, please go to [www.gtlaw.com/People/ChinhHPham](http://www.gtlaw.com/People/ChinhHPham).



## *Huyen Pham*

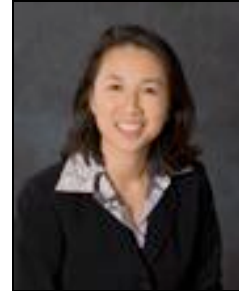
### **Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development & Professor Of Law at Texas A&M School of Law**

Huyen Pham's areas of research and teaching interest include immigration law, criminal law, and administrative law. Her research has been published by the Georgetown Law Journal, the Florida Law Review, and the Florida State University Law Review, among other publications, and has been cited by media outlets such as the Washington Post and msnbc.com.

In 2010-2011, she received a Fulbright Fellowship to teach at the University of Economics and Law, Vietnam National University, in Ho Chi Minh City.

She previously was an associate professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law. Before teaching, Professor Pham practiced law in both the private and public sectors. At the Boston firm of Hill & Barlow, she worked primarily in the litigation department, helping to represent clients as diverse as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Andersen Consulting (now Accenture), and the American Civil Liberties Union. In her work as an assistant attorney general in the Missouri Attorney General's Office, she was co-counsel to the Missouri Ethics Commission, representing the Commission in federal, state and administrative proceedings. Professor Pham also clerked for the Hon. George A. O'Toole, U.S. District Court in Boston.

Professor Pham has a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where she graduated cum laude and served on the Executive Board of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau. She earned her A.B. magna cum laude in Social Studies from Harvard College. After graduation from college, she received an Echoing Green Public Service Fellowship to start a school in the Vietnamese refugee camp in Palawan, Philippines.



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## ***Teri T. Pham, Esq.***

### **Partner, Enenstein Ribakoff LaVina & Pham**

Teri Pham specializes in complex civil litigation and has handled all aspects of litigation from pre-dispute resolution to mediation, arbitration, and jury trials. She was named a “Rising Star” by Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine. Teri has represented a wide variety of clients, including both public and private companies as well as individuals. Prior to joining the Firm, she was a Partner in the law firms of Liner Grode Stein Yankelevitz Sunshine Regenstreif & Taylor LLP and LKP Global LLP.

Teri is co-author of “Conflicts, Conflicts,” published in the August 2002 issue of California Lawyer Magazine. She has also been engaged as a speaker on a variety of practice issues and litigation topics at a number of national and international conferences.

Teri is fluent in Vietnamese and has been featured on a number of Vietnamese radio and television programs concerning a variety of legal topics.

Teri has been dedicated to providing service to the community throughout her career, and has volunteered her expertise with a number of public interest firms, including the Public Law Center, Bet Tzedek, and Public Counsel.



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#### **Practice Areas**

Business and Commercial Disputes  
Entertainment and Media  
Intellectual Property Matters  
Real Estate

#### **Education and Certifications**

UCLA School of Law, J.D., 1997

University of California at Irvine, B.A.  
Social Ecology with a specialization in  
Criminology, Law and Society, and a minor  
from the Graduate School of Management,  
1994

#### **Professional Memberships**

Asian/Pacific Bar of California, Past-  
President  
Asian Pacific American Bar Association  
of Los Angeles County, Past-President and  
Advisory Board Member  
Los Angeles County Bench and Bar  
Committee, Former Committee Member  
California State Bar Committee on  
Administration of Justice, Former Committee  
Member  
National Conference of Vietnamese  
American Attorneys, Former Board Member

#### **Admitted to Practice**

California, 1997  
U.S. District Court, Central District of  
California  
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

#### **Community Memberships**

East West Players, Board Member  
Asian Pacific American Friends of the  
Theater, Executive Committee  
Asian Pacific American UCLA Alumni  
Association, Advisory Board Member

## ***Trang C. Pham***

**Partner**

**Fellman & Associates**

Trang Pham is a partner with Fellman & Associates, concentrating her legal practice primarily in workers' compensation defense. She has been with Fellman & Associates since 2002, handling numerous cases from beginning to end, to include countless settlement conferences and negotiation meetings. Ms. Pham's handling of cases has resulted in "take nothing" trial findings, similar to defense verdicts in civil litigation or criminal trials.

Ms. Pham received her bachelor's degree *cum laude* in English literature from the University of California, Los Angeles, and continued at the University of California, Los Angeles where she obtained her law degree in 1998.

During law school, Ms. Pham worked at the District Attorney's Office of Los Angeles County to complement her education in law. Upon receiving her law degree, Ms. Pham handled criminal procedure and evidentiary issues while working at Chase & Weiss in 1998. She then worked for Palmer & Tran, LLP, from 1998 - 2000, handling several civil litigation matters while specializing her practice in workers' compensation as a representative for injured workers in a predominantly Vietnamese immigrant population. Ms. Pham is fluent in Vietnamese and has counseled clients in this capacity using her language skills. Ms. Pham then worked for Dale, Braden & Hinchcliffe from 2000 - 2002, where her workers' compensation practice extended to the defense side. She represented clients in numerous proceedings at Workers' Compensation Appeals Board both in Northern and Southern California. Thereafter, she continued her practice with Fellman & Associates up to the present time.

Ms. Pham is admitted to practice in the state of California. She is also admitted to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.



## ***Mai Phan***

### **Partner**

### **Phan, Nguyen and Associates LLP**

Mai D. Phan is a New Orleans native and an attorney in San Jose, California. Mai graduated from Tulane University and earned her J.D. from Loyola Law School in 2002. During law school, Mai served as President of APALSA and clerked for the US Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Louisiana. Mai obtained her LLM in International Legal Studies from Golden Gate University School of Law with an emphasis on International Business Transactions. Mai is admitted to practice in the State of California and practices family, immigration, and corporate law.



Mai is the founding President of the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys (NCVAA), the national bar association for Vietnamese American attorneys. Mai was a founding member of the inaugural NCVAA 2006 and has served on the organizing committee from 2006 to present. During the 2006 NCVAA, Mai sat on the Community Service panel and spoke about relief efforts for Katrina victims. Mai helped organize a legal aid clinic with Boat People S.O.S to provide assistance to Vietnamese Americans impacted by Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

During 2008, Mai served as President of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association, Silicon Valley Chapter (AILA-SCV) and served as an Ambassador for the American Immigration Law Foundation (AILF). In 2008, Mai served as President of VABANC, in which she organized a law clinic in response to the US-VIETNAM MOU on the repatriation of removable Vietnamese citizens. Mai is the 2009 Rising Star Unity Award Recipient recognized by the Minority Bar Coalition. Mai was honored along with CA Supreme Court Justice Carlos Moreno and civil litigator James Brosnahan.

During June 2010, Mai led and mobilized attorneys to the Gulf States to conduct legal aid clinics in response to the urgent legal needs of the Vietnamese American community affected by the BP Oil Disaster. The legal clinics provided access and education concerning BP claims policy affecting thousands of Vietnamese fishermen. The clinics were a collaborative effort led by the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California in conjunction with other legal aid organizations and bar associations. Over 3 days, the corps of volunteers conducted 4 legal education clinics in three Gulf states - Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama – and served over 100 Vietnamese community leaders and members. Mai was a contributing writer to the White Paper that was submitted to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders by invitation. Mai received Congressional recognition for her leadership role in organizing the BP clinics. That same year, Mai collaborated with the Katherine and George Alexander Community Law Center to establish jointly hosted pro bono clinics in which Santa Clara law students were paired with VABANC attorneys to help provide assistance in areas of immigration law, employment law, and family law.

Mai was a panelist at the 2010 NAPABA conference and spoke about her collaborations with community organizations to serve the Asian American communities. During 2011, Mai served on NAPABA's Pro Bono committee and was the Program Co-Chair and moderator for the Public Interest Summit, in which bar leaders convened to discuss building sustainable growth for the API communities.

In 2012, Mai was recognized as VABANC's Trailblazer honoree for her leadership and commitment to the bar. Mai is currently on the Judiciary Committee of the Santa Clara County Bar Association (SCCBA) and serves as a Board Member of the American Red Cross, Silicon Valley Chapter.

## ***Duy Thai***

### **Law Office of Duy Thai**

Duy Thai has over twenty years of experience in intellectual property and litigation. He has represented clients from Dow Jones Industrial and Fortune 500 companies to start-ups, small businesses, entrepreneurs, executives, artists, designers, and media and creative companies. Currently a solo attorney, he previously practiced law at Bingham McCutchen, a major international law firm. With extensive experience in trademark counseling and registration, Duy has helped clients ranging from large corporations to small businesses secure and enforce their trademark rights in a cost-effective and responsive manner, both in the United States and numerous other countries. Additionally, he has successfully handled adversarial proceedings in the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board and negotiated and drafted diverse trademark-related agreements.

While he has participated in very complex, large-firm litigation, Duy has also efficiently but aggressively handled smaller cases relating to intellectual property, commercial disputes, and international transactions. He has had first-chair responsibility for state and federal litigation through trial and appeal, and has represented clients in mediations and arbitrations. He has also worked with attorneys, law firms, and clients in matters involving attorney ethics, professional responsibility, and fee disputes. Duy is admitted in California state courts, the Northern and Eastern Districts of California, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

Duy received his law degree from the University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, where he received the Prosser Prize in Criminal Law and the U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship. He received his undergraduate degree from Trinity University, San Antonio (magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa). Duy was president of the Vietnamese-American Bar Association of Northern California from 2004 to 2005. In 2006, he helped organize the first-ever National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys, and continues to serve on its board. He was a Task Force co-chair for Vietnamese American Volunteer Law Corps, a public service group organized to educate and advocate for Vietnamese Americans in the Gulf of Mexico region who were impacted by the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010. He has lectured at programs organized by California Lawyers for the Arts and the Small Business Administration. Duy speaks French, Vietnamese, and Spanish.



## *Joseph Thai*

### **Presidential Professor University of Oklahoma College of Law**

Professor Joseph Thai joined the law faculty in 2003. He teaches Supreme Court Decision Making, First Amendment, and Criminal Procedure at the law school, and co-teaches a “Mind-bending” course on morality, law, and science on main campus.

Thai has served as law clerk to Justice John Paul Stevens and Justice Byron White of the Supreme Court, as well as Judge David Ebel of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Prior to joining the law faculty, Thai practiced in the Office of the Attorney General in Massachusetts and GableGotwals in Oklahoma. He currently engages in pro bono litigation in the areas of civil rights, criminal law, and constitutional law.

Thai writes about the Constitution, the Supreme Court, and Justice Stevens, and frequently comments in local and national media. He also co-created and runs Crimprof Multipedia, an online multimedia teaching resource for criminal law and procedure professors worldwide.

Thai has been twice named the outstanding faculty member of the College of Law by its students, and has been named the university-wide outstanding faculty member by students across campus. In 2007, he received the President’s Associates Presidential Professorship.



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A.B., English, Harvard College, 1995  
J.D., Harvard Law School, 1998

## *Catherine Than*

### **Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP**

Catherine Than is a partner at Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP. She is admitted to practice law in Texas and Florida. She received her Doctorate of Jurisprudence cum laude from the University of Miami, School of Law in 2000, where she was inducted into Iron Arrow, the highest honor attained at the University of Miami. Before attending law school, she studied Political Science and Biology at the University of Houston and received her Bachelor of Science in the Winter of 1996. During law school, she interned with the Honorable Joseph Nesbitt at Florida's Third District Court of Appeal. She also interned with the United States Department of Justice, Office of the United States Trustee, where she worked with senior attorney advisors to manage and oversee Chapter 11 reorganizations and Chapter 7 liquidations. Additionally, Ms. Than worked in the legal department at American Bankers Insurance Company providing compliance and regulatory advice on advertisements and insurance products.

Ms. Than practices commercial litigation, creditors' rights, banking law, and school law. She has a wide range of legal experience in commercial matters. She has represented and advised small businesses and large corporations in a variety of industries including banking, financial, accounting, mortgage brokering, manufacturing, healthcare, distributorships, construction, oil and gas, and insurance. She has experience in advising and assisting clients with commercial contract negotiations and documentation. She also has experience in conducting internal investigations for corporate clients and advising clients regarding corporate malfeasance and white collar crime. She has worked on complex commercial litigation, general civil litigation, employment and bankruptcy matters. She is admitted to practice before the United States District Courts for the Eastern, Western, Southern, and Northern Districts of Texas, and the Northern and Southern Districts in Florida.



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#### **Professional Organizations and Community Involvement**

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Best Lawyers Under 40 Award (designation given to 20-25 attorneys in the country each year)

Texas Super Lawyer, Rising Star, 2007-2010

Asian American Bar of Houston: Board of Directors, 2009-2012; President, 2008; President-Elect, 2007; Corporate Counsel Committee Co-Chair, 2006; Vice President of Membership & Mentorship, 2005; Gala and Silent Auction Co-Chair, 2004

Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston, Inc.; Co-Founder, Vice Chair, and Member, Board of Trustees, 2004-2011

Miami Alumni Group, Houston Chapter; Recruiting and Scholarship Chair, 2007, 2006

Mayor's International Affairs and Development Council/Asia-Australia, Member 2008

State Bar of Texas, Appointed Member, Standing Committee on Women in the Profession

State Bar of Texas, Local Bar Services



## ***The Honorable John M. Tran***

### **Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia 19th Judicial Circuit**

On April 4, 2013, the Virginia General Assembly elected Judge Tran to serve on the Circuit Court of Fairfax County. His term started on July 1, 2013. Judge Tran is the first Asian American judge to serve on a Virginia court of record, the first Vietnamese American judge in Virginia and since the founding of Fairfax County in 1742, the 63rd Circuit Court judge to serve on the Fairfax Circuit Court bench.

The son of a South Vietnamese diplomat and an immigrant who found refuge in the United States, he spent his entire adult life in the Washington Metropolitan Area and proudly considers himself a Virginian.

Prior to his appointment on the bench, Judge Tran shaped his trial experience as a state and federal prosecutor in Alexandria, Virginia in the late 1980's and eventually joined the highly regarded Old Town Alexandria litigation boutique law firm of DiMuroGinsberg, P.C.

The diversity of his 29-year career as a trial lawyer was reflective of trial dockets found in state and federal courts throughout the country. Judge Tran has represented businesses and individuals in matters ranging from simple contract disputes to complex commercial and multi-jurisdictional litigation and criminal defense.

Before leaving the practice of law, Judge Tran was an "AV" rated lawyer under Martindale Hubbell, a Virginia Super Lawyer and Best Lawyer in the area of commercial litigation, and inducted into the Class of 2010 Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation and Class of 2011 Virginia Lawyer's Weekly Leader in the Law.

And in 2008 Judge Tran had also served as the second of only three Asian American substitute judges ever to be appointed in Virginia. As a substitute judge, he sat in the General District Courts and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court throughout Northern Virginia.

(For more information, see the Washington Post article on his appointment at: <http://tinyurl.com/TranWaPo>)



## ***K. Luan Tran***

### **KLT Legal, Inc.**

Luan is the founder of KLT Legal, Inc., a litigation-only firm specializing in complex litigation and arbitration.

He has substantial domestic and international trial and arbitration experience, both at his prior firms Quinn Emanuel and Lee Tran & Liang LLP. He has tried cases or participated in arbitration proceedings in Europe, South America, Canada and all over the U.S.

The Daily Journal selected Luan as among the "Top 20 Under 40" in California. The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association honored him with its "Best Lawyers Under 40" in America award. He was also the recipient of the ACLU's Religious Liberty Award for his pro bro work in a civil rights lawsuit. The State Bar of California's Litigation Section recently appointed him to a three-year term on its Executive Committee.

Luan holds three law degrees, including a graduate degree from Harvard Law School.



## *Hoang Quan Vu*

### **Partner, Corporate and Finance Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP**

Hoang “Quan” Vu is a Corporate and Finance Partner at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP. Prior to joining Gardere, he was a Banking and Finance Partner at the international law firm of Mayer Brown LLP. He received an A.B. (magna cum laude) in Honors Economics from Harvard College in 1992 and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1995. Quan has been recognized as one of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association’s 2004 “Best Lawyers Under 40,” as a Texas Superlawyer Rising Star by Texas Monthly, and as a Lawyer on the Fast Track by H Texas Magazine, and he was a recipient of the 2008 Legal Diversity Award from the Texas Diversity Council.

Quan represents lenders, issuers, borrowers, sponsors and purchasers and various public and private companies in over \$20 billion of finance and corporate transactions, including: project finance; oil, gas and energy lending; first-lien/second-lien financing; asset-based lending; acquisition finance; general secured and unsecured lending; structured finance; UCC, collateral and opinion matters; loan and credit restructuring; reorganizations and workouts; leasing; mergers and acquisitions; and general corporate, real estate, intellectual property and litigation work. Quan also represents a number of Asian-owned businesses.

Quan served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Asian American Bar Association of Houston from 2007-2009 and was the 2005 President of the AABA. He is a founding member (and the immediate past Chair of the Board of Trustees) of the Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston, Inc. He is the immediate past President (and a current Board Member) of the Harvard University Club of Houston and was Co-Chair of the Harvard Club’s 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. He is on the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys, a graduate of the Center for Houston’s Future, a Board Member of the Texas Dragon Boat Association, and a former member on the Houston Mayor’s International Affairs & Development Council/Asia-Australia.



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## ***Ken Vu***

### **Senior Patent Counsel Strategic IP at Qualcomm Inc.**

Ken Vu is a Senior Patent Counsel in Strategic IP at Qualcomm Inc. in San Diego. His responsibilities include providing legal advice involving patent litigation, patent acquisition, patent licensing, IP strategy, and related legal issues. Before joining Strategic IP, Ken worked in the Patent Dept. managing large portfolios of Qualcomm 3G and 4G LTE technologies.

Prior to joining Qualcomm, Ken was the first patent counsel hired at start-up Applied Medical Resources in Orange County to manage and build its patent portfolio. Ken was involved with all aspects of prosecution and litigation at Applied Medical.

Before going in-house, Ken was in private practice for 6 years in Washington, D.C., at Morrison & Foerster and at Pillsbury Winthrop doing patent prosecution and litigation support. He also worked as an Electrical Engineer for 6 years at E-Systems (Raytheon) in Falls Church, VA, before going back to law school. Ken is a 1996 graduate of The George Washington University Law School, where he was a member of Law Review. Ken received his M.S. (1991) from The Johns Hopkins University and B.S.E.E. (1988) from Virginia Tech.

## *Nguyen T. Vu*

### **Advertising and Marketing Counsel Sprint Corp.**

Nguyen Vu is a Counsel with Sprint Corp. in the company's Litigation Group - Consumer and Marketing Practices. At Sprint, he provides legal and compliance advice, guidance and risk assessments on issues related social media, mobile and digital marketing, mobile apps, and cloud-based services.

Prior to joining Sprint, Nguyen was a Counsel with Bingham McCutchen LLP where he was a member of the firm's Telecommunications, Media & Technology and Privacy & Data Security practice groups. In that capacity, he provided legal advice and counsel on a wide range of corporate, policy, regulatory, and transactional issues for Internet technology, media, and telecommunications companies.

Nguyen is the president of the NCVAA for 2013-2014, and was the former President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association Educational Fund in Washington, DC. He has also been honored as a Trailblazer by the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association of Georgetown University Law Center.

Nguyen was born in Saigon, Vietnam, raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, and currently resides in Washington, DC.



## ***Nhan T. Vu***

### **Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice**

Nhan T. Vu brings a wide range of experience in representing Fortune 500 companies and large governmental agencies in civil litigation.

Nhan is a Deputy Attorney General in the California Department of Justice. He is a member of the Business & Tax Section, where he handles complex and high stakes business and tax litigation on behalf the Franchise Tax Board, the Board of Equalization, the Employment Development Department, the Department of Insurance, the Bureau of Real Estate, and other tax- and business-related state agencies.

Prior to joining the Department of Justice, Nhan was a partner in the litigation boutique of Willenken, Wilson, Loh & Delgado, where he represented numerous Fortune 500 companies in class action, unfair business competition, intellectual property and contract disputes.

After graduating near the top of the class from Yale Law School, Nhan served as a law clerk to the Honorable Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He then began his career with Latham & Watkins, and later Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.

An authority on numerous aspects of business law, Nhan has spoken about and been widely published on topics of unfair business competition law, antitrust law, and business law. Nhan also served on the Advisory Committee to Governor-Elect Arnold Schwarzenegger on Legal Reform and worked to gain passage of Proposition 64, which amended California's Unfair Business Competition Law to make it more difficult to bring frivolous lawsuits.

Nhan was also a professor Chapman University School of Law, teaching Civil Procedure, Advanced Civil Procedure, Contracts and Corporations. He was born in Vietnam and emigrated to United States as a child, and speaks fluent Vietnamese. He lives in Orange County with his wife and daughter.

