



Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York

Serving the greater New York area Korean American communities since 1986

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KALAGNY's 2015 Year in Review



In 2016, KALAGNY celebrates 30 years of service to its members and the local Korean American community.

Looking back...

As part of KALAGNY's commitment to its members, and over the past year, KALAGNY organized various programs designed to help members grow both personally and professionally. KALAGNY also continued to serve its younger members through its well-established Mentorship Program. KALAGNY continued its long-standing tradition of providing career development panel discussions for guiding both law students and experienced attorneys. It also sought to advance issues of importance to its various committees, which are more active than ever. In 2015, we launched the Long Island and New Jersey committees, to better serve our members beyond the New York City area. We installed members in our Leadership Advisory Council, which will provide further guidance and leadership to KALAGNY. Our In-House committee, executed several engaging programs this past year; we are determined to give our in-house attorneys support and networking opportunities, and to enable those in private practice to move in-house and to learn improved methods for serving in-house attorneys. KALAGNY also renewed its commitment to



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...serving the Asian community. To further that goal, KALAGNY held monthly pro bono clinics in Flushing, Queens. These and other KALAGNY activities from 2015 are highlighted below.

29th Anniversary Gala Dinner

On June 10, 2015, KALAGNY's 29th Anniversary Gala - "Making Waves" - was held at Capitale (130 Bowery in NYC). Our honorees were Ambassador Oh Joon and Jean Lee.

Keynote Honoree



AMBASSADOR OH JOON

*Ambassador and Permanent Representative,
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea
to the United Nations*

Trailblazer Award



JEAN LEE

*Vice President and Assistant General Counsel,
JP Morgan Chase & Co*

Previously, KALAGNY's members and friends attended a Pre-Gala Mixer at Juga Lounge. Our annual Gala was organized by a gala planning committee, comprised of a group of dedicated and talented volunteers. KALAGNY treated members of the gala planning committee to an appreciation dinner at Her Name Is Han, a new restaurant in Manhattan's Koreatown.



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Annual Elections and Robing Ceremony for the Honorable Kathryn Paek

KALAGNY held its general membership meeting and annual elections in Spring 2015 at Cosmos in Midtown Manhattan. On that same date, it also held an exciting Robing Ceremony for the Honorable Kathryn Paek, the first Korean American female judge to be appointed in the State of New York.

Installation of Members into KALAGNY's Leadership Advisory Council

In 2015, KALAGNY also installed new members into its Leadership Advisory Council ("LAC"). The LAC is chaired by Kyun Yi, KALAGNY's former President. The LAC will provide input and help guide KALAGNY's leadership and membership.

KALAGNY Mentors Its Rising Attorneys

In just a few years, KALAGNY has launched and built a highly successful mentoring program, which has been recognized and praised by other organizations. In October 2015, KALAGNY's mentoring committee kicked off its 2015-16 annual mentoring program. The mentoring program has approximately 160 participants this year. As part of this year's program, KALAGNY's mentors treated their mentees to a dinner. We are very excited by the success of this program. During the previous year's program, KALAGNY Mentorship Program hosted a reception in Spring 2015 for the 2014-15 program participants at Le Midi near Union Square in Manhattan. KALAGNY's Mentorship Program also held a resume workshop (via email), as well as an in-person interview workshop.

Monthly Pro Bono Clinic and Pro Bono Activities

As part of KALAGNY's commitment to the Asian community, KALAGNY holds a pro bono clinic the first Tuesday of every month in Flushing. This past year, approximately 50 volunteer attorneys and law students donated hundreds of free legal services to the local Asian community. For each clinic, KALAGNY has bilingual attorneys, and an attorney who focuses on immigration law present. KALAGNY's Pro Bono Committee held its annual appreciation dinner for attorneys and volunteers at Shin Jung Restaurant in Flushing, Queens. KALAGNY members also participated in AALDEF's DACA Training, and provided advice at a pro bono desk at the Korean Start-Up Summit.

KALAGNY Partners with the Judiciary

KALAGNY's Judiciary Committee participated in prominent judiciary screening panels and regularly met with public officials to ensure the adequate representation of our membership within the Judiciary.

KALAGNY regularly attended receptions hosted by the Judiciary on behalf its membership. This includes events hosted by the Southern District of New York, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, and by the Network of Bar Leaders.

In 2015, KALAGNY met with various family court judges to discuss ways in which the judiciary can partner with bar associations. We enlisted the help of family court judges, the Legal Aid Society, and various



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state and federal level officials to assist us in hosting the Korean Ministry of Gender Equality. The Ministry sent a delegation to the United States in order to develop best practices for improving their procedures for compelling a child's father to provide child support payments.

KALAGNY's Committees Represent the Diverse Interests of Its Membership

We live by the motto, "Make KALAGNY Your KALAGNY." Our committees enable members to best shape KALAGNY to represent their interests. KALAGNY's committees are more active than ever, and we are determined to promote their progress and development. Our committees were engaged in a variety of events, varying from organizing fundraisers, and raising awareness of legal issues affecting their groups to holding networking events. Here are some of the key issues. In addition to the below, KALAGNY has the following committees: Corporate and Tax Law, Law Student, Prosecutors', and Solo/Small Firm committees.

CLE Committee

KALAGNY is currently in the process of obtaining approval as an accredited provider of CLE credit from the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board. In 2015, we successfully garnered CLE credit for our program entitled "*Mock Deposition – Photon, Inc. v. Boson, Inc.*" We look forward to providing our membership with additional excellent educational opportunities.

Immigration Committee

In addition to co-hosting events with the Women's Committee, such as meet and greet receptions with the New York Asian Women's Center and Asian American Legal Defense Fund ("AALDEF") attorneys Annie J. Wang and Jerry Vattamala, the Immigration Committee hosted its own exciting programs. For example, it invited KALAGNY members to observe family court hearings for immigrant children before the Honorable Adam Silvera at Brooklyn Family Court. The children were applicants for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status. In collaboration with the Asian American Bar Association of Greater New York ("AABANY"), the Immigration Committee threw a benefit for the New York Asian Women's Center ("NYAWC") at the New York Office of Lee Anav Chung White & Kim LLP. Special guest speakers included the Honorable Doris Ling-Cohan and Sarah Flatto. To wrap up 2015, the Immigration Committee met for lunch to discuss current issues in the area of immigration, citizenship and legal practice.

In-House Committee

In-House Committee In House Counsel Committee presented the panel "What You Need to Know," with esteemed panelists Young Lee, Senior Managing Direct & General Counsel, Mackay Shields LLC, Susan Moon, Vice President, Global Legal Team, Wyndham Exchange & Rentals, Wyndham Worldwide, and Austin So, Division General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Heraeus Incorporated. The panel was co-sponsored by Debevoise and Plimpton. KALAGNY's In-House Committee also held a "Compliance and Career Development" panel at Thomson Reuters this past fall. It also held a Joint In-House Mixer with AABANY and the Don Liu Scholars Program. It also held an In-House Reception with NOBL/HBNA-NY/MBBA/Nigerian Lawyers Association.



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IP Committee

The IP Committee launched 2015 with a year in review on intellectual property law. They also met at a networking event hosted by Esquire Solutions. Other activities included participating at a pro bono desk at the Korean StartUp Summit.

Litigation Committee

KALAGNY's Litigation Committee started off 2015 with a networking reception at WaBar, sponsored generously by Esquire Solutions. In the spring, the Litigation Committee provided practice tips to its junior members with a panel entitled, "What I Wish I Knew When I Was a Junior Attorney." From late summer to fall, the Litigation Committee held a two-part Mock Deposition Workshop at the New York office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati LLP. Members role played as examiners, witnesses, and defense counsel to conduct live depositions, complete with a mock fact pattern. The mock depositions were transcribed by a real court reporter, and New York State CLE credits were procured for the workshop. The Litigation Committee ended the successful year with a dinner meeting at Kang Suh (generously co-hosted by Esquire Solutions) to provide practice tips on "Effective Oral Arguments."

Long Island Committee

KALAGNY's Long Island Committee hosted a launch reception in December 2015 at Rivkin Radler.

Women's Committee

Our Women's Committee co-sponsored a meet and greet event with the New York Asian Women's Center. KALAGNY's Immigration and Women's Committees welcomed AALDEF attorneys Annie J. Wang and Jerry Vattamala for a meet and greet event.

KALAGNY Holds a Variety of Networking Events

One of the primary requests from our members is for KALAGNY to hold networking and informational events. Over the past year, KALAGNY and its committees held a number of networking events, in order to enable its members to interact with each other, and others outside KALAGNY. In addition to the above events, some of KALAGNY other key events includes its annual picnic and its annual Holiday party. KALAGNY held its annual picnic in Central Park, where KALAGNY members, family and friends, enjoyed the summer weather with food and drinks, and provided games for the children who attended. KALAGNY also held its annual holiday party at Spot Karaoke in Manhattan's Koreatown, which was well attended.



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KALAGNY Awards Law Student Scholarship

The scholarship is given to a law student member who has demonstrated the most outstanding commitment and support for the Korean American community in Greater New York, and who exhibits dedication to use his/her legal knowledge and skills to continue this commitment and support. In 2015, KALAGNY increased its annual scholarship to \$3000. Christopher Bae, then law student at CUNY Law, Class of 2015, was awarded the Law Student Scholarship during KALAGNY's 2015 annual gala dinner.

KALAGNY Supports Its Students Members

KALAGNY also supported and collaborated with various law students organizations at events throughout 2015. KALAGNY hosted special dinners and events for the leaders of the local APALSAs and KALSAs. KALAGNY Executive Vice-President Eun Jeong "EJ" Thorsen participated in the Diversity Bar Panel hosted by St. John's APALSA. KALAGNY members attended Fordham Law APALSA's Alumni Dinner, where KALAGNY's former board member Grace Yang was an honoree. In celebration of Korean thanksgiving, KALAGNY sponsored a Chuseok event hosted by Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law's KALSA. In addition, KALAGNY provided reduced price memberships to student members, and further reduced price memberships to members of partner law student organizations, which opted to obtain group memberships. KALAGNY promoted various opportunities targeted towards law students and recent graduates to their partner APALSAs and KALSAs. These include jobs, internships, clerkships, scholarships, and mentorship opportunities. The scholarship opportunities include KALAGNY's own annual scholarship (described above), as well as the Don Liu Scholars Program. Don H. Liu is General Counsel and a Corporate Vice President of Xerox and a former honoree of KALAGNY.

KALAGNY Continues to Extend its Support to Members in the Tri-State Area

KALAGNY held its annual Flushing dinner to reach out to our membership in Queens and Long Island. KALAGNY hosted a happy hour at Chi Lounge on Long Island where members and friends enjoyed food and cocktails outdoors on a nice spring evening. KALAGNY also launched its New Jersey and Long Island Committees, in order to optimize its service to these geographical areas. We look forward to seeing many of KALAGNY's members on Long Island and in New Jersey!

KALAGNY Collaborates with Bar Associations and Diverse Bar Organizations

KALAGNY appreciates the importance of raising the profile of its members within other bar organizations and leaders in the industry, and to provide our support and contributions to issues important to the various bar organizations. To this end, KALAGNY devotes significant energy to supporting and collaborating with other bar organizations.

KALAGNY is a member organization of the Network of Bar Leaders ("NOBL") and regularly attended their meetings and events. NOBL is a coalition of 50 member bar associations dedicated to bringing together the leadership of the diverse bar associations of the greater New York area. Former President Kyun



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Yi, Esq., is currently a Secretary of the Network of Bar Leaders. KALAGNY attended the following meetings or receptions hosted by the NOBL: Network of Bar Leaders discussion on Uniform Bar Examination and a Legislative Breakfast, as well as a reception with the Hon. Jonathan Lippman.

KALAGNY maintained its partnership with NAPABA. KALAGNY regularly co-hosted events with AABANY. KALAGNY also attended NAPABA's Regional Convention in Boston, Massachusetts and NAPABA's annual convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, where KALAGNY hosted a dinner for KALAGNY members and supporters. Because KALAGNY is a NAPABA affiliate, KALAGNY dues paying members are also given complimentary NAPABA membership. In 2016, KALAGNY will host NAPABA's Northeast Regional Conference in New York; we have already begun preparations, and we look forward to an exciting conference.

KALAGNY regularly attended Affinity Bar Leaders Breakfasts hosted by the New York City Bar, and diversity lunches with the New York Law Journal. At these breakfasts and lunches, KALAGNY identified ways to promote its membership and collaborated with other diverse bar organizations.

KALAGNY's leadership continued to meet with presidents of various local and national level diverse bar organizations, in order to discuss upcoming programming, strategies, and partnership opportunities. As in the past three years, KALAGNY again sponsored one of its rising leaders' attendance at the Collaborative Bar Leadership Academy ("CBLA") in 2015 with KALAGNY Executive Vice President EJ Thorsen attending.

KALAGNY continued to maintain its partnership with AALDEF; this included participating in AALDEF's pro bono training, attending and supporting AALDEF at its Lunar New York and Justice in Action Awards Ceremony, and promoting various AALDEF events, including its AALDEF theater party, which included a Q&A with famed actor, George Takei.

KALAGNY members also supported our other peer organizations by sponsoring and/or attending the following: AABANY Gala and Fall Conference, Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association's ("CAPABA") Annual Dinner, the Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert ("JALBCA") Annual Dinner, IAKL (International Association of Korean Lawyers) Conference in Korea, the Metropolitan Black Bar Association's annual gala, Open Hands Legal Services' Annual Spring Benefit, APALA-NJ's Annual Gala, a New York reception hosted by the *National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance*, at the law firm of Skadden Arps, and Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey's ("APALA-NJ") annual dinner, and a separate golf classic and dinner fundraiser. KALAGNY also regularly co-hosts or sponsors events with AABANY.

Other collaborations have included KALAGNY's Talk Tuesday joint event on the legal industry with AABANY, South Asian Bar Association of New York ("SABANY") and National Association of Asian American Professionals, New York Chapter ("NAAAP-NY"). KALAGNY President Bridgette Ahn served as a panelist. KALAGNY collaborated with young lawyers committees from various bar associations to host an extremely well attended happy hour at Suite 36; the participating organizations included the New York County Lawyers' Association ("NYCLA"), AABANY, the Caribbean Attorneys Network ("CAN"), the Dominican Bar Association ("DBA"), the Hispanic National Bar Association ("HNBA"), Metropolitan Black Bar Association ("MBBA"), and the Puerto Rican Bar Association ("PRBA").



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KALAGNY also extended its outreach to the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association, which included meetings to discuss potential collaboration activities. Currently, KALAGNY is collaborating with the New York State Bar Association on an exciting CLE program on diversity in dispute resolution which will be held during Spring 2016. KALAGNY also greeted Linda A. Klein, President-Elect of the American Bar Association during her visit to New York City. KALAGNY is collaborating with the ABA on creating and promoting various trusts and estates programs from 2015 to 2016.

KALAGNY continues to build its relationship with other diversity organizations within corporate organizations, such as Morgan Stanley, MetLife, and Thomson Reuters. KALAGNY's recent collaborations included attending MetLife's Annual Legal Affairs Diversity Committee's Diversity Roundtable Discussion, and co-sponsoring a program on "Unconscious Bias" with Morgan Stanley.

KALAGNY Partners with Community Based Organizations

KALAGNY made significant efforts to support the Korean American community and to remind the community of the services provided by KALAGNY's membership. Our support includes sponsorship of community organizations such as Korean American Community Foundation ("KACF"), MinKwon Center, Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York ("KCS"), and the Korean American Youth Foundation ("KAYF"). KALAGNY also regularly attends community events. This past year, KALAGNY attended the following: the One Day Plaza hosted by Korean American Association of Queens, the Asian American Federation of NY's 2015 Gala, KCS's annual gala, as well as its golf outing, the Korean American Family Service Center's ("KAFSC") annual gala, the MinKwon Center's annual gala, the KAYF's annual gala and golf tournament, Asian Republic Coalition event(s), the Korean American Leadership Summit ("KAL"), the Korean American Association of Queens, New York's ("KAAQ") Muk-Ja-Gol-Mok Festival, the Korean Startup Summit, Korean American Story's First Gala, and various events organized by Give One Dream.

KALAGNY also supported various organizations whose purpose is to promote Asian and Korean cultural exchange and awareness. KALAGNY members attended the viewing party of "Fresh Off The Boat," the Korea Society's celebration of the New Year, and the Asia Society's program entitled "Security in Northeast Asia: Japan, South Korea, the U.S. and the Search for Solutions." We also continued our support of the Asian American Arts Alliance.

KALAGNY members proudly marched down the Avenue of the Americas in Manhattan, at the annual Korea Day Parade. We also co-hosted a breast cancer awareness reception, with the Holy Name Medical Center of Teaneck, NJ. In addition, KACF, Korean Finance Society, MOI'M and KALAGNY held a Joint Happy Hour.

KALAGNY Supports and Collaborates with Representatives from Korea

KALAGNY regularly collaborated with Korean officials to increase our impact, in order to increase KALAGNY's exposure to issues in Korea, to increase our impact overseas. This past year, our collaborations included KALAGNY's attendance at various trade seminars hosted by the Permanent Mission of Korea, and



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by the Korean Ambassador to the United Nations. We also attended a reception hosted by Congresswoman Grace Meng's Reception for Amb. Ahn Ho-Young of the Republic of Korea. Other collaborations included an event with the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency ("KOTRA") to sponsor the Korean Start-Up Summit. KOTRA is Korea's national trade promotion organization; it serves as a bridge between Korean companies and potential partners globally. More recently, with the support of the Korean Consulate General, KALAGNY President Bridgette Ahn attended the 18th Future Leader Conference, hosted by the Overseas Korea Foundation, which seeks to identify and promote Korean leaders living abroad.

KALAGNY Promoted Civic Engagement and Collaborates with Civic Organizations

KALAGNY participated in NYC Votes Advocacy Day in Albany, NY and met with various members of the New York State Congress, and officials within the Board of Elections and Board of Campaign Finance. KALAGNY attended the annual summit and gala of the Council of Korean Americans, in Washington, D.C. KALAGNY members attended various events hosted by the Korean American League for Civic Action's ("KALCA") Annual Gala at the Yale Club in NYC, and their reception celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. KALAGNY's representatives met regularly with various Korean-American community leaders to advance the interests of Korean Americans. These meetings have included a roundtable discussion with New York City Council Member Paul Vallone and New York City Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito.

KALAGNY Raised Awareness of Social Issues

Many social and legal issues rose to prominence in KALAGNY's radar. Through outreach to sister organizations and the media, KALAGNY raised awareness of these issues. We also mobilized our legal resources, when appropriate. Some of KALAGNY's focus in recent years has been directed towards raising awareness of issues surrounding the treatment of "comfort women" during the Japanese occupation of Korea in the earlier 20th century and modern day sex trafficking. In 2015, KALAGNY co-sponsored a memorial and discussion with a comfort women survivor, in collaboration with various organizations, including the Holocaust Resource Center. KALAGNY members attended a panel discussion, In Your Neighborhood: The Insidiousness of Sex Trafficking. KALAGNY also worked with various Asian American, and Korean American bar associations to increase awareness of the controversy surrounding the erection of the Comfort Woman Memorial in Glendale, California. We continue to monitor the treatment of issues surrounding the treatment of comfort women and sex trafficking. In December 2015, the South Korean and Japanese governments settled their decades long dispute over this issue.

In addition, we have raised awareness of the treatment of Korean adoptees in the United States. KALAGNY learned of Adam Crapser and his story. Adam Crapser is an adoptee from Korea, who is facing deportation. In collaboration with the Korean American Bar Association of Washington, KALAGNY continued to work with grass roots activists and allies to advocate on Mr. Crapser's behalf.