

The Committees available to 2010-2011 members include:

Community Relations:

AAABA seeks to stay involved with the Austin and Austin-Asian communities by focusing on opportunities for our members to interact with our community. Historically, this has manifested itself with involvement in legal aid activities, cultural events, and events co-planned or sponsored with other local APA organizations. More recently, this committee has decided to focus on three key subcommittee pursuits:

Public Service: To organize community service events to give AAABA members a vehicle for public service. Recent projects include organizing free continuing legal education (CLE) programs, e.g., family law or landlord-tenant issues, immediately followed by a service event at the VLS evening clinic offered by Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas (<http://www.vlsoct.org/>) and Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (<http://www.trla.org/>), and donated goods drive around the holidays to support the Austin Children's shelter.

Public Outreach: To organize activities to enhance visibility and recognition of AAABA and its membership in the Austin community and what AAABA can do for the community. Recent activities include promoting and partnering with Saheli, the NetIP organization, co-sponsoring bi-partisan politicians' forums, and partnering with local bar groups (e.g., Austin Bar Association, Hispanic Bar Association of Austin and Black Lawyers Association of Austin) and other Texas State Bar organizations (e.g., Asian Pacific Interest Section).

Website: To promote the visibility of AAABA on the World Wide Web and to develop and maintain AAABA's website. The development of this website, as well as communicating in the all forms of digital and social media, is navigated by this committee.

Membership Committee

This Committee serves AAABA by driving initiatives around recruiting and retaining of current members, encouraging an active membership, and facilitating communications to our members. Aside from responsibility in membership drives, maintaining membership lists and communications to members, this committee serves to find ways to promote members in the community, facilitate referrals and drive AAABA to deliver more benefits to its members.

Social Committee

This Committee organizes and drives execution of social and networking events to encourage membership camaraderie and networking. This Committee plans social events on at least a quarterly basis, and has established several key signature annual events such as the Lunar New Year Dinner, Summer Family Social, Holiday Happy Hour and numerous other happy hours and events.

Professional Development Committee

This Committee organizes and plans activities to develop the education, skills and knowledge base of both of its members and the local law student organizations. Recent successful events

include the annual Fall Career Forum, numerous CLEs in the year, including the annual joint minority bar organization CLE & Happy Hour, and AAABA's law student mentoring program. The Committee serves to provide professional and mentoring opportunities under the following subcommittees:

Law Student Mentoring: To provide career counseling, networking and mentoring to local law students, including law students at University of Texas Law School and St. Mary's Law School, in the form of career forums, mentoring meetings and other activities.

CLE/Lawyer Mentoring: To provide lawyers with additional outlets for professional development, including free CLE for lawyers both as participants as well as presenters, mentoring opportunities, and other activities.

Corporate Committee:

To manage a growing organization like AAABA, corporate functions need to be addressed. This includes maintaining AAABA as a non-profit corporation in good standing, and also a viable growing organization with the funds to maintain all of the annual programs and events. Recently, this committee has split up into two key subcommittees, to fulfill the following pursuits:

Governance: To maintain the corporate and tax standings of AAABA and to manage the corporate formalities of the organization. This may include making sure corporate and tax filings are completed, records of minutes are kept, and books and records are maintained.

Sponsorship: To help maintain a healthy treasury for AAABA, through the annual recruitment of annual sponsors and event sponsors for AAABA. Historically, AAABA has had great sponsorship from numerous law firms, companies and small businesses who want to associate themselves with AAABA. This year, the Corporate Sponsorship committee seeks to more collaboratively partner with our sponsors to drive more awareness and involvement amongst our organizations.

Through the work of these focused committees and subcommittees, our members can participate in areas of service that interest them personally and professionally. As a whole, the AAABA accomplishes many great initiatives throughout the year. Each committee and subcommittee has one or more Chairs who drive the actions of such committees and subcommittees. To get more information on how to get more involved in these committees, please email the appropriate committee chairs.