

# LOCKE LORD DIVERSITY AWARENESS

May 2017: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

During the month of May, Locke Lord honors Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. A rather broad term, Asian/Pacific Islander encompasses those with origins from the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island).

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month originated with the U.S. Congress. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

At Locke Lord, several of our lawyers are active in the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, including:



Chicago Partner, **Bilal Zaheer**, Co-Chair of the Litigation Committee and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the **National Asian Pacific American Bar Association** and Co-Chair of the Young Lawyers Division for the **South Asian Bar Association of North America**.



Sacramento Partner, **John P. Yung**, Board Member, **Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento** and **CalAsian Chamber of Commerce**.



Dallas Associate **Paul Lein**, recipient of the Outstanding Member Award from the **Dallas Asian American Bar Association**.

Recently, when asked, "What about being a lawyer gives you the most satisfaction, and what brought you to Locke Lord?"



**John Yung**, Sacramento: "As an attorney, I tend to be risk averse. So I love living vicariously through the successes of my clients. Seeing my clients successful gives me the most satisfaction. When I first joined, Locke Lord was starting to develop its China platform. I wanted to be part of that growth in a new market."



**Tim Tingkang Xia, Ph.D.**, Atlanta: "To have opportunities to interact with people who are good, bad, or ugly or even occasionally wonderful."



**James Hwa**, Washington D.C.: "I enjoy interacting with different people, providing them with advice, and helping them resolve their problems. Before joining the Firm, I had the opportunity to meet a number of the Firm's attorneys, and found them not only to be intelligent and professional, but also to be genuinely nice people. It seemed like a great place to practice law."

*The heart of Locke Lord lies within our people and the many different experiences and perspectives we share. We recognize, embrace and celebrate our differences and believe we can only provide our clients with the best possible representation if we reflect the diversity of the clients and communities we serve.*

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