



Washington's voice for Asian Pacific American attorneys

An affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)

Web: www.abaw.org

Facebook: facebook.com/AsianBarAssociationWA

Twitter: @abaw_wa

Officers

Andrea Chin
President

Janene Sohng
President-Elect

Hugh Matsubayashi
Vice President

Qingqing Miao
Secretary

Michael Kim
Treasurer

Directors

Katie Cameron
Derek Chen
Michelle Chen
James Chung
Jason Cruz
Lisa Dickinson
Jeanie Gong
John Laney
Serin Ngai
Alex Oh
Aileen Tsao
Jessica Tsao
Carmen Wong

Ex Officio

Dainen Penta
Immediate Past President
NAPABA NW Regional
Governor

Student Liaisons

Jessica So
Seattle University

Jordan Wada
University of Washington

Ana Mackert
Gonzaga University

Rapid Response

Prof. Lorraine Bannai

April 28, 2017

The Honorable Susan L. Carlson
Clerk of the Washington Supreme Court
Washington Supreme Court
Temple of Justice
P.O. Box 40939
Olympia, Washington 98504

Via email to supreme@courts.wa.gov

To the Honorable Justices of the Washington Supreme Court:

The Asian Bar Association of Washington (ABAW) writes to express its support of the ACLU's alternative GR 36, submitted to this Court on February 24, 2017, with added suggestions submitted by the Korematsu Center for Law and Equality on April 21, 2017. Since it was formed in 1987, the Asian Bar Association of Washington (ABAW) has sought to address issues of concern to its member attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students, as well as the larger Asian Pacific American community. The exclusion of individuals of color from juries is one such concern. Such exclusion discriminates against potential jurors seeking to serve and denies a criminal defendant a representative jury. The Asian Pacific American community knows all too well the history of not only purposeful discrimination, but also of the reality that discrimination can be unintentional and even unconscious, but just as pernicious and injurious.

Because GR 36 will provide a framework for ferreting out peremptory challenges that are the product of not only overt, but also unconscious or implicit, bias, ABAW believes it will help make juries more diverse and, in turn provide more confidence in the legal system. We urge the Court to adopt the ACLU's alternative GR 36 with suggestions made in the Korematsu Center's comment.

Very Truly Yours,

Andrea Chin

President
Asian Bar Association of Washington

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 8:53 AM
To: Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: ABAW comment re GR 36
Attachments: ABAW comment re GR 36.pdf

Forwarding.

From: abawpresident@gmail.com [mailto:abawpresident@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** ABAW President
Sent: Saturday, April 29, 2017 11:02 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Cc: board2017@abaw.org; Lorraine Bannai <bannail@seattleu.edu>
Subject: ABAW comment re GR 36

Dear Clerk,

Please find attached a comment from the Asian Bar Association of Washington regarding Proposed General Rule 36.

Sincerely,

Andrea T. Chin
2017 President | Asian Bar Association of Washington
president@abaw.org | www.abaw.org