

CELEBRATING ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

BY PROBATION DIRECTOR VINCENT YUNG

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month recognizes and celebrates the remarkable achievements and the rich cultures of the Asian Pacific Islander (API) American to the history, culture, and achievement of the United States. The Asian American Probation Association (APPA) has been leading the way in promoting API contributions in government, specifically in law enforcement and corrections, since 1992. APPA has been actively promoting and bridging young professionals through networking, mentoring, and professional growth in preparing future leaders for the challenges in this new age full of demands. Many prominent representatives and professionals from the Federal, State and local level of government have been partnering with APPA in this effort to foster the growth of the next generation of leaders, and at the same time to celebrate the rich, diverse Asian cultures with strengthened solidarity among the Asian American community.



Asian Pacific Islander Probation Association Emblem

The Asian Pacific Probation Association (APPA) is active in Asian communities. It's sponsored many events, including the annual Asian American Heritage Month Banquet during the Asian Heritage Month. The annual dinner presents an opportunity to introduce the young professionals to the prominent figures in government to expand their professional opportunities and grow. APPA has also been active in the correctional and law enforcement community and has participated in many activities with the Filipino- American Law Enforcement Officers Association (FALEO) and is also part of the Los Angeles Chapter with the National Asian Peace Officer Association (NAPOA).

APPA will continue to advocate for equality of opportunities, justice, and inclusion to all. Through advocacy and education, the next generations of civil service will understand the struggle of the past generation's experiences. Regardless of our personal and professional success, it is crucial to understand and acknowledge the past and be respectful to those who have walked through hardship, whether they are first-generation, second-generation, or third-generation Americans. Asian Pacific Probation Association condemns racist rhetoric, scapegoating, and unequal treatment in the workplace or the community. APPA needs like-minded individuals to partner up and raise awareness to combat racism. We will not make any changes by sitting on the sidelines. Stop being a bystander when you see something wrong, do something when someone needs help.



Probation Director Vincent Yung with former Los Angeles County CEO William T. Fujioka

In the past year, many of us faced challenges due to the pandemic and the increasingly hostile sentiment against peace officers and Asian American communities. APPA has focused on finding ways to combat these negative narratives against Asian American and Law Enforcement professionals. Helping some of the communities overcome the pandemic and address the root and cause of social and criminal justice issues leads to xenophobia, physical attacks towards the Asian community and peace officers.