

# *Ignite our Voices*



NFALA *Gala* 2023



### **Magandang Gabi NFALA Family,**

As I take the honor of assuming the role of NFALA's 9th incoming president this evening, I am filled with immense excitement and a deep sense of responsibility to serve our National Filipino American Lawyer Association. Together, we stand at the precipice of a new chapter, and I firmly believe that the time has come for us to ignite our voices in order to make a lasting impact as a Filipino community.

Our voices hold the power to effect change, to right the wrongs, and to champion the causes that matter most to us. As attorneys, we possess a unique platform that allows us to lend our expertise, passion, and unwavering dedication to the betterment of our community. Let us embrace this opportunity with open hearts and unwavering resolve.

In the face of adversity, we shall be the beacon of hope, lighting the way for those who seek justice and equality. We shall amplify the voices of the marginalized and disenfranchised, ensuring that their struggles are not overshadowed or forgotten. Through our collective efforts, we shall dismantle barriers and pave the way for a more inclusive society.

Together, let us ignite our voices, not only within the legal realm, but also within the broader community. Let us engage in meaningful dialogue, foster understanding, and break down the walls of prejudice and ignorance. By using our platforms to educate, empower, and uplift, we can inspire change that transcends boundaries.

I promise you, that I will tirelessly work to create an environment where our voices are heard, valued, and amplified. I am committed to nurturing a community that fosters collaboration, support, and growth. Together, we will rise, united in our pursuit of justice and equity.

I am honored to serve as your President, and I am excited to embark on this journey with each and every one of you. Let us set aflame the embers within us and ignite our voices, for it is through our collective power that we will make a difference within our community.

With gratitude and commitment to service,

**Lorna Garcia de Guzman**  
**NFALA President 2023-2024**



# MASTER OF CEREMONIES

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**Kristy Michelle Gonowon**  
**Director and Corporate Counsel**  
**Lowe's Companies, Inc.**

Tonight's master of ceremonies is Kristy Michelle Gonowon, a people-centric leader with experience at the intersection of law, stakeholders and business inside Fortune 100 and Fortune 50 companies. Kristy currently serves as Director and Corporate Counsel for Lowe's Companies, Inc., providing advice and counsel to the executive leadership team and the Board of

Directors on all things ERISA and employee benefits related, including executive compensation, equity and incentive plans, 401(k), fringe benefit plans, severance plans, and health and welfare plans. Kristy also supports in areas of governance, SEC compliance, tax and financial services.

Kristy held a similar role with Allstate Insurance Company while also overseeing Allstate's legal defense strategies involving extra-contractual liability, potential excess verdicts, and coverage issues within several states (Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Vermont).

Kristy is a 2021 LCLD Fellow and has served on the NAPABA board for the past 5 years. During the 2020-2021 year, Kristy served as President of both NFALA and AABA Chicago in 2021. As President of NFALA, Kristy and her leadership team achieved several "firsts" for the organization, including the first-ever virtual Gala Installation due to the COVID-19 pandemic; raised, exceeded and collected \$100,000 in gala sponsorships; first \$10,000 gala sponsor with Ogletree Deakins; largest number of total gala sponsors (45); largest number of first-time gala sponsors (32); raised, exceeded and collected \$10,000 in membership dues with the creation of the "NFALA 100", NFALA's initiative to obtain 100 lifetime direct members; NFALA's first-ever LGBTQ+ event, "NFALA-Ganza!"; creation of the NFALA President's Award; and multiple operational directives, including outreach and collaborations with the Philippines Nurses Association and the Philippine Embassy.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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## **Glenn D. Magpantay, Esq.**

Glenn D. Magpantay, Esq. is a long-time civil rights attorney, professor of law and Asian American Studies, and LGBTQ rights activist. Glenn has been organizing in the community for over 30 years. Today, he is principal at Magpantay & Associates: a nonprofit consulting and legal services firm. He was selected for a prestigious George Soros Equality Fellowship from the Open Society Foundations.

In 2023, the United States Senate appointed Glenn to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to advise Congress and The White House on the enforcement of civil rights laws and develop of national civil rights policy.

Glenn co-founded and served as the Executive Director of the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA), a national federation of Asian American, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender organizations for nearly a decade. His efforts were recognized by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) with its Trailblazer Lifetime Achievement Award (2020) and Walter & Evelyn Haas, Jr. Fund Outstanding LGBTQ Leadership Award for Immigrants' Rights (2017).

Before, Glenn was a nationally recognized civil rights attorney at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) for nearly 20 years. He is an authority on the federal Voting Rights Act and expert on Asian American political participation, bilingual ballots, elections, and census. His efforts earned him the prestigious Haywood Burns Memorial Award from the NYS Bar Association Committee on Civil Rights (2015).

The Advocate, the nation's premier LGBTQ newsmagazine, described Glenn as "One of the Most Powerful Asian American Gay Men in the Nation" in 2023. Instinct Magazine showcased Glenn as one of the nation's "25 Leading Men" in 2004. He organized the first-ever LGBTQ testimony before The White House Initiative on Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in 2000. He spoke at the National March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation in 1993.

Glenn is a renowned thought-leader. He has brought 15 briefs to the United States Supreme Court; testified before the United States Congress; published 20 scholarly legal and academic articles; authored impactful public reports; and has given commentary to The New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, Associated Press, MSNBC-TV, NBC Asian America, and The Advocate.

Always giving back, Glenn served as a Trustee to the Boehm Family Foundation, and currently serves on the Gold Futures Challenge Selection Committee of Asian American Futures Fund. He chairs the LGBT Committee of the Asian American Bar Association of New York and is an Advisor to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Glenn attended the State University of New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook on Long Island, and as a beneficiary of affirmative action, graduated cum laude from the New England School of Law, in Boston.



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The NFALA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt organization, formed in 2018 by the National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA).

Please consult with your tax adviser to determine the deductibility of your donation.





# THANK YOU TO OUR PAMANA PROGRAM



“Panama”, which in Tagalog means “legacy” or “inheritance”, is NFALA Foundation’s long-term giving program where our most dedicated donors have committed to a pledge to be fulfilled within ten years. Pledges can be paid annually or the gift can be donated immediately. Help us to ensure the future of our scholarship programs by becoming a Panama member today.

To sign-up or to learn more about our Panama Program, please scan the QR code or click here to visit us at:

[www.nfala.com/Pamana-Program](http://www.nfala.com/Pamana-Program)

## RAYMOND L. OCAMPO JR. FAMILY\*

2023 \$10,000 | 2022 \$10,000 | 2021 \$10,000 | 2020 \$5,000

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# ABOUT THE RAYMOND L. OCAMPO JR. FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

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**RAYMOND L. OCAMPO JR.** is the principal founder of FBANC and the President and CEO of Samurai Surfer LLC, a private investment company. He retired as Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary of Oracle Corporation in 1996, where he served as its chief counsel for more than a decade after the company's initial public offering. He is a trailblazer as the first Asian Pacific American (APA) general counsel of a company to become a Fortune 500 company and is the first APA general counsel of a company that is a current (2023) Fortune 500 company.

In 1997, Mr. Ocampo co-founded and served for two years as Executive Director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, which led to the school's ranking by US News & World Report as the country's #1 IP Law program every year from 1997 to the present. Before joining Oracle Corporation in 1986, Mr. Ocampo was a lawyer in private practice with firms in San Francisco, where he focused on antitrust and complex litigation for more than 10 years. He also served as an adjunct professor of law at Hastings College of the Law from 1977-82, where he taught trial practice, professional responsibility, and legal writing. He received his undergraduate degree from UCLA in 1973 and his law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley in 1976.

After his retirement from Oracle Corporation until 2015, Mr. Ocampo was a private investor and served on the boards of more than two dozen public and private companies and nonprofit organizations, including the Asian Pacific Fund, a San Francisco community foundation that he chaired from 2006-2010. His philanthropic work includes annual scholarships and internships he has provided to FBANC since 2000, AABA since 2003, and NFALA Foundation since 2020.

Mr. Ocampo has been active with the American Bar Association, where he was Chair of the Section of Science & Technology Law and served as a member of the Commission on Women in the Profession and the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession. He was a member of the ABA Task Force on Gender Equity, a past Chair of the Computer Litigation Committee of the Section of Litigation, and a past member of the National Conference of Lawyers and Scientists, the ABA Journal board of editors, and the Standing Committee on Publishing Oversight. He is a 2010 recipient of the ABA's Spirit of Excellence Award for his work in increasing diversity in the legal profession.

Mr. Ocampo is the author of *Surfing the Law & Technology Tsunami* (American Bar Association 2001), a collection of keynote addresses on the intersection of law and technology, and co-author with Shelley Curtis and John Moss of *Negotiating and Drafting Software Consulting Agreements* (Glasser LegalWorks 1996), the leading work in its field.

Mr. Ocampo is an avid athlete who competed on behalf of the Philippines at the 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary, Canada in men's luge. In 2010 he served as an honorary captain of the U.S. Olympic Luge Team that competed in Vancouver, Canada. He regularly completed marathons in the 1970s before long-distance running became wildly popular. He and his wife had been on a 10-year streak of finishing the Honolulu Marathon together. One of his fondest memories is being a member of a state championship basketball team in high school. Mr. Ocampo has spent much of his post-retirement time learning a wide range of ballroom and Latin dances. He could often be found at a milonga, where Argentine tango is danced.



# NFALA FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARS

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## RAYMOND L. OCAMPO JR. FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP



### **Brianne Zamora** **Seattle University School of Law (Class of 2024)**

Brianne (Bree) Tolentino Zamora was born in Ilocos Sur, Philippines, and grew up in Maui, Hawai'i. Her family roots hail from Ilocos Sur and Mindanao. Brianne's dream of becoming a lawyer crystallized at five years old when she witnessed poverty in the Philippines and first experienced empathy. Consequently, she vowed to her mother to help people in need. Brianne's vehicle in assisting people is through the law, centered around Filipino values of bayanihan and kapwa.

In 2018, Brianne graduated from the University of San Francisco (USF) with a B.A., double majoring in Politics and International Studies and a minor in Asian Studies. She gained cultural enlightenment at USF, taking Philippine Theology and Revolutions, Philippine History: 1900–Present, and Global Filipino Literature courses. Brianne was involved in Kasamahan, the Filipino cultural organization, and performed during Pilipino Culture Night. Before law school, Brianne worked at Goeschl Law Corporation, a business immigration law firm, and Tides Network, a non-profit foundation; she was instrumental in creating the API+ employee resource group and efforts for AAPI racial justice. During the pandemic, Brianne was a fellow with YCore/Latinas Contra Cancer, developing the Defensoras: Healthcare Advocate Training program.

In 2021, Brianne entered Seattle University School of Law (SU) with a two-fold purpose: to represent her community and diversify the legal profession. Using this purpose, she intentionally occupies spaces and actively participates in the following: Senior Online Editor, Seattle University Law Review; Board Member, Alternative Dispute Resolution; Founder and President, Filipino Law Students Association; President and Elder, Asian Law Students Association; Secretary, Womxn of Color Coalition; Membership Chair and Alumni Representative, International Law Society; 1L Section Representative, Public Interest Law Foundation; and Clinic Student, Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality. During her 1L summer, she interned with the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington, working on racial and economic justice issues. During her 2L summer, she interned with Novo Legal Group, focusing on immigration and civil rights cases. Brianne is active in cultural community building, advocacy, and pro bono. As president of the Asian Law Students Association (formerly Asian Pacific Islander Law Students Association), she supported the Pacific Islander community in their call to organize; advocated for the name change, centering representation; proposed the API law student coalition, creating AA/NHPI inter-relationships; and bolstered the visibility and representation of Asian law students. She is now the student liaison with the Asian Bar Association of Washington. Additionally, as principal founder, Brianne organized the SU Filipino community to establish the first Filipino Law Students Association (FLSA) not only at SU but in Washington State. Using FLSA as a platform, she advocates for the community and builds a pipeline for the next generation of Fil-Am lawyers. She is a member of the Filipino Lawyers of Washington (FLOW).



# NFALA FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARS

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## NFALA PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP



**Alyssa Gonzaga**  
**University of California – Irvine (Class of 2025)**

Alyssa May Gonzaga is a proud Filipina and Ilokana-American currently in her second year at UC Irvine School of Law. She grew up in Quezon City, Philippines until she was eight years old and immigrated to southeast San Diego, California in 2004. Prior to law school, Alyssa was heavily involved with the Filipino Migrant Center (FMC) nonprofit organization, where she served her Filipino community in San Diego. It was with FMC that Alyssa saw a gap in access to legal services for her community and knew that her role in the movement was to become an

attorney. At UCI Law, Alyssa is currently on the APALSA board, where she is serving as the inaugural Southeast Asian Community Engagement Chair to provide more institutional support for Southeast Asian law students. She hopes to raise more visibility and coordinate SEA-centered events and programs through this new position, including the Filipino community. She is also actively serving as a student board member on the Filipino Lawyers of Orange County (FLOC). Alyssa is passionate about workers' rights and workplace justice, and hopes to use her legal degree to serve migrant workers in California."

## NFALA LGBTQ+ SCHOLARSHIP



**RG Yamba**  
**American University (Class of 2024)**

RG is a 3L at the American University Washington College of Law. They are a transgender, second-generation Filipino-American with legal interests in housing, health, and LGBTQ rights. RG's experience ranges from working on name and gender marker change petitions with Whitman Walker Health, investigating Fair Housing Act violations with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and advocating for disability rights with the Bazelon Center for Health Law. As a law student, RG taught constitutional law and civic engagement to DC high school

students as a teaching fellow with the Marshall Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project. Additionally, they have served as a note and comment editor with the Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law. RG is scheduled to graduate in May 2024 and plans to stay in DC to practice law.

# NFALA FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARS

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## NFALA FOUNDATION GOVERNMENT/ PUBLIC SECTOR (GPS) SCHOLARSHIP



### **Dominick Williams** **University of California – Berkeley (Class of 2025)**

Dominick Williams is a 2L at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. As an undergraduate at UC Berkeley, he pursued his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and minor in Economics. Following his undergraduate studies, he served as a Legislative Staffer in the California Assembly. He then went on to serve as a Legislative Analyst for California Secretary of State Shirley Weber, where he was awarded the John Lewis Youth Leadership Award for his commitment to improving the quality of life in his community. He recently finished a summer externship with California Supreme Court's Associate Justice Goodwin Liu.

# NFALA FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARS

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*During the past year, various NFALA affiliate organizations, in collaboration with the NFALA Foundation, awarded scholarships to the following individuals:*

## SACFALA/NFALA FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS



**MacKenzie Barrett**  
**University of California – Davis (Class of 2023)**

Mackenzie Barrett grew up in Reno, Nevada and received her B.A. in Journalism and B.A. in International Affairs from the University of Nevada, Reno. During her time at King Hall, Mackenzie was involved in the UC Davis Law Review as a Member and Managing Editor, Moot Court Honors Board as Public Relations Chair, Filipinx Law Student Association as Co-Chair, Asian Pacific American Law Student Association as Co-President, Center for Workers' Rights as a Student Counselor, Immigration Law Clinic as a Student Law Clerk, and served as a Teaching Assistant to Professor Raquel Aldana's Criminal Law class and Professor Clay Tanaka's Legal Research & Writing class. Mackenzie received an Individual Merit Award for Oral Advocacy at the 2022 Roger J. Traynor Moot Court Competition and as a semifinalist in the 2021 1L Moot Court Competition. Mackenzie recently began her work as an attorney for Foley & Lardner, LLP in their Transactions Practice Group.



**Josh Concepcion**  
**University of California – Davis (Class of 2024)**

Josh Concepcion is a third-year law student at the UC Davis School of Law at King Hall. He was born and raised in San Diego, CA and is on-track to become not only a first-generation lawyer, but the first lawyer in his family. Josh spent his last two summers at Weintraub Tobin as a summer associate, and he is really grateful to say he will continue at Weintraub Tobin in Sacramento after the bar. At King Hall, Josh currently serves as a Symposium Editor of the UC Davis Law Review, the Public Relations Chair of the Moot Court Honors Board, the Vice President of the Entertainment and Sports Law Society, and most-proudly, the Music Director of Lawcappella. He will also be representing King Hall in the National Appellate Advocacy Competition next spring. In his free time, Josh loves to sing & write music and support the Filipinx Law Students Association at King Hall!



# NFALA FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARS

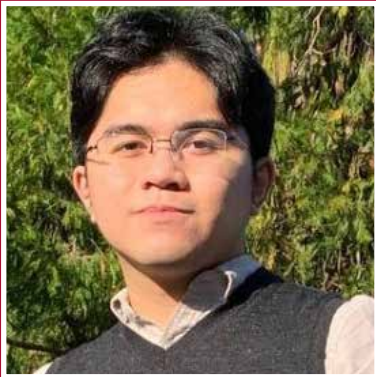
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## ROBIN MANGASER TIZON MEMORIAL LAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP



### **Lallane Guiao-Seng** **University of Connecticut (Class of 2027)**

Lallane is currently a state auditor in Connecticut and previously worked as a clerk at the U.S. District Court in the Northern Mariana Islands. She was born and raised in the U.S. territories of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands to a Filipino father and a Filipino-Chamorro mother. She grew up with no phone or internet and had to do homework at a neighbor's house. She graduated from Wesleyan University with a BA in Government and East Asian Studies and an MA in Public Administration. She won her law school's Dean's Merit Scholarship last April. In her application, she said, "As I move forward toward my JD, I continuously aspire to start healthy, forward dialogue and create spaces for people who don't fit the mold. I have so much to offer my underrepresented brethren and I know that my voice more than loud enough."



### **Michael Roy E. Ortizo** **Syracuse University (Class of 2024)**

Michael grew up in Saipan and worked for Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, NMI Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. He currently serves as the vice president of APALSA and director of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association, Syracuse Chapter. He received his BA in Political Science and Criminal Justice from the University of Delaware. Michael says of his law school experience thus far, "I have learned to quickly adapt and thrive while providing support to the Filipino community and the greater Asian American community through my civic engagement."

# Making a Difference

Husch Blackwell is proud to support the 2023 National Filipino American Lawyers Association Gala. We salute the outstanding Husch Blackwell attorneys who, as NFALA members, advance the organization's mission of promoting diversity in the legal field and advocating for the Filipino American and Asian American Pacific Islander communities. These attorneys exemplify our firm's core values and embrace our collaborative spirit by lifting others as they rise.



**NATALIE GARCIA LASHINSKY**

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Litigation & Business  
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# In Support of Great Organizations

**PERKINS COIE** is proud to be a supporter of the National Filipino American Lawyers Association and its 11th Annual NFALA Gala. We foster a culture that supports diverse perspectives, inclusive behaviors, and equitable opportunities for everyone to succeed in service to our clients, the legal profession, our communities, and each other.

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**We are a proud sponsor of the inaugural NFALA Diversity and Leadership Conference and congratulate Gage Javier on a successful year as the 2022–2023 NFALA President!**

We wish the incoming Board of Governors continued success with being the national voice for the Filipino American legal profession.

Crowell is proud to be a Mansfield Certified Plus law firm and home to 146 AAPI lawyers and staff across 11 offices.

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**Garylene (Gage) Javier**  
Associate  
Privacy and Cybersecurity

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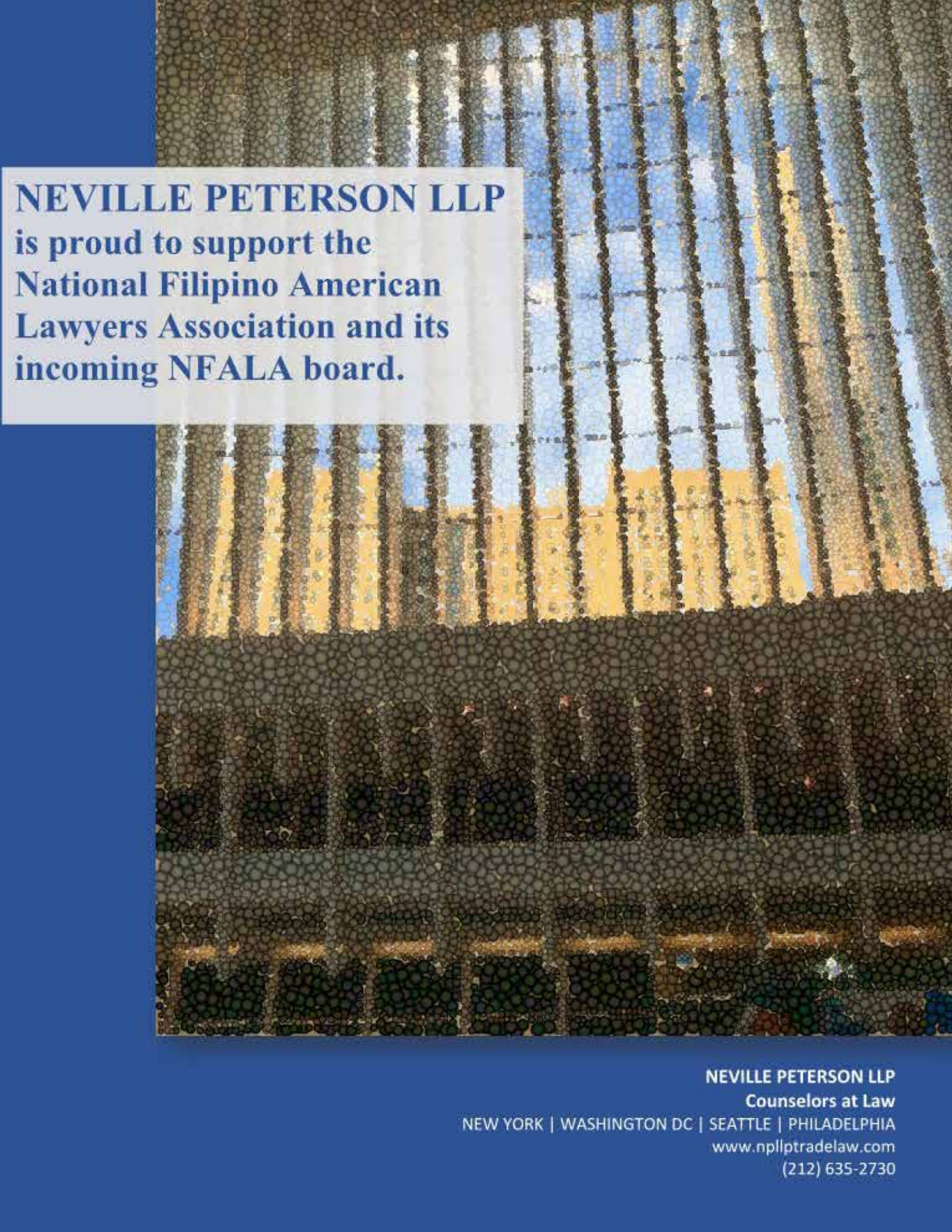
# Positive impact

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G3 wishes the  
incoming board  
continued success!

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Congratulations to the  
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Boies Schiller Flexner congratulates the National Filipino American Lawyers Association on their 9th Annual Gala & Installation of Officers. We celebrate your achievements and are proud of our very own Andrew Villacastin, Partner in our New York Office, who will continue to serve NFALA as the 2023-2024 NFALA Treasurer.

Andrew Villacastin | Partner | Phone 212 909 7628 | [avillacastin@bsflfp.com](mailto:avillacastin@bsflfp.com)

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Noel Vales  
Special Counsel

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*Congratulations to incoming NFALA President, Lorna Garcia De Guzman and the distinguished Board of Directors.*



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