



PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION

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Dr. Sang Joo Kim
Senior Fellow & Executive Vice President
Institute for Corean-American Studies, Inc.
965 Clover Court
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Dear Sang Joo:

On behalf of the 13,000-member Philadelphia Bar Association, I extend congratulations on the occasion of your 2013 Institute for Corean-American Studies Summer Symposium, "The Korean Diaspora: Challenges Facing the Korean-/ Asian-American Community."

Unfortunately, I will be in San Francisco at meetings of the National Conference of Bar Presidents on August 10th, so I am unable to accept your kind invitation to speak at the ICAS Summer Symposium.

I am proud to lead the Philadelphia Bar Association, which is the oldest association of lawyers in the United States. For centuries, we have promoted justice, professional excellence and respect for the rule of law. That has often involved protecting the rights of minorities and educating the public about the virtues of diversity.

I am very glad to hear that your Symposium will recognize Korean immigrants and their descendants for their many contributions to our community. I am especially honored to send greetings and best wishes to your Guest of Honor, The Honorable John Z. Lee of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. As only the third Korean-American to serve as a federal judge in the United States, Judge Lee's many accomplishments are an inspiration to us all. The Korean-American community has become a vital dimension of our Commonwealth and our society, and that has brought us a wealth of knowledge, values and productivity.

Diversity is very important to the legal community and the community at large. The Philadelphia Bar Association Office of Diversity strives to ensure greater opportunities for the inclusion of diverse attorneys in the legal profession by partnering with law firms, legal departments and public agencies to develop educational and community outreach activities, and by serving as a resource for organizations that seek support advancing diversity and inclusion.

So from one great organization to another, I wish the ICAS the very best and thank you for honoring Korean immigrants and their descendants with your important work and for holding this wonderful event.

Sincerely,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson, Esq.