



OFFICE
OF THE
PRESIDENT

100 SOUTH STREET • P.O. BOX 186 • HARRISBURG, PA 17108-0186 • (717) 238-6715 or (800) 932-0311 • FAX (717) 238-1204

THOMAS G. WILKINSON, JR.

On behalf of the 28,000 members of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to all who have gathered in Gwynedd Valley for the Institute for Corean-American Studies (ICAS) Summer Symposium titled "The Korean Diaspora: Challenges facing The Korean-/Asian-American Community."

Pennsylvania was founded upon the principles of tolerance, fairness and dignity for all its citizens. Today, more than 300, 000 Korean-Americans call Pennsylvania "home" and make outstanding contributions to the social and economic fabric of our commonwealth. Even though Koreans have immigrated to the United States and Pennsylvania for more than one hundred years, your strong and proud community continues to face many challenges including the fostering of business development and combatting discrimination.

The legal profession itself faces the challenge of being as varied and diverse as the public it serves in order to retain its role as the connecting link to the Rule of Law – for the appearance of justice is just as important as justice itself. We are proud to have an active Minority Bar Committee and a Diversity Office within the Pennsylvania Bar Association to address issues of inclusion and equality for members of the legal profession and the citizens served by our justice system.

Indeed, the very fabric of our society will depend upon our ability to work together – with passion and commitment – to ensure that opportunities in this state and nation are available to all, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity or country of origin.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive symposium.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Wilkinson, Jr.
President
Pennsylvania Bar Association