

## Minimizing Cultural Barriers and Maximizing Cooperation

**Alan Lai, Presenter**

**Friday, July 8, 2016, 12:00 (noon) – 1:30 p.m.**

**King County Bar Association, Housing Justice Project, 1200 5th Ave #700, Seattle WA**

**CLE CREDITS: 1.50 Law & Legal**

**Approval #: 1012181**

**Recorded Activity Approval: #1013017**

FREE to all new and current Pro Bono Services Volunteers.

Attendance is in-person or via streaming video.

Location to attend in person:  
King County Bar Association  
1200, 5<sup>th</sup> Ave #700 Seattle, WA 98101

To attend via streaming video [Click Here!](#)

Please register by contacting  
Arlen Olson at [Arlen@kcba.org](mailto:Arlen@kcba.org) or call 206-267-7029

### AGENDA

**11:45am - 12pm Registration and coffee Service**

**12pm - 1pm Minimizing Cultural Barriers and Maximizing Cooperation**

--Why are some Asians so reluctant to testify in court or come for interviews?

--Why getting basic information from some Asian clients is worse than pulling teeth?

--Why do Asians often mix up with he and she? For example, "My wife is Mary. He is very dumb. I don't love he."

--Why in the world would your client want to plead guilty at the arraignment, that is, before he knows what sentence range is, or what evidence is against him?

--Some terms are impossible to interpret/translate. What are they?

--Many Asians say yes when they mean no, without knowing they had set the record wrong. Why?

--How do I pronounce Chinese names that have so many X, Z, and Q in them? Why is my pronunciation wrong when I follow the spelling on their passport?

--How is the American court system different from the Asian ones?

**1pm - 1:30pm**

**Q and A**

**1:30pm**

**Evaluation and Adjourn**

Presenter Alan Lai is a Certified Court Interpreter in Cantonese and Mandarin in the State of Washington. He is qualified as an expert witness in Chinese culture in various courts. He has worked as a Child Protective Service worker, Victim Advocate, and Probation Officer in Hong Kong and Seattle for 30+ years. He was appointed by 3 Washington State Governors to serve as the Commissioner for Asian American Affairs Commission. He has won numerous awards from the DOJ, FBI, ICE, Prosecutor's Office, and other agencies. He is nationally known for his outstanding victim advocacy work particularly on human trafficking and scam cases targeting minorities. His cultural presentation has been well received by the National Sheriffs' Association, the US State Department, and Department of Justice.