



PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Mark Yoshida, Staff Attorney
Immigration & Citizenship Project
(213) 977-7500, ext. 247

Grace Chang, The Raben Group
(909) 706-5147

APALC Releases New Citizenship Video and Workbook

Los Angeles, CA – The **Asian Pacific American Legal Center** (APALC), a member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice, has released “Citizenship 101: *Your Guide to Citizenship*,” a new video and workbook to help immigrants seeking U.S. citizenship navigate the naturalization process. Available in seven languages, the “Citizenship 101” video presents helpful information in a visually rich and engaging manner. The English language workbook complements the video with additional guidance and details.

APALC Executive Director **Stewart Kwoh** commented, “Although Asian immigrants naturalize at higher rates than immigrants from other regions, an estimated 800,000 Asians and Pacific Islanders in California alone may currently be eligible for citizenship. However, until they apply and naturalize, they do not have the right to vote or access to the protections and opportunities available only to American citizens.”

The “Citizenship 101” video covers citizenship topics every applicant should know, from application to the oath of allegiance. It includes a sample interview to familiarize viewers with this challenging step and presents all 100 questions and answers from the U.S. government and history (“civics”) examination. The video is currently available in English, Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, and Vietnamese, and will be offered in Hindi and Tagalog in July. The interview, civics questions and answers, and English test sentences are left in English to help viewers improve their language proficiency in those critical areas.

Accompanying the video is a 64-page workbook that provides additional detail and guidance on specific citizenship subjects. This resource includes valuable tips on completing the citizenship application and preparing for the citizenship interview.

Lawrence Lue, chief executive officer of Chinatown Service Center, said, “For the many who have to work long days, unusual schedules and/or two jobs to survive in this economy, finding convenient and affordable citizenship and English language classes is difficult. We believe that many Chinese and other immigrants will benefit greatly from ‘Citizenship 101’.”

Korean Resource Center’s executive director, **Dae Joong Yoon**, said, “It is wonderful to have this video in Korean and this workbook – it will give Korean immigrants we work with the information and confidence they need to become American citizens.”

The “Citizenship 101: Your Guide to Citizenship” video and workbook set is available for free on the Internet. The video may be streamed instantly, and the workbook can be downloaded for viewing or printing from www.apalc.org/citizenship. Those who prefer to have their own DVD and hardcopy workbook may order the set by sending an order form and \$10 shipping/handling fee to APALC. Details at www.apalc.org/citizenship or by calling APALC at (213) 241-0297. Members of the Asian American Center for Justice, which also includes the Asian American Institute, Asian American Justice Center, and Asian Law Caucus in addition to APALC, are also helping distribute the video and workbook.

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The Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC), a member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice, is the nation's largest legal organization serving the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities. Founded in 1983, APALC is a unique organization that combines traditional legal services with civil rights advocacy and leadership development. The mission of APALC is to advocate for civil rights, provide legal services and education and build coalitions to positively influence and impact Asian Pacific Americans and to create a more equitable and harmonious society.