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**THE VIETNAMESE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LAW FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCES STATEWIDE LEGAL FELLOWSHIP AWARDS TOTALING \$100,000**

Fellowship Recipients in San Francisco and Orange County Will Address Labor and Immigration Issues

September 3, 2015 – San Francisco, CA -- The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California Law Foundation (VLF) is proud to award two public interest fellowships totaling \$100,000 to David Ta with Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus (Advancing Justice-ALC) and Jacqueline Dan with Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Orange County (Advancing Justice-OC). These awards mark the first time that VLF will expand legal services to underserved communities in both Northern and Southern California.

"We are excited that Northern and Southern California communities will have increased access to legal services through the awardees and their respective non-profit legal organizations. These awards help VLF towards its mission of building a vibrant network of culturally-competent, public interest attorneys," says Christine M. Pham, president of VLF.

David Ta graduated from the University of California, Davis and the University of San Francisco School of Law. Prior to law school, David worked as a case manager in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, in addition to assisting immigrant taxi drivers comply with San Francisco's regulatory scheme. He has served as a NAPABA summer law fellow at Advancing Justice-ALC to represent low-income monolingual immigrant workers at administrative hearings.

Through the VLF Fellowship, David plans to continue his commitment to improving access to justice for immigrant workers by focusing specifically on taxi drivers, shuttle drivers, and other non-union transportation drivers. David has observed firsthand the long hours, low pay, and hazardous health conditions in which many drivers work. He plans to provide direct legal services to drivers related to their workplace rights.

"I am honored for the opportunity to make a difference by providing legal access to underserved communities. Labor law is designed to protect those in poverty and I plan on bringing awareness to those issues through outreach, direct services and impact litigation," says David.

Jacqueline Dan graduated from Rice University and UCLA School of Law. She serves as a staff attorney with Advancing Justice-OC, where she has been practicing immigration law for more than four years. Jacqueline has also served as a judicial extern with the Immigration Court of Los Angeles, interned at the National Immigration Law Center and the Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project with Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.

Through the VLF Fellowship, Jacqueline intends on expanding her work with Southeast Asian immigrants challenging unlawful immigration detention or deportation. Specifically, she will focus on providing services to refugees and long-term residents who face immigration consequences through the criminal justice system - an area of law that has significant need yet lacks resources as it has largely been overlooked.

"Growing up in a community of Vietnamese refugees where many struggled to recover from trauma taught me that many immigrants from war-torn countries face significant challenges to thriving in the U.S. These issues are often poorly understood, not only by society as a whole, but especially within our own community," said Jacqueline.