

## JOHN C. YANG

John C. Yang is the President and Executive Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC) in Washington, D.C. At AAJC, John leads the organization's efforts to fight for civil rights and empower Asian Americans to create a more just America for all through policy advocacy, education, and litigation.

Because of his extensive legal experience and expertise, John has testified before Congress on numerous issues of importance to the Asian American community. He has appeared in over 50 different media outlets, including *Tucker Carlson Tonight* on FoxNews, PBS NewsHour, NPR, NBC News, USA Today, Time Magazine, New York Times, Washington Post, Huffington Post, Roll Call, The Hill, San Francisco Examiner, Houston Chronicle, and Cleveland Plain Dealer. He has received numerous national and local awards for his community and public service.

In 1997, John co-founded the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing the direct service legal needs of Asian Pacific Americans in the D.C. metropolitan area. He served as chair of the Asian American Justice Center (former name of AAJC) and as general counsel for the Organization of Chinese Americans. John was president of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) from 2003 to 2004, and since 1998, he has served as co-chair of NAPABA's Judiciary and Executive Nominations & Appointments Committee. In that capacity, he has worked extensively with the White House and the U.S. Senate in securing the nomination and confirmation of over 25 Asian American and Pacific Islander federal judges and numerous other Senate-confirmed Presidential appointments.

John served in the Obama Administration as Senior Advisor for Trade and Strategic Initiatives at the U.S. Department of Commerce, where he was the principal advisor to Secretary Penny Pritzker on issues related to Asia and worked with the White House and other U.S. agencies on strategic and economics issues concerning the region.

Previously, John was a partner with the Washington, D.C. law firm Wiley Rein LLP, and also worked in Shanghai, China for several years as the legal director for the Asia-Pacific operations of Illinois Tool Works – a U.S. Fortune 200 company.

John also has been an active member of the D.C. Bar. His leadership positions with the Bar have included: General Counsel (2000-2002); Secretary, Board of Governors (1998-1999); Treasurer, D.C. Bar Foundation (2007-2008); Hearing

Committee, Board on Professional Responsibility (2004-2008; Chair, 2007-2008). John's other leadership positions have included: Board Member, Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights (2017-present); Member, American Bar Association House of Delegates (2008-2018; Minority Caucus Chair, 2014-2016); Board Member, ABA Rule of Law Initiative (2013-2017).

John also has served on the external diversity councils of BB&T, Charter Communications, Comcast NBCUniversal, and Verizon.