

# BUSINESS RESOURCE GROUPS

MVA Business Resource Groups are voluntary, employee-led groups that foster a diverse, inclusive workplace that ensures our employees have an opportunity to be heard, valued and engaged.

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## **MVA Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association (APALA)**

The MVA Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association (APALA) is committed to empowering the firm's employees who self-identify as Asian American, Pacific Islander and/or Native Hawaiian and to promote success for its members by fostering opportunities for collaboration, networking, mentoring, professional growth, and business development. The group aims to not only provide a platform to share advice, experiences, challenges, and cultures, but also to support the firm's diversity, equity and inclusion strategy by building relationships with community and professional organizations, including with Asian American student associations at law schools, to support the next generation of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) lawyers. The group is led by co-chairs Nader Raja and Sonny Ha and its membership is open to all MVA employees who are interested in supporting its mission. MVA APALA hosts regular events throughout the year, including during the AAPI heritage month, for its members as well as the broader MVA community. **Nader Raja**

**Member, Co-chair**  
naderraja@mvalaw.com

**Sonny Ha**  
Member, Co-chair sonnyha@mvalaw.com

## **Black Attorney Resource Group (BARG)**

Led by Litigation Associate Jules Carter, the Black Attorney Resource Group serves as a resource to enhance the firm's commitment to diversity and inclusion by fostering an environment to support the personal and professional development of Black lawyers. Jules Carter

**Associate, Chair**  
julescarter@mvalaw.com

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### **MVA Hispanic and Latino Lawyers Association (HaLLA)**

The Hispanic and Latino Lawyers Association (HaLLA) formed in July 2022 as a business resource group at MVA that will provide a focused community and resources to attorneys of Hispanic and Latino descent and ensure that all attorneys feel connected and supported within the firm. HaLLA, which is led by Litigation Associate Raquel Macgregor Pearkes and Intellectual Property Counsel Becky Harasimowicz, seeks to enhance the professional development of its members and augment the recruitment and retention of Hispanic and Latino attorneys within MVA and the larger Charlotte legal community.

Raquel Macgregor Pearkes Associate, Co-chair [raquelpearkes@mvalaw.com](mailto:raquelpearkes@mvalaw.com)

Becky Harasimowicz

Counsel, Co-chair [beckyharasimowicz@mvalaw.com](mailto:beckyharasimowicz@mvalaw.com)

### **Women of Moore & Van Allen (WoMVA)**

WoMVA brings together female professionals at our firm for mentoring, networking and career development opportunities devoted to promoting the interests and progress of women lawyers and non-legal professionals. The subgroup strives to support its members in their efforts to achieve leadership positions within the firm and the community. WoMVA is chaired by Financial Services Member Meredith Reedy and Head of Environmental Mary Katherine Stukes. Meredith French Reedy

Member, Co-chair

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Mary Katherine Stukes

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