

Tom Chen in Managing IP: ‘Haynes Boone Diversity Chair: How Firms Can Uplift AAPI Lawyers’

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PRACTICES Intellectual Property, Patents, Patent Prosecution and Counseling

Partner, Executive Committee Member, and Co-Chair of the Attorney DEI Committee [Tom Chen](#) was featured in by *Managing IP*, offering his perspective on DEI, mentorship, and how firms can uplift AAPI attorneys. Read an excerpt below:

When Tom Chen, partner at Haynes Boone in California, was growing up, he attended a predominantly white high school in Southern California.

“We had about 300 to 400 students in my class, and I was about one of four Asians. I felt very self-conscious about that. When people asked me to say something in Chinese, I’d say I didn’t know Chinese. I would try to hide my identity because I wanted to fit in,” he says.

Chen, who is now co-chair of Haynes Boone’s Attorney Diversity and Inclusion Committee, is speaking to *Managing IP* to commemorate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage (AAPI) month. AAPI month is recognized in the US during May.

The lawyer adds that his father, who has a Ph.D. in physics, also experienced discrimination. His father bought a motel to run in Southern California but was treated poorly by customers.

To read the full article on *Managing IP*, [click here](#).