



# AMERICAN SAMOA

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BAR ASSOCIATION

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## **American Samoa Bar Association News Release**

For Immediate Release  
Sean Morrison, President  
Date: August 8, 2011

### **American Samoa Bar Association Press Release – ABA House of Delegates**

The American Samoa Bar Association is pleased to announce that the American Bar Association, at its annual meeting in Toronto, voted to approve an amendment to their constitution to provide a seat in the House of Delegates to American Samoa. This is the first time that American Samoa will be represented in the ABA House of Delegates. The amendment also provided seats to the Northern Marianas and Guam, who had previously shared a rotating seat. The U.S. Virgin Islands already had a full seat.

It was thanks to the hard work of our sister territories that this was made possible, and the American Samoa Bar Association cannot thank them enough. This will be the beginning of a long tradition of the islands working together towards our common goals.

American Samoa first attempted to gain a seat in the ABA House of Delegates in 1975. The current resolution was introduced in 2009, where it was postponed pending committee review. In 2010 the amendment was modified to its current form, where it failed by only three votes. Finally, in 2011, American Samoa can take its place along with the other islands, and have a voice in the world's largest and most prominent professional organization.

The ASBA has selected Mr. Charles Alailima to be American Samoa's first ABA delegate.

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