



EMPLOYEE VOICES

To help commemorate AANHPI Heritage Month this May, we are sharing profiles featuring the members of our AANHPI community. Today, get to know Duc Nguyen from our Contract Surety National Underwriting team. We invite you to learn how AANHPI history has influenced his life and insurance industry career.

Why is AANHPI Heritage Month important to you?

AANHPI heritage month is important to me, but not at the expense of a shared focus on the experience, history and heritage of the other ethnic groups throughout the year. My input for this series is not intended to marginalize any other group. Just like I can highlight the accomplishments of Daniel Inouye (Japanese American politician), Tammy Duckworth (Thai American current US senator), I.M. Pei (Chinese American architect), Chien-Shiung Wu (Chinese American nuclear physicist), and Philip Vera Cruz (Filipino American labor leader), there are inspirational heroes and role models from all backgrounds.

The potential of our diverse population will be more fully realized when we all learn from one another and act on that knowledge. In the month of May it is AANHPI Heritage Month, Jewish American Heritage Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. In other months, I am equally eager to learn about other heritages and backgrounds. I believe it is one of many steps towards making each of us well-rounded Americans.

Tell us about someone from the AANHPI community who influenced or inspired you, and why?

More than 10 years ago, Jeremy Lin first captivated the national sports audience with his "Linsanity" run playing for the New York Knicks. At the time, words could not always describe his positive impact on Asian Americans, young and old, male and female, but especially on athletes aspiring to play sports on a professional level. It was something visceral and finally, there was a tangible archetype to complement their goals. Today, the highlight reels are a distant memory to most people, but Jeremy Lin still inspires the community. Head on, he continues to address social/cultural topics in interviews and written columns. Because of his experiences and the nuances in his messages, he is an ambassador who can accurately communicate the Asian American experience.



Duc Nguyen

National Underwriting Consultant
U.S. Contract Surety

FAVORITE QUOTE OR MANTRA

"It's not the daily increase but daily decrease. Hack away at the unessential."
-- Bruce Lee



This year's AANHPI Heritage Month theme is "Advancing Leaders through Opportunity." How does this theme speak to you?

I enjoy working with others who are self-aware, constantly learning and adapting. My current National manager and prior Regional manager operate in that manner. It inspires me to be the best version of myself. Looking at this theme, from two different perspectives, one is either self-motivated to become a leader, or already is a leader looking to advance one's skills. Any opportunity will challenge, teach, guide, and catalyze the learner to become the leader that they want to become.