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Minh Tran

Executive Committee
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Helen Haman
Shanaz Hemmati
Jessica Huynh

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Clifford Chiu
Mojdeh Gharbi
Mick Hawton
Harrison Kim
Wan Kim
Vidya Moorthy
Kurian Panicker
Khotan Shahbazi-Harmon
David Teo

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Angelos Angelou
Bradley Compere
Jimmy Ferguson
Michele Glaze
Larry Graham
Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart
Jeff Hahn
Debbie Hiott
Brandon Janes
Ali Khataw
Paul Kim
Robert Lee
Anna Panossian
Amu Patel
Colin Pope
Eddie Rodriguez
Miguel Romano
Amber Warne
Byron Wilkinson

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce Announces David Teo as Chair Elect and Appoints Mick Hawton to Board of Directors

AUSTIN, Texas – January 9, 2026 – The Board of Directors of the [Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce](#) (GAACC) is pleased to announce two significant appointments to its leadership team. [David Teo](#), CEO of [Centauri Capital Group](#), has been named Chair Elect of the Board of Directors, and [Mick Hawton](#), Partner at [Headwater](#), has been appointed as the newest member of the Board.

"I am extremely excited to welcome Mick Hawton to the GAACC Board and to introduce David Teo as our Chair Elect," said Minh Tran, EmmyEvan CEO and Chair of the Board of Directors. "Mick brings broad experience, deep integrity, and a strong commitment to community impact, and David's steady leadership and strategic vision make him exceptionally well-suited for this role. Please join me in congratulating and supporting them as we continue to grow and move the organization forward."

David Teo Named Chair Elect

David Teo, who currently chairs the Chamber's [Advisory Board](#), brings extensive global leadership to his new role as Chair Elect. As CEO of Centauri Capital Group and Partner at Red Oak Development Group, Teo oversees capital strategy, international investor relations, and a diverse asset portfolio exceeding \$400 million. His background blends deep expertise in commercial real estate investment with a foundation in global tech product management, enabling him to drive expansion and foster strategic partnerships that connect Central Texas with international markets. Teo will begin his two-year term as Chair in January 2027.

"It is such an honor to be elected as the next Chair of the GAACC Board of Directors," said Teo. "I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside an exceptional group of leaders who are dedicated to advancing the Pan Asian American business community. As GAACC continues its strong growth trajectory, we remain committed to supporting the Central Texas business community while further strengthening our role as a key facilitator of commerce between Central Texas and international businesses, and in fostering meaningful collaboration between Asian governmental organizations and our State, County, and City partners throughout the region."

Mick Hawton Joins Board of Directors

Mick Hawton, Partner at Headwater, joins the Board as a value-driven senior leader with more than 30 years of experience in business development and operations. His



background spans commercial real estate, leadership development consulting, group health insurance, and technology. His focus on commercial real estate development and advisory is augmented by extensive private and public sector experience. Hawton is an active member of the community, serving as a volunteer in ecclesiastical leadership roles since 1987 and on non-profit boards focused on economic development and combating intergenerational poverty.

"There are many worthwhile and important organizations actively working on the growth and development of Central, and all of, Texas," said Hawton. "The GAACC is a key organization in these efforts with strong international networks, regional reach, a dedicated board, active members, and strategic leadership. These characteristics have put GAACC in a position to have a significant impact locally and in the region. I am grateful to the board and leadership for the opportunity to serve alongside them as we move into 2026 and beyond."

Learn more about the GAACC Board of Directors:
www.austinasianchamber.org/board-of-directors

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About the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce (GAACC) engages with members of the Central Texas business community, with governmental entities, and with nonprofit organizations to help drive local economic growth for businesses with ties to or allyship with Asia and Asian Americans. GAACC works to develop Austin's global business connectivity while promoting regional economic equity for all. To learn more, visit www.austinasianchamber.org.

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