NORCROSS, GA, September 9, 2015 — Atlanta, GA – The Board of Directors of Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta today announces it has accepted the resignation of Helen Kim Ho, its Founder and Executive Director. Helen is stepping down as Executive Director at the end of this year in order to pursue new personal and professional opportunities and will support the organization through this transition.

“Founding this organization is the proudest professional achievement of my life,” said Helen Kim Ho. “I’ve worked hard these past five and a half years to set the organization up for independence and am confident it is well prepared for this transition. I am also excited about continuing my own journey in a new role where I can continue to make an impact in the South and beyond.”

Ho founded Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) in Spring 2010. Asian American leaders in Georgia pushed for its formation after Ho and others successfully defeated the first of what would be several anti-immigrant, English-only bills in Georgia. Since its launch, Advancing Justice - Atlanta has become a nationally recognized go-to resource for Asian American civil rights issues and leader in immigrant civic engagement work in the South. Since 2010, the organization’s operating budget has grown from $15,000 to almost $500,000 and has also a robust fund balance. Ho leaves the organization in a strong financial position with exciting programs and an effective staff in place.

During the transition, the Board of Advancing Justice - Atlanta has secured a transition team that will lead the organization in the search for the new Executive Director.

“We will all miss the energy, enthusiasm and drive that Helen has brought to Advancing Justice since its formation, but we are excited about all that the organization has achieved so far and what we hope to accomplish in the future,” said Sonjui Kumar, Advancing Justice - Atlanta’s Board Chair.

The organization will host its Fifth Annual Community Champions Banquet on Saturday, October 10th to celebrate select awardees and raise operating funds to support its work in 2016. Helen Ho and the Board of Directors will be there to speak and celebrate with guests. Tickets and sponsorships can be purchased at https://communitychampions2015.eventbrite.com/.

Contact: Kimberly Bourroughs, Board of Directors and Chair of Transition Committee, kbourroughs@gmail.com or 770-241-6422; Helen Kim Ho, Executive Director, hho@advancingjustice-atlanta.org or 404-585-8446

About Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.

Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of
collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.