

## Supporting Information

### Enhancing hole carrier injection via low electrochemical doping on circularly polarized polymer light-emitting diodes †

By Hao Yan,<sup>a</sup> Jessica Wade,<sup>a</sup> Li Wan,<sup>b</sup> Sooncheol Kwon,<sup>\*c</sup> Matthew J. Fuchter,<sup>\*de</sup> Alasdair J. Campbell<sup>¶a</sup> and Ji-Seon Kim<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Physics and Centre for Processable Electronics, Imperial College London, London, SW7 2AZ, United Kingdom E-mail: ji-seon.kim@imperial.ac.uk

<sup>b</sup> Department of Physics Chemistry and Biology (IFM), Linköping University, Linköping 581 83, Sweden

<sup>c</sup> Department of Energy and Materials Engineering, Dongguk University-Seoul, Seoul, 04620 Republic of Korea E-mail: kwansc12@dongguk.edu

<sup>d</sup> Department of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences Research Hub, Imperial College London, White City Campus, 80 Wood Lane, London W12 0BZ, United Kingdom E-mail: m.fuchter@imperial.ac.uk

<sup>e</sup> Centre for Processable Electronics, Imperial College London, London, SW7 2AZ, United Kingdom

† Dedication: To the memory of Professor Alasdair James Campbell.

¶ Deceased

EML	Turn-on voltage (V) at 1 cd/m <sup>2</sup>	Luminance (cd/m <sup>2</sup> ) at 70 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>	Luminance (cd/m <sup>2</sup> ) at 10 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>	Luminous Efficiency (cd/A)		Power Efficiency (lm/W)	
				Peak	@100 cd/m <sup>2</sup>	Peak	@100 cd/m <sup>2</sup>
F8BT neat	4.9	2549	395	3.8 @9.6V	3.0	1.4 @7.6V	1.3
F8BT:aza[6]H	8.3	1018	70	1.5 @>15V	0.8	0.3 @>15V	0.2
F8BT:aza[6]H: EDA	6.3	2115	280	3.1 @12.8V	2.4	0.9 @10.2V	0.8

**Table. S1.** Summary of PLED performance showing the turn-on voltage (at 1 cd/m<sup>2</sup>), peak luminous efficiency (cd/A), and peak power efficiency (lm/W) and their values at 100 cd/m<sup>2</sup>.

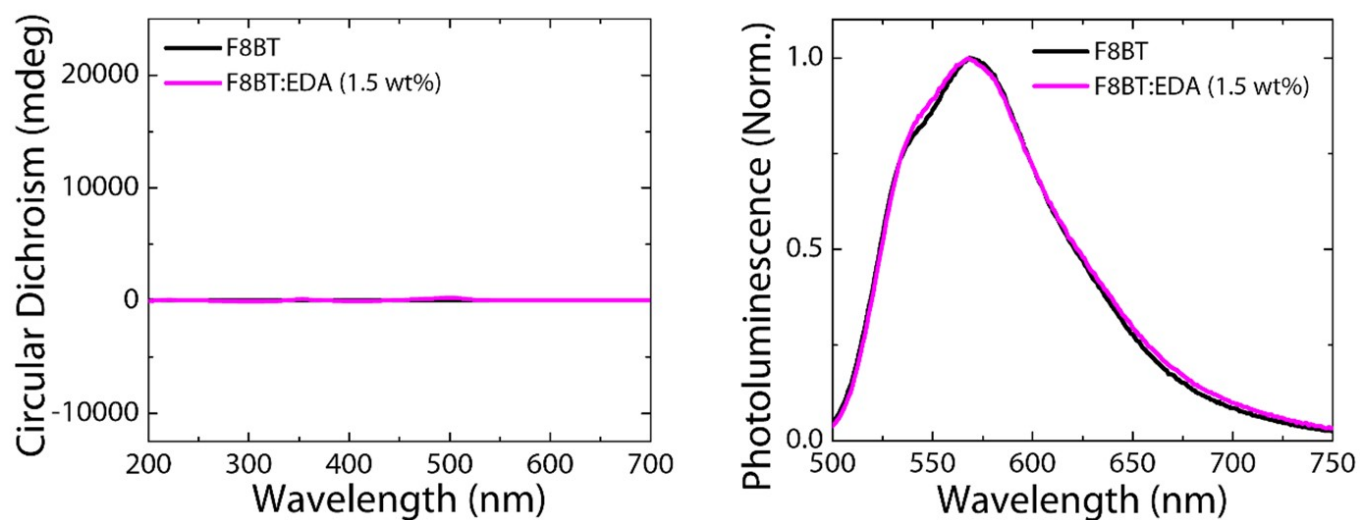


Fig. S1. CD spectra and normalized photoluminescence spectra of F8BT and F8BT:EDA thin films.

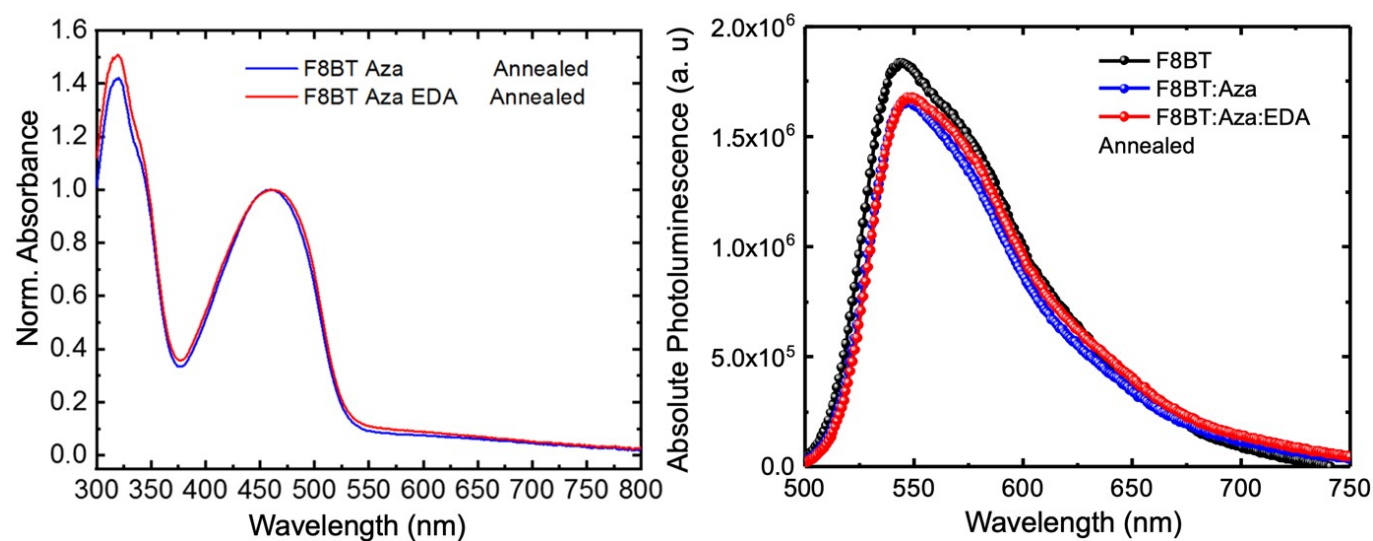
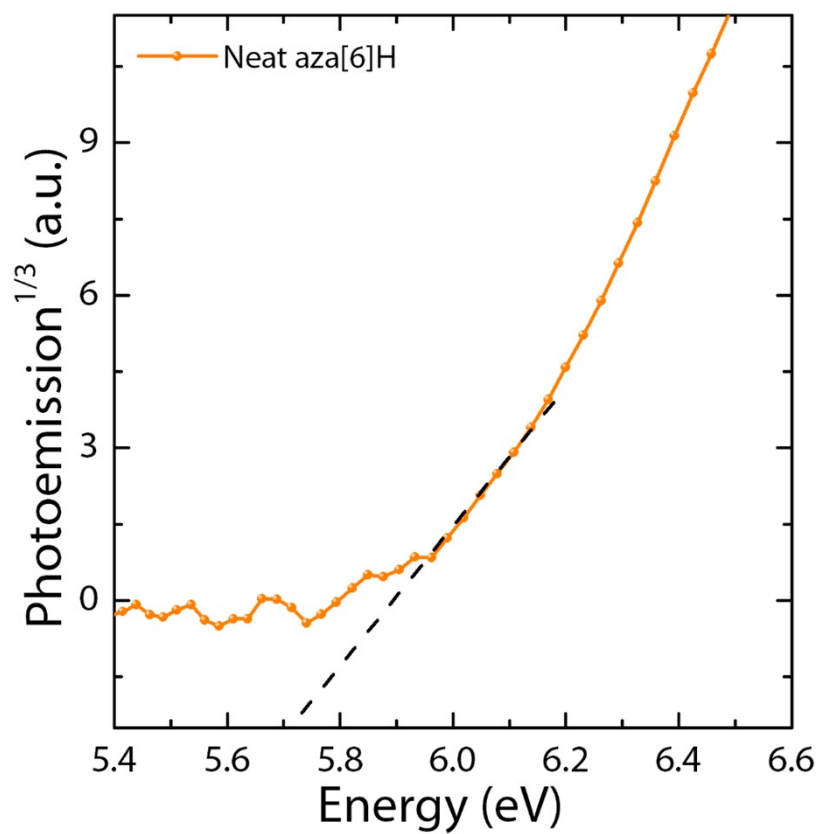
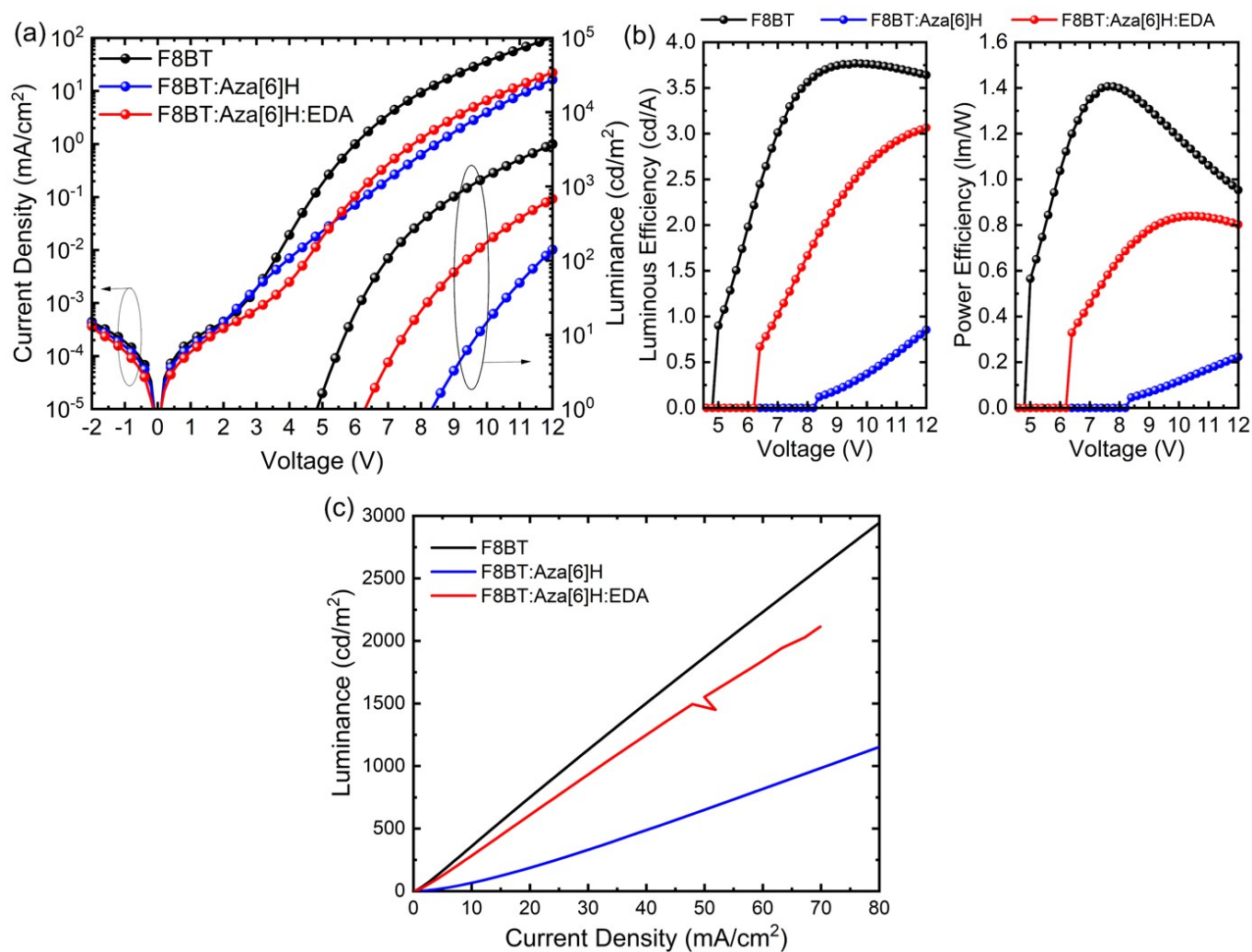


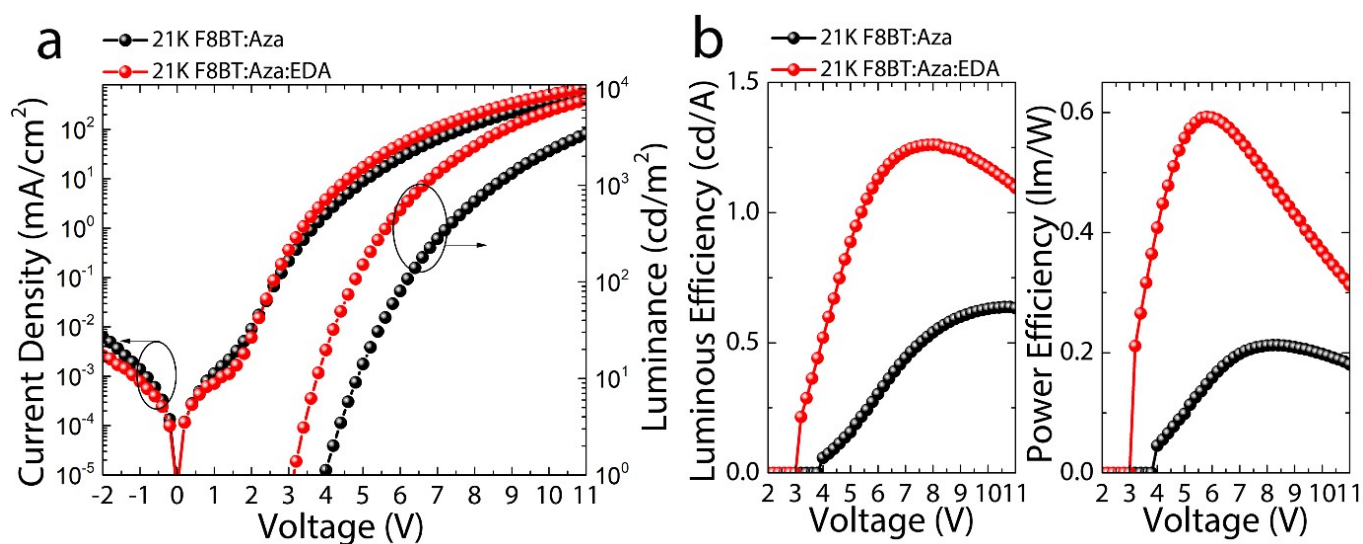
Fig. S2. Normalized absorption spectra and absolute photoluminescence of F8BT:aza[6]H and F8BT:aza[6]H:EDA thin films.



**Fig. S3.** APS spectra of the neat aza[6]H film. The dashed line (Black) indicates the HOMO level of the neat aza[6]H film.

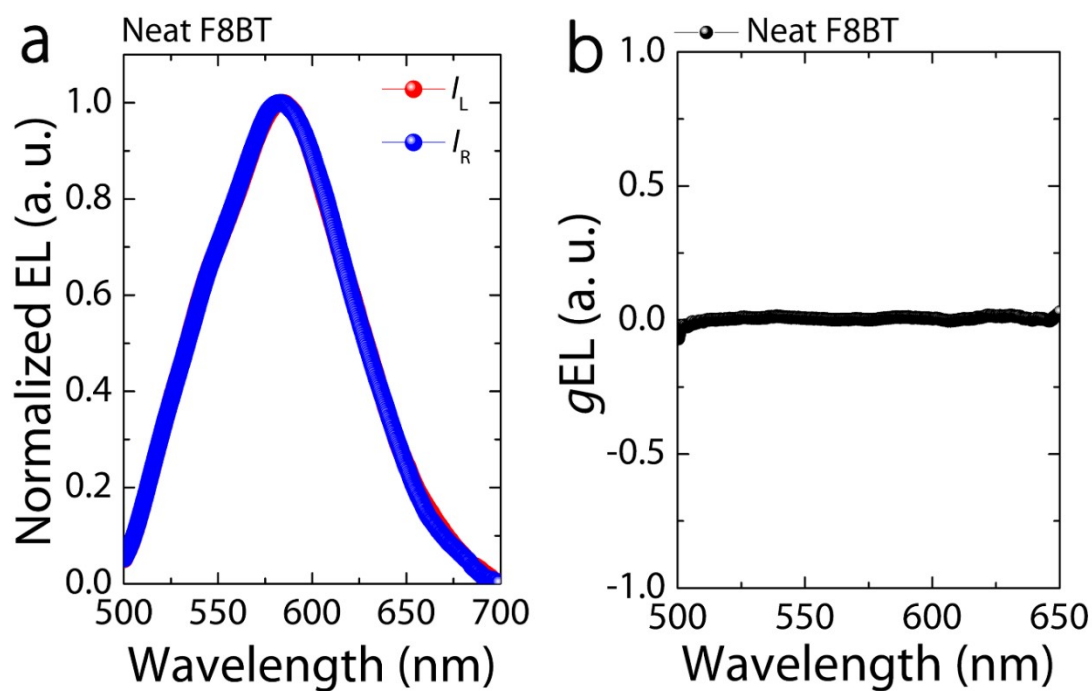


**Fig. S4.** *J-V-L* characteristics of 9K F8BT reference PLED devices (a). Corresponding luminance efficiency and power efficiency of 9K F8BT-based PLED devices (b). (c) Luminance as a function of current density. At the same current density (such as 70 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>), F8BT:aza[6]H PLED had a much lower luminance (1018 cd/m<sup>2</sup>) than neat F8BT PLED (2549 cd/m<sup>2</sup>). Large amounts of charge carriers were injected to aza[6]H without recombination due to the shallower subgap tail states of aza[6]H. By adding the EDA, the electrochemical doping process occurring between F8BT and the EDA can enhance direct charge injection to F8BT instead of aza[6]H, thereby increasing luminance (2115 cd/m<sup>2</sup>) as a manifestation of increasing charge carrier recombination.

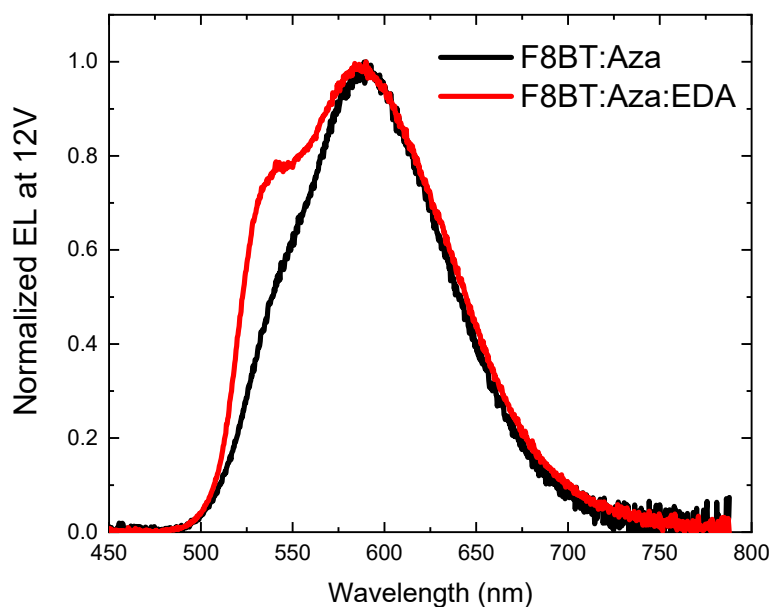


**Fig. S5.** a) Comparisons of the  $J$ - $V$ - $L$  characteristics of 21K F8BT:aza[6]H and F8BT:aza[6]H:EDA-based CP-LED devices. b) Corresponding luminance efficiency and power efficiency.

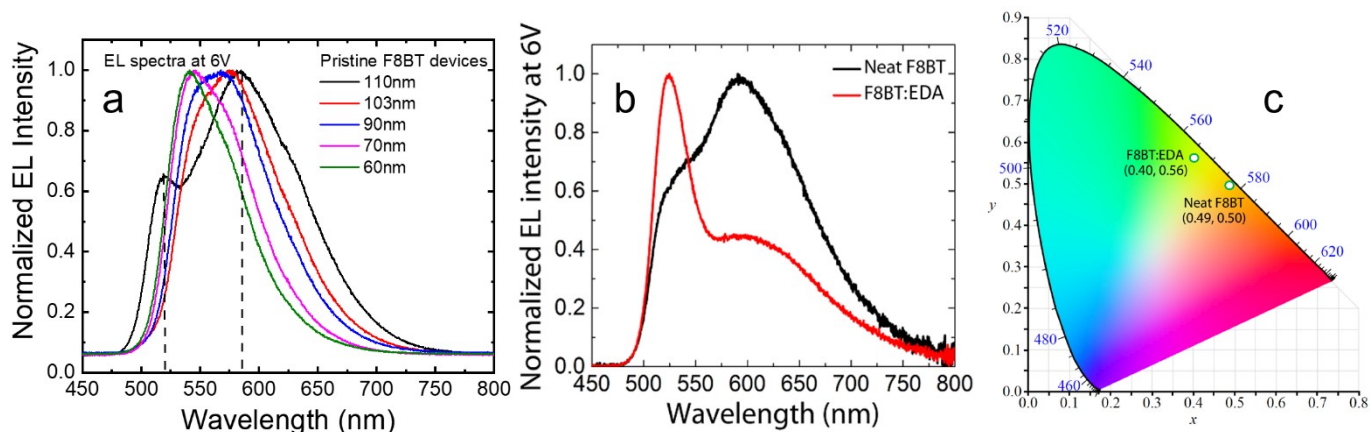
The F8BT (MW = 21 K):aza[6]H:EDA PLED had a 1 V lower  $V_L$  and a sharper current turn-on at 2 V than F8BT:aza[6]H, which indicates more efficient charge injection. Increases in the luminous and power efficiencies up to 1.3 cd/A and 0.6 lm/W, respectively, were also achieved, which are higher efficiencies than those of the F8BT:aza[6]H PLED (0.65 cd/A and 0.24 lm/W, respectively). These device improvements are consistent with those of the abovementioned 9 K F8BT device.



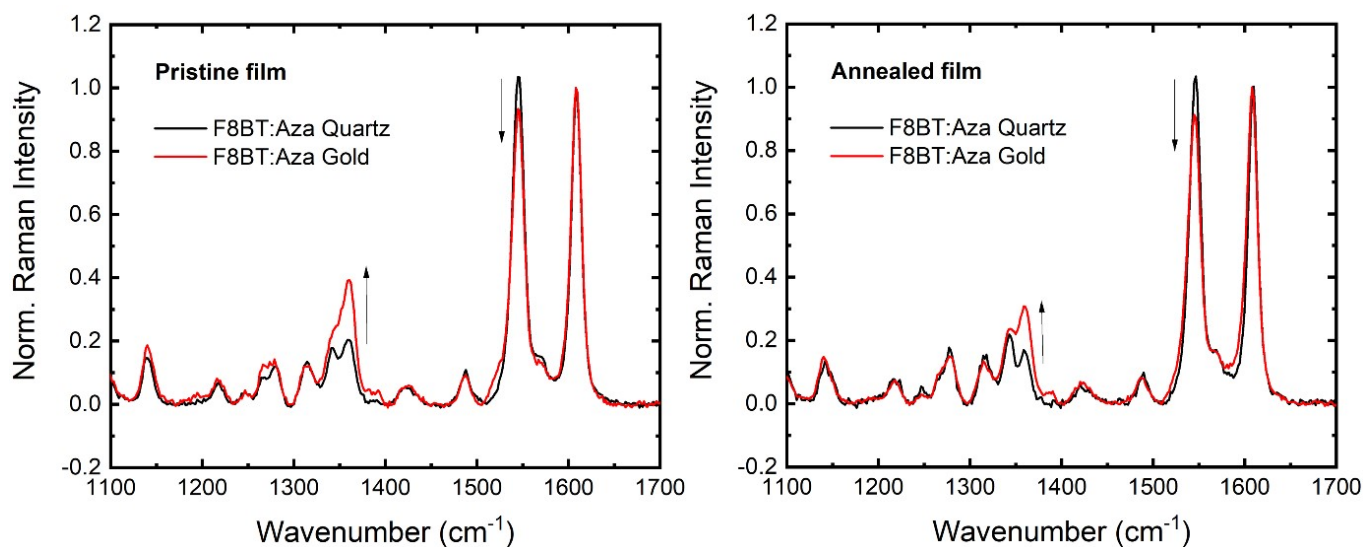
**Fig. S6.** Measured CP-EL spectra (a) and corresponding calculated  $g_{EL}$  values (b) obtained for neat F8BT reference PLEDs. No CP emission was emitted from neat F8BT PLEDs



**Fig. S7.** Normalized EL spectra of F8BT:aza[6]H and F8BT:aza[6]H:EDA at 12 V with a 190-nm-thick active layer. The relative EL intensity at 525-530 nm increases with EDA doping, possibly indicating a change in the recombination zone.



**Fig. S8.** (a) Thickness-dependent EL spectra of pristine F8BT PLEDs. (b) EL spectra of neat F8BT and F8BT:EDA PLEDs. (c) CIE coordinates for F8BT and F8BT:EDA PLEDs.



**Fig. S9.** Surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) for F8BT:aza pristine and annealed films on quartz or gold substrates. Compared with quartz substrates, the selective peak intensity increase at 1360 cm<sup>-1</sup> on gold substrates indicates the presence of aza[6]H, implying that aza[6]H mainly accumulates at the gold/F8BT interface of annealed films.