

# The Anming Hu Trial: FBI Agent Admitted Lying to Find "Spy" in Knoxville



Left: Professor Anming Hu. Right: Defense Attorney Phil Lomonaco Source: Knox News

According to [Knox News](#) and [The Hill](#), federal agents falsely accused the internationally-renown welding technology expert at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville (UTK) of being a spy and brought him to professional ruin.

FBI Agent Kujtim Sadiku admitted last week in the ongoing trial of Professor Anming Hu in Knoxville that federal agents:

- Falsely accused former UTK associate professor Anming Hu of being a Chinese spy.
- Falsely implicated him as an operative for the Chinese military in meetings with Hu's bosses.
- Used false information to put Hu on the federal no-fly list.
- Spurred U.S. customs agents to seize Hu's computer and phone and spread word throughout the international research community that Hu was poison.
- Used false information to justify putting a team of agents to spy on Hu and his son, a freshman at UTK, for nearly two years.
- Used false information to press Hu to become a spy for the U.S. government.

Why?

"You wanted to find a Chinese spy in Knoxville," defense attorney Phil Lomonaco offered as he cross-examined Sadiku on his tactics to secure a fraud indictment against Hu after the agency's economic espionage probe fell apart.

Sadiku responded, "My job is to find spies, yes."

More than three years after Sadiku launched a national security investigation against Hu, the agent still hasn't provided any proof that Hu is or was a spy, but the lies of the FBI agents have

ruined the life of Professor Hu. "They took everything he had," Lomonaco said. "They took his career, his livelihood, his students, his research."

Anming Hu became the first academic under the "China Initiative" to go to trial for "wire fraud" and "making false statements." None of the dozen or so professors or academic researchers are charged for economic espionage, but for possible administrative errors that were normally not treated as crimes until under the "China initiative."

[In a blog posted on June 14, 2021](#), the Cato Institute observes that bad incentives lead the FBI agents to accuse Professor Hu of being a spy. The most charitable explanation for the DOJ charging him with a crime is that it is a simple case of bureaucratic misunderstanding. A far more sinister reason why Hu is on trial: FBI and DOJ pressure to find spies and make double-agents out of them. Political mandates to discover and prosecute spies could lead to an overidentification of spies. Mark Rasch, former computer-crime prosecutor, said, "If you're looking everywhere for spies, you will find spies everywhere, even where they don't exist."

Racial profiling is not new in American history. On his first day in office, President Biden signed a historic Executive Order establishing a whole-of-government initiative to advance equity and racial justice and root out systemic racism from federal policies, programs, institutions and laws.

In the fog of hunting for spies, the FBI agent could not even remember how his investigation of Anming Hu got started.

We must stand up and speak out to ensure that the tragic history of the Chinese Exclusion Act, internment of persons of Japanese origin, the "Red Scare," and anti-Asian hate will not be repeated by the "China Initiative" and related racial profiling policies and practices from our own federal agencies.

The jury began deliberations on Monday, June 14, 2021 and will return on Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

Read more and follow the continuing developments of the Anming Hu case at [https://bit.ly/APAJ\\_AnmingHu](https://bit.ly/APAJ_AnmingHu).

## John Demers Leaving DOJ

According to [CNBC](#), [CNN](#), [POLITICO](#), and other media sources, John Demers, the Trump-appointed head of the National Security Division at the Department of Justice (DOJ), is leaving at the end of the month. Demers has emerged as a key figure in the widening scandal over DOJ's pursuit of records from journalists and political opponents as part of a leak investigation. He reportedly oversaw the searching of electronic records of reporters at major national news outlets and targeted several Democratic members of Congress. The DOJ Inspector General has announced the opening of an investigation.

Demers is also the Chair of the "China Initiative."

Demers will be the last Senate-confirmed Trump appointee to leave DOJ. The Biden administration's nominee, Matt Olsen, is awaiting Senate approval.

## **New OSTP Director: "The Federal Rules Can Be Confusing"**

Dr. Eric Lander was sworn in as the first-ever, cabinet-level director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on June 2, 2021. As President Joe Biden's newly installed science adviser, Dr. Lander will help shape the new administration's expansive vision for science. He will also face divisive issues leftover from the previous administration, including tougher enforcement of U.S. government requirements that scientists disclose foreign sources of funding.

In an interview with Science Magazine, Dr. Lander described the current mélange of rules—intended to prevent other nations from unfairly benefiting from U.S. science—can be confusing. The government can do better. “It’s very hard to figure out what you’re supposed to be disclosing,” Lander said, as “agencies have different rules, and their definitions also vary.”

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/3ili7dF>.

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