

06/23 Webinar on the Mistrial of Professor Anming Hu Under the “China Initiative”

This is the fifth of a series of webinars on the China Initiative co-hosted by APA Justice, Advancing Justice | AAJC, the Brennan Center, APAPA, and UCA. It is scheduled for June 23, 2021, starting at 8:00 pm ET/5:00 pm PT. Register to attend here: <https://bit.ly/3cY3jUy>.

On June 16, 2021, a mistrial in Professor Anming Hu’s case was declared after the jury deadlocked and failed to reach a verdict. After two years of failing to find any evidence of economic espionage, federal prosecutors built a case against Professor Hu rooted in racial bias and profiling under the Department of Justice’s “China Initiative.” This is a telling outcome for the first case of a university professor tried under the “China Initiative,” indicating the deep flaws in the investigations, surveillance, and other efforts under this initiative. The defense attorney for Professor Hu will provide a briefing of the trial. Civil rights organizations, the academic community, and local community leaders, who organized activities to support Professor Hu and his family, will speak out on their concerns with the “China Initiative” and the deeply concerning investigation and surveillance of Professor Hu. We will also hear actions being taken by Congress.

Read more about previous webinars here: https://bit.ly/APAJ_Webinar_Series.

Rep. Ted Lieu's Letter to Department of Justice's Inspector General

On June 17, 2021, Reps. Ted Lieu, Mondaire Jones, and Pramila Jayapal, all members of the House Judiciary Committee, wrote [a joint letter](#) calling on the Department of Justice's Inspector General Michael E. Horowitz to open a formal review of University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) Professor Anming Hu’s case. Citing the [Knox News report](#) that FBI agents:

- Falsely accused former UTK associate professor Dr. 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.

The requested investigation covers a range of issues, including but not limited to the following:

1. Did FBI agent Sadiku or other agents make false accusations and/or use false information against Professor Hu?
2. Did prosecutors at the Department of Justice know about the alleged misconduct of the FBI in this case?
3. Was the investigation or prosecution of Professor Hu conducted under the China Initiative?
4. Did racial or ethnic profiling occur in this case?
5. Was there an adequate non-racial or non-ethnic factual predicate to open this investigation?
6. Does the China Initiative put untoward pressure on FBI agents or Department of Justice prosecutors to engage in racial or ethnic profiling?

According to the [End Racial and Religious Profiling Act of 2021](#), "Racial Profiling" means the practice of a law enforcement agent or agency relying, to any degree, on actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation in selecting which individual to subject to routine or spontaneous investigatory activities or in deciding upon the scope and substance of law enforcement activity following the initial investigatory procedure, except when there is trustworthy information, relevant to the locality and timeframe, that links a person with a particular characteristic to an identified criminal incident or scheme.

Juneteenth National Independence Day Is Now Federal Holiday

According to Wikipedia, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation issued on 1 January 1863 officially outlawed slavery in Texas and in all of the other states of the original Confederacy. Juneteenth's commemoration is on the anniversary date of the June 19, 1865, announcement of General Order No. 3 by Union Army general Gordon Granger, proclaiming and enforcing freedom of enslaved people in Texas, which was the last state of the Confederacy with institutional slavery. Ratification of the [Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution](#) constitutionally abolished chattel slavery nationwide on December 6, 1865.

June 19 is now recognized as a federal holiday after President Joe Biden signed the [Juneteenth National Independence Day Act](#) into law on June 17, 2021.

"The historical legacy of Juneteenth shows the value of never giving up hope in uncertain times." Read more about the historical legacy of Juneteenth here: <https://s.si.edu/3j1HIE6>

Continuing Activities of The Yellow Whistle Campaign

On June 20, 2021, The Yellow Whistle Project joined the Voting is Justice rally in Manhattan's Chinatown in New York City to advocate for the safety of our communities

by calling for power through voting featuring Senator Schumer and the children of victims of recent hate crimes in NYC. "We Belong" yellow whistles were distributed in the event.

In the first half of June, OCA Greater Cleveland hosted a series of activities including

- In partnership with APAPA Ohio, it distributed Yellow Whistles to the seniors at Asian Evergreen Apartments
- On the first-ever Children's Day in Asiatown Cleveland, it distributed Yellow Whistles to the parents and grandparents and provided sidewalk chalk for the children with the assistance of NOVA and our dedicated volunteers, in addition to voter registration/education and AT&T Access.
- It distributed Yellow Whistles at the Feed AsiaTown community event at LJ Shanghai in cooperation with Asiatown Cleveland.

In the Washington DC area, the Yellow Whistle Project is establishing partnerships with

- The Chinese American Parent Association of Montgomery County (CAPA-MC), which was founded in 2016 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving and advocating for Chinese American families in Montgomery County, Maryland.
- The Chinese Culture and Community Center (CCACC), a non-profit organization formed in 1982 to serve the needs of the Greater Washington community in all facets of life, including Adult Day Healthcare Center, Pan Asian Volunteer Health Clinic, and Education.



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APA Justice
P.O. Box 257
McLean, VA 22101-0007

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