Letter to Judge to Dismiss Anming Hu Case

On August 20, 2021, APA Justice sent a letter to Judge Thomas A. Varlan urging him to dismiss the case and acquit Professor Hu in the best interest of justice and fairness.

It is with the historical perspective and the prevailing facts in the case that we find the intent by the Department of Justice to retry Professor Hu to be deeply concerning and invidious. Massive amounts of taxpayers' dollars and federal resources have already been spent without accountability to inflict enormous harm to Professor Hu and his family in the government’s zeal to hunt for a non-existent spy. Overzealous investigations such as Professor Hu’s undermines the U.S. Constitution. The “China Initiative” has resulted in heightened fear within the Asian American community, undermines the integrity of our justice system, and erodes trust in our federal government and democracy.

The letter was co-signed by nine national and local organizations:

- Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC
- Asian-American Community Service Council
- Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)
- Defending Rights & Dissent
- Greater Nashville Chinese Association (GNCA)
- New England Chinese American Coalition (NECAC)
- Ohio Chinese American Association (OCAA)
- San Francisco Community Alliance for Unity, Safety & Education (SFCause)
- University of Tennessee Chapter of the American Association of University Professors

These organizations have also co-signed the letter after it was sent by certified mail:

- Asian American Unity Coalition (AAUC)
- Calvin J Li Memorial Foundation
- Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)
- OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates

We thank Advancing Justice | AAJC for contributing significant edits to the letter to Judge Varlan.

Carl Patton, Professor Emeritus at Colorado State University, and the Committee of Concerned Scientists sent their letters to Judge Varlan urging the dismissal of Professor Hu’s case on August 2 and 4, 2021 respectively.

On August 20, 2021, South China Morning Post covered the letters in its reported on "Calls grow for US to dismiss ‘Nasa lies’ case of Hu Anming, as critics cite ‘racial bias’ in
AAPI Organizations Urge President Biden to Speak Out and Act More

On August 19, 2021, over 20 Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) organizations wrote to President Biden and asked him to do more and act more to address the surge of violence, racism, and hate against AAPIs.

In anticipation of the imminent release of a report on the origins of COVID-19 ordered by the President, the groups pointed out the perception by many that it was a validation of the so-called “lab leak” theory. In turn, it sparked a flurry of conspiracy theories that have been weaponized by politicians and pundits resulting in a false scapegoating of Asian Americans as somehow to blame for the pandemic. Of the over 9,000 hate incidents recently reported to Stop AAPI Hate, nearly half included statements regarding anti-Chinese or anti-immigrant rhetoric with the plurality involving scapegoating of China or Chinese people as the source of the novel coronavirus.

Despite the good intentions of the Biden Administration’s forthcoming report, its release will require the President to redouble his efforts to combat anti-AAPI hate and violence — to speak out and to act on precise language and substantive policy change, starting with the following initial actions:

- Invest in civil rights and human rights initiatives at the state and local levels.
- Increase federal funding for, and coordination with, community partners to deliver in-language, culturally competent mental health services.
- Prioritize language justice across the federal government.
- Pause the Department of Justice’s China Initiative.

According to the Washington Post on August 24, 2021, President Biden has received a classified report from the intelligence community that was inconclusive about the origins of the novel coronavirus, including whether the pathogen jumped from an animal to a human as part of a natural process, or escaped from a lab in central China. The intelligence community will seek within days to declassify elements of the report for potential public release.
2020 Census Results on Asian Americans


According to the report, the number of people who identify as Asian in the United States nearly tripled in the past three decades, and Asians are now the fastest-growing of the nation's four largest racial and ethnic groups. The Asian population has also become geographically diverse with wide variations in income, citizenship status and political preference.

The Asian population is complex, made up of nearly 20 million people, about 7% of the total population, who trace their roots to more than 20 countries in East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent.

The number of counties where people of Asian descent represent more than 5 percent of the population has risen to 176 in 2020 from 39 in 1990. North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, North Carolina and Indiana are among states that experienced major growth in the past decade. And people of Asian descent have been settling in ever larger numbers in states like West Virginia, where the overall population has declined.
Nearly 60 percent of all people of Asian descent, including those who are mixed race, were born outside the United States, and a majority are naturalized citizens. A vast majority of Asians in the United States are citizens, either naturalized or U.S.-born. Among the two dozen Asian American subpopulations, there are vast differences in age, income and other demographic categories. Even within groups, there are wide gulfs between the characteristics of new immigrants and those who were born in the United States or who were naturalized many years ago.

Read more: https://nyti.ms/3sG1ySV

2021/08/02 Monthly Meeting Summary Posted

Summary of the August 2 APA Justice meeting is now posted at https://bit.ly/3guIqlJ. In the meeting,

- **Nisha Ramachandran**, Executive Director of CAPAC provided updates including CAPAC statement and visit with Commerce Secretary Raimondo regarding a rogue unit in the Department of Commerce that has targeted Asian American employees for more than a decade, as well as actions related to Professor Anming Hu’s case.
- **Congressman Ted Lieu** remarked on the growth of the Asian American community, advocacy against anti-Asian hate, and past and current efforts against racial profiling including a bicameral letter to Attorney General Garland.
- **Dr. Jeremy Wu**, co-organizer of APA Justice reported that the U.S. government announced its intended to retry the case against Professor Anming Hu and the defense filed a renewed motion to dismiss the case.
- **Professor Kai Li**, Vice President of Asian American Scholar Forum, reported on the mission and activities of the newly formed organization comprised of 50 prominent scientists, about one third are elected to National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine.
- **Gisela Kusakawa**, NAPABA Law Foundation Community Law Fellow at Advancing Justice | AAJC, reported filing a joint appeal to the FBI on its denial of a FOIA request and organizational activities related to Rep. Lieu’s bicameral letter and Professor Anming Hu’s case.

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