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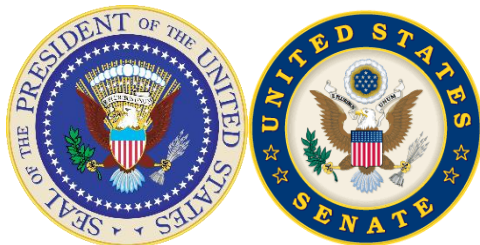
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On August 22, 2022, APA Justice, Asian American Scholar Forum, Tennessee Chinese American Alliance, and United Chinese Americans launched a nationwide campaign to oppose the nomination of Mr. Casey Arrowood to be the next U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee in support of Professor Anming Hu, who was the first academic to go to trial under the now-defunct "China Initiative." As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, Mr. Arrowood was the lead prosecutor for indicting and prosecuting Professor Hu not once but twice. Professor Hu was acquitted of all charges; the judge opined in his ruling that no rational jury could convict Professor Hu of the crimes alleged. This special issue of the APA Justice newsletter is dedicated to provide more information and background about the campaign. Questions and comments may be sent to contact@apajustice.org

Please sign on to the campaign here: <https://bit.ly/OpposeArrowoodNomination>



Why Two Letters are Prepared and More are Encouraged



United States Attorneys are the chief federal law enforcement officers in their judicial district. They make choices about which cases to prosecute, the charges to pursue, and how the cases may be pursued or settled. They can use their immense discretion to exert control over the application of federal law in their district. According to [one paper](#), U.S. Attorneys profoundly shape the number, type, and effectiveness of federal criminal prosecutions and federal law enforcement generally.

The process for appointing a new U.S. Attorney is for the President to nominate a candidate and the Senate through its Judiciary Committee to confirm or reject the nomination. It is also not uncommon for a candidate to withdraw from nomination. Mr. Casey Arrowood was nominated by President Biden to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee for a term of four years on July 29, 2022. The Senate Judiciary Committee logged the nomination as PN2444 on August 1, 2022. The Senate is in recess; it is scheduled to return on September 6, 2022.

In his capacity as an Assistant U.S. Attorney since January 29, 2019, Mr. Arrowood was the lead prosecutor who indicted and prosecuted Professor Anming Hu not once but twice. In Professor Hu and his family's [August 19 letter](#) to the White House calling for President Biden to rescind the nomination, they cited four explanations for their objection

1. As the leading prosecutor, Mr. Arrowood should have stopped this wrongful investigation and never brought this case forward for prosecution.
2. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, Mr. Arrowood himself did not understand the law that he was prosecuting.
3. This wrongful prosecution created a strong chilling effect among the Chinese American community.
4. This nomination has harmed the reputation of the U.S. government.

APA Justice, Asian American Scholar Forum, Tennessee Chinese American Alliance, and United Chinese Americans support the position of Professor Hu and his family and launched the nationwide campaign to oppose the nomination of Mr. Arrowood on August 22, 2022.

We have prepared two letters to be finalized and sent on September 6, 2022.

The [first letter calls for President Biden](#) to withdraw the nomination of Mr. Arrowood. Based on available facts and evidence, Mr. Arrowood demonstrated his poor judgment, wasted valuable taxpayers' dollars, failed to uphold justice and fairness, and eroded public trust in his unjust prosecution of Professor Hu, The President should be well advised that a poor selection may reflect adversely on his administration for the next four years. Once appointed, there will be difficulty in checking a U.S. Attorney's actions.

The [second letter calls for the Senate Judiciary Committee](#) to take no action on the nomination of Mr. Casey Arrowood until

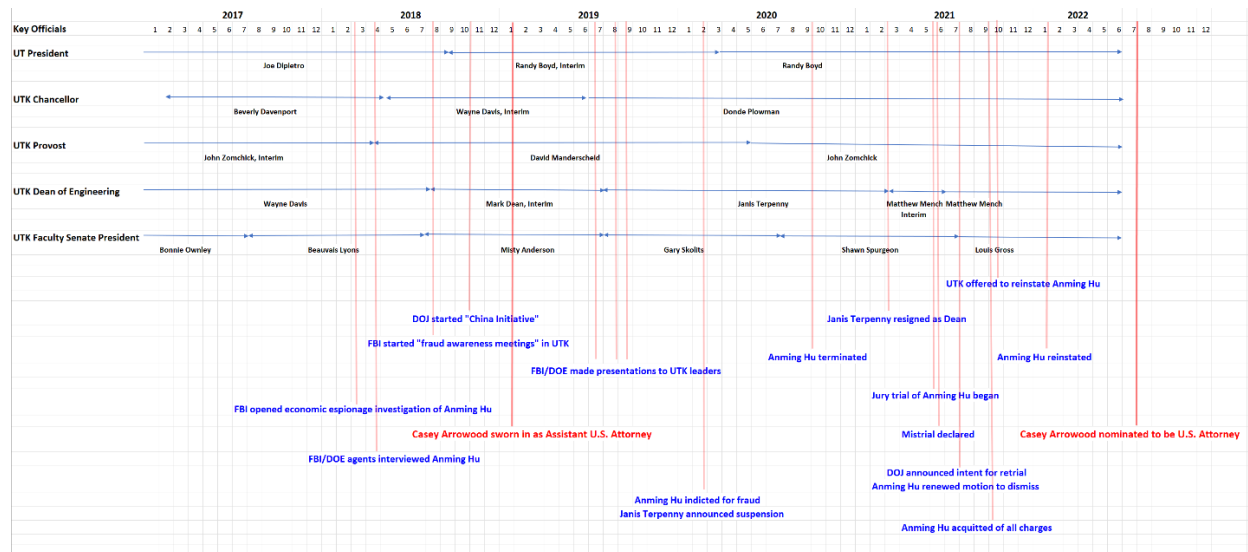
1. The nominee's activities in the case of Professor Anming Hu are thoroughly investigated,
2. Professor Hu is interviewed by the Judiciary Committee staff to share his story,
3. The Committee holds a public hearing on the nomination for representatives of the Asian American and scientific communities to be heard.

We do not ask for a NO vote mainly because the Senate Judiciary Committee has the responsibility to fully review Mr. Arrowood's track record and performance, as well as to hear the perspectives from Professor Hu and the communities.

We encourage more letters to be sent to the White House and the Senate Judiciary Committee to assist in the investigation of Mr. Arrowood's conduct and performance and to ensure that the voices of the Asian American, immigrant, and scientific/academic communities are heard.

Join the campaign to oppose the nomination of Mr. Arrowood here: <https://bit.ly/OpposeArrowoodNomination>

Nomination a Reward for Mr. Casey Arrowood's Unjust Prosecutions of Professor Anming Hu?



According to a [Department of Justice \(DOJ\) announcement](#), Mr. Casey Arrowood was one of 15 new Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSA) sworn in for the Eastern District of Tennessee by Judge Thomas Varlan, Chief U.S. District Judge, on January 29, 2019. Mr. Arrowood joined the Knoxville office where he handles general crimes and national security matters, about three months after DOJ launched the "China Initiative." Prior to coming to the Eastern District of Tennessee, he served as an AUSA in the Western District of North Carolina and a trial attorney in the National Security Division at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC. He also previously served as a law clerk in the Eastern District of New York and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) agent Kujtim Sadiku opened an economic espionage investigation into University of Tennessee at Knoxville (UTK) Professor Hu based on a Google search, not any criminal predicate, in March 2018. According to [the letter](#) from Professor Hu to

President Biden, FBI agent Sadiku briefed Mr. Arrowood in March 2019 that there was no evidence of espionage after a year of investigation. Mr. Arrowood neglected the fact and applied for grand jury subpoena to continue the investigation. In addition, Mr. Arrowood joined the FBI's presentations to UTK faculty and administrators and weaponized their testimony by falsely painting Professor Hu as a Chinese agent who worked for the Chinese military.

When the allegation that Professor Hu spied for China could not be supported by facts and evidence, he was pressed to spy on China for the U.S. government. After Professor Hu refused, Mr. Arrowood mounted a wrongful wire fraud case against Professor Hu in February 2020. The first trial ended in a mistrial with a deadlocked jury. Instead of reviewing his weak case and acting in the interests of justice, Mr. Arrowood pursued a retrial of Professor Hu, upon which Judge Thomas Varlan [acquitted](#) Professor Hu of all charges.

Mr. Arrowood's tenure as AUSA in Tennessee covered the unjust prosecutions against Professor Hu. It gives credence to the allegation that Mr. Arrowood is being rewarded by the nomination for the unjust prosecutions. Our letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee calls for no action on the nomination until a thorough investigation of Mr. Arrowood's activities and a hearing of the perspectives of the Asian American community have been completed.

Prior to the DOJ announcement in 2019, Mr. Arrowood reportedly served as Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Western District of North Carolina in 2017-2018. However, there is no public record from DOJ or other sources about this appointment or his conduct and performance for these two years.

Join the campaign to oppose the nomination of Mr. Arrowood
here: <https://bit.ly/OpposeArrowoodNomination>

Injustice to Professor Hu and His Family Is Injustice to All

冤 Injustice

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For more than three years, Professor Anming Hu and his family suffered the prolonged ordeals of injustice. Rather than taking the necessary time to heal, he and his family must now again relive courageously the painful experiences because of the nomination of Mr. Arrowood.

The unjust prosecution forever changed Professor Hu and his family's life. Even his own son, then a college student, was surveilled and, as a result of his father's indictment, forced to

abandon his studies at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. To this day, Professor Hu describes that period as “the darkest time of [his] life” as he and his family endured financial instability, traumas, health issues, family separation, and a long battle for justice. As a Canadian national working in the U.S., he is separated from his family in Canada. He applied for permanent residence in the U.S. prior to his investigation and prosecutions in the hope of becoming a U.S. citizen one day. The process continues to linger. He is deeply thankful for his neighbors, colleagues, church congregation, friends, communities, and many across the nation whom he does not know and yet lend him and his family support and comfort.

He is not alone.

The Chinese character for injustice 冤 is an ideogrammic compound of putting a cover 冖 on a rabbit 兔. According to [Wiktionary](#), the same character is used in Japanese Kanji, Korean Hanja, and Vietnamese Han character. The ancient form of the character [reportedly](#) first appeared in the Qin Dynasty (221-206 BC).

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