

Registration Opens for Third Webinar

Registration is now open for the Third Webinar in a series on February 24, 2021, starting at 8 pm ET/5 pm PT: <https://bit.ly/3qbRcba>. Please join the event and help spread the word to build a broad coalition to support the legal and policy reforms necessary to protect the civil rights of all communities.

The banner features a purple and blue gradient background. On the left, there are six circular headshots of speakers arranged in two rows of three. The top row includes Rep. Judy Chu and Faiza Patel. The bottom row includes Karen Korematsu, Becky Monroe, and Leslie Wong. To the right of the headshots is a large white arrow pointing right, containing the webinar title and date. Below the arrow are logos for Advancing Justice AIC, APA Justice, APAPA, Brennan Center for Justice, and UCA. At the bottom right, there is a QR code and an RSVP link.

Building Coalition Against “China Initiative” Discrimination:
Fighting racial targeting of Asian Americans and communities of color, past & present

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021
8pm ET / 7pm CT / 6pm MT / 5pm PT / 3pm HT

Rep. Judy Chu
U.S. Representative (CA-27), Chair of Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

Faiza Patel
Director of Liberty & National Security Program, Brennan Center for Justice

Karen Korematsu
Founder & Executive Director, Fred T. Korematsu Institute

Becky Monroe
Director of Fighting Hate & Bias Program, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

Leslie Wong
President Emeritus, San Francisco State University

ADVANCING JUSTICE AIC | APA Justice | APAPA | BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE | UCA

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3qbRcba>

Read more about the webinar ***Building Coalition Against “China Initiative” Discrimination: Fighting racial targeting of Asian Americans and communities of color, past & present*** in English and Chinese here: <https://bit.ly/2N5HNDY>.

"China Initiative"

As of February 18, 2021, about 970 persons have signed the "We are all Gang Chen" petition: <https://bit.ly/36A4kiw>. Let's get to 1,000!

On February 16, 2021, the Atlantic published [What the Fear of China Is Doing to American Science](#). According to the report, "the United States can address past and future conflicts of interest while also welcoming scientists of all backgrounds. A good first step would be a [public review of the China Initiative](#), to allow Congress and the scientific community to understand more about how the initiative is being conducted and how much hard evidence it has collected of espionage and illicit activity on Beijing's part. Lawmakers should also assess whether the Justice Department's work includes protections against [discriminatory investigation and prosecution](#). Such a review would

be consistent with the [Biden administration's recent rebuke of racism directed at Asian Americans](#), and would signal to Chinese researchers that they are valued members of the American scientific community." The article has been reposted widely, including Defense One, NextGov, and The Global Eye.

U.S. Attorney Andrew E. Lelling for the District of Massachusetts is resigning his position, effective February 28, 2021. U.S. Attorney David Anderson for the Northern District of California will step down from his post on February 27, 2021. Links to U.S. Attorney for Northern District of Alabama and the District of Northern District of Texas have been replaced by Acting U.S. Attorneys Prim F. Escalona and Prerak Shah respectively. They have been "[China Initiative Steering Committee](#)" members.

On February 8, 2021, Stanford University published [a statement by Stanford President Marc Tessier-Lavigne](#) at the Stanford Faculty Senate Meeting in reaction to the arrest of Professor Gang Chen. "In particular, I want to make clear that we unequivocally support our Chinese and Chinese-American colleagues and their ability to study and work at Stanford... It's critical that scholars continue to be able to collaborate in appropriate ways with researchers abroad and that they are not penalized for actions that are a normal part of free scholarly exchange," the Stanford President said.

Hate Crimes Against Asian Americans on The Rise Again

Asian Americans face two potent viruses during the pandemic - the coronavirus itself and the social virus of racism and hate that were incited by inflammatory, xenophobic encouragement such as "China Virus" and "Kung Flu." Despite the January 26, 2021 Presidential Memorandum, and perhaps because of it, anti-Asian hate crimes, particularly against the elderly, are sadly on the rise again.

According to The Hill's February 16, 2021 report on [Hundreds of volunteers are escorting elderly Asian Americans to keep them safe](#), "an 84-year-old man from Thailand died in late January after being attacked on his morning walk in San Francisco. Days later, a 91-year-old Asian man was violently shoved to the ground in Oakland's Chinatown. Last week, a 64-year-old woman was robbed outside a Vietnamese market in San Jose, Calif. And a 61-year-old Filipino man was slashed in the face last week on the New York City subway."

[This video on Hate Crimes Against Asian Americans Continue to Rise](#) by The Daily Social Distancing Show, including John Yang of Advancing Justice | AAJC, has more than one million views since it was posted on February 16, 2021,

Read dozens more about these developments and reactions at: <https://bit.ly/2KC7zuk>. WARNING: Some of the videos are disturbing to watch.

Erratum

The February 15 2021 newsletter incorrectly stated that "... the Department of Defense filed an opposition to Professor Chen's February 4 motion for sanctions..." It should be the Department of Justice instead. The corrected newsletter is posted at https://bit.ly/APAJ_Newsletters

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