

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Honorable Anthony Blinken  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Honorable Merrick Garland  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Secretary Blinken and Attorney General Garland,

We are writing to express our grave concern over reports of the law enforcement presence of the People's Republic of China in New York City. The Public Security (Police) Bureau of Fuzhou, China, announced in January 2022 that it has opened the "first batch" of 30 overseas police service stations in 25 cities in 21 countries. In the United States, the Fuzhou Police's overseas service station is hosted at the American Changle Association, an overseas Chinese hometown organization in New York City.<sup>1</sup>

According to a recent report by Safeguard Defenders, a human rights NGO based in Spain, overseas Chinese hometown associations have become overwhelmingly co-opted by the Chinese Communist Party's United Front organizations, which seek increasing control over the Chinese diaspora (despite providing some genuine services to local Chinese communities). The report indicates that at least some of those Chinese hometown associations hosting the overseas police service stations are linked to the CCP's United Front.<sup>2</sup> It is deeply troubling that the Chinese government could use these service stations as its long arm policing abroad.

A 2018 report from the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission has described how CCP's United Front Work Department has worked to suppress the free speech rights of U.S. persons protesting against the CCP. According to Peter Mattis, a research fellow at Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, CCP intimidation and efforts to promote Beijing's narrative "sometimes crosses the line into criminal actions, such as conspiracy against

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.gj.gov.cn/xjwz/ttxw/202202/t20220208\\_4305770.htm](http://www.gj.gov.cn/xjwz/ttxw/202202/t20220208_4305770.htm)

<sup>2</sup> <https://safeguarddefenders.com/sites/default/files/pdf/110%20Overseas%20%282%29.pdf>

rights.”<sup>3</sup> The U.S. Department of State has similarly found that the CCP’s United Front Work Department funds and supports overseas organizations to spread propaganda and coerces and bullies those who would oppose Beijing’s policies. In 2018, former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo imposed visa restrictions on Chinese officials and individuals active in United Front Work Department’s nefarious activities.<sup>4</sup>

Although claiming to provide Fuzhou residents abroad certain services, often administrative or consular in nature, such as renewing their Chinese driver’s license, the Fuzhou overseas police service stations (including their online form) are reportedly involved in fulfilling Chinese law enforcement functions at least in some countries. They coerce purported Chinese fugitives abroad to return to China to face legal proceedings, which is euphemistically dubbed as “persuading to return” in Chinese parlance. By doing so, China avoids scrutiny on its human rights record in relation to repatriating alleged fugitives overseas by eschewing formal international cooperation mechanisms.<sup>5</sup>

There should be no room for the Chinese government to exercise extraterritorial law enforcement unilaterally on U.S. soil. In 2018 the U.S. government provided the Chinese government with specific requirements for contacting state and local law enforcement in the United States.<sup>6</sup> According to these guidelines, Chinese police authorities at both national and local levels that wish to contact U.S. law enforcement of state or local governments must make a request to FBI Legal Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. Similarly, Police Liaison Officers in Chinese diplomatic missions in the United States who wish to contact US law enforcement of state or local governments must first make a request to the FBI’s International Operations Division. Thirdly, Chinese diplomatic missions may not enter into agreement with US state and local law enforcement officials.<sup>7</sup> It is doubtful if the Fuzhou overseas police service station in New York City was established in coordination with relevant U.S. authorities.

In 2020 the Chinese government’s campaign illegally targeting U.S. residents to force their return to China had become so severe that the FBI issued an internal memorandum on this issue.<sup>8</sup> The Chinese overseas police service station established in New York City earlier this year appears to be a further step of China’s illicit long arm policing on U.S. soil that violates our sovereignty.

Considering the importance to safeguard the liberty of U.S. persons and the sovereignty of the United States from foreign encroachment, we request that you kindly respond to the following questions by October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022,

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<sup>3</sup> Quoted in *China’s Overseas United Front Work Background and Implications for the United States*: [https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/Research/China%27s%20Overseas%20United%20Front%20Work%20-%20Background%20and%20Implications%20for%20US\\_final\\_0.pdf](https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/Research/China%27s%20Overseas%20United%20Front%20Work%20-%20Background%20and%20Implications%20for%20US_final_0.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://2017-2021.state.gov/u-s-imposes-sanctions-on-peoples-republic-of-china-officials-engaged-in-coercive-influence-activities/index.html>

<sup>5</sup> <https://safeguarddefenders.com/sites/default/files/pdf/110%20Overseas%20%282%29.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.scribd.com/document/487370689/FBI-counterintelligence-bulletin#download&from\\_embed](https://www.scribd.com/document/487370689/FBI-counterintelligence-bulletin#download&from_embed)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

1. Did the Department of State, Department of Justice, or any other agency of the federal government invite or approve China's Fuzhou police to establish a presence in New York City?
2. Is there any other Chinese law enforcement presence in the United States besides Fuzhou police's overseas services station in New York City?
3. Has the Biden administration rescinded the visa restrictions imposed by the previous administration on Chinese nationals engaged in United Front work activities?
4. Has the Department of State issued any visas to Chinese nationals to perform law enforcement or other related government duties at the Fuzhou Police Overseas Service Station in New York City?
5. Have the Fuzhou Police Overseas Service Station in New York City and any of its employees registered with the federal government in accordance with Foreign Missions Act and Foreign Agents Registration Act?
6. Has the Fuzhou Police Overseas Service Station in New York City engaged in any activities to monitor, harass U.S. residents or has it coerced any purported fugitive to go to China without due process under U.S. law?

With regards,




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Jim Banks  
Member of Congress




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Michael Waltz  
Member of Congress




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Mike Gallagher  
Member of Congress



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Chris Smith  
Member of Congress



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Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



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Andrew Garbarino  
Member of Congress



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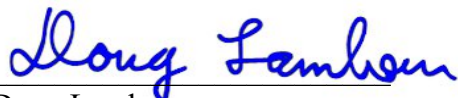
Ken Buck  
Member of Congress



Elise Stefanik  
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



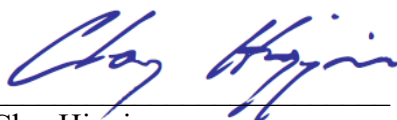
Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



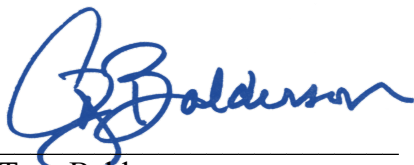
Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress



Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko  
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Diana Harshberger  
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Louie Gohmert  
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Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.  
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Ashley Hinson  
Member of Congress