

Mr. Ronggao Zhang

[REDACTED]
Urbana, IL 61801

August 11, 2017

Via email and regular mail

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Yingying Zhang – missing Chinese scholar

Dear Mr. President:

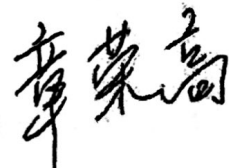
It is with profound sadness that I write to you today on behalf of my wife and myself. Our daughter, Yingying Zhang, went missing in Urbana, Illinois on June 9, 2017, while she was in the process of beginning her graduate studies at the University of Illinois. We have been informed by the local and federal law enforcement authorities that Yingying was kidnapped and is presumed to be dead. While an arrest has been made, Yingying's body has not been found. You may already be aware of this situation, as this story has received a lot of media coverage and gained attention on social media websites, both here in the United States and in China, and it is being widely followed by the Chinese public.

As a loving father to your own children, you can understand what we are going through. Yingying means the world to us. She has always made us proud. She is a diligent and gifted student, and a generous and caring person. Her dream was to finish her studies in the United States and return to China to become a university professor, support her family and share her knowledge with her students for years to come. We know Yingying would be with us if she could. Consistent with our deeply-held Chinese cultural values, we cannot imagine returning to China without her.

We have faith that the local and federal authorities here in the United States, especially the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are working very hard to find our daughter. But, with each passing day, the chances of finding Yingying alive decrease. We fervently request that you direct all available federal law enforcement and investigatory resources be used to find our daughter as soon as possible. Thank you.

Most respectfully,

Ronggao Zhang



cc: Mr. Jefferson Sessions, Attorney General of the United States of America (via email)