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SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

548 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6002

February 24, 2023

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray,

As Chairman of the Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), I write to request a briefing to the Select Committee on the FBI's ongoing efforts to combat the illegal operation of People's Republic of China (PRC) law enforcement in the United States.¹ As you know, the Select Committee is tasked with investigating the CCP's economic and security progress and its competition with the United States, and is authorized to exercise investigative authorities to inform its policy recommendation on such matters.² The illegal operation of PRC law enforcement in the US is part of the CCP's broader efforts to undermine American security and extend its techno-totalitarian reach beyond the PRC's borders.

While I welcome recent news reports that the FBI has conducted a search of one such station in New York City,³ I remain concerned that other stations may exist. I am also troubled by the fact that the FBI appears to have been late to the game—acting in response to open-source information only after it was publicized by Safeguard Defenders and concerns were raised by Members of Congress.⁴

¹ "110 Overseas: Chinese Transnational Policing Gone Wild," Safeguard Defenders, Sep. 2022, <https://safeguarddefenders.com/sites/default/files/pdf/110%20Overseas%20%28v5%29.pdf>; Megha Rajagopalan and William K. Rashbaum, "With F.B.I. Search, U.S. Escalates Global Fight Over Chinese Police Outposts," *The New York Times*, Jan. 12, 2023, <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/12/world/europe/china-outpost-new-york.html>.

² See H. Res. 11 Section 1(b)(2); (c)(1)-(3).

³ Rajagopalan & Rashbaum, "With F.B.I. Search," <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/12/world/europe/china-outpost-new-york.html>.

⁴ Houston Keene, "Republicans demand answers from Biden officials on report China opened police arm in NYC," Fox News, Oct. 7, 2022, <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/republicans-demand-answers-biden-officials-report-china-opened-police-arm-nyc>.

As you know, the human rights organization Safeguard Defenders identified more than one hundred PRC police stations illegally operating on foreign soil last fall. These offices extend the reach of the PRC's systematic and transnational repression of the rights of Chinese citizens, individuals of Chinese heritage, and many others. Through these outposts and other tools of coercion, the CCP has violated the rights of American citizens, residents, and visitors.

These offices spread CCP repression globally by completing PRC law enforcement tasks, which include threatening members of the Chinese diaspora and Uyghur and Tibetan minorities abroad, and coercing Chinese fugitives to return to the PRC.⁵ Although the PRC officially denies that these outposts serve law enforcement purposes, PRC state media "tout the effectiveness of the offices, which are frequently called overseas police service centers."⁶ The New York office was allegedly established by the city of Fuzhou to conduct illegal transnational law enforcement.⁷

The threat posed by the CCP is not confined to East Asia. American citizens and those who come to our nation fleeing the CCP's repression should find liberty and security. American soil must be a refuge from totalitarian coercion, not playground for CCP repression. Any failure to protect American citizens, residents, and visitors from foreign repression is unacceptable.

You have stated that any such outposts violate US sovereignty.⁸ I agree, and I therefore request that you schedule a briefing with the Select Committee as soon as possible to respond to the following questions:

1. Before the issuance of the Safeguard Defenders report, was the FBI aware that the PRC had a law enforcement outpost in New York City?
2. Is the FBI aware of any other such outposts in the United States?
3. What steps has the FBI taken in to investigate whether any other such outposts exist in the US and, if so, what steps has the FBI taken to close these outposts? Is the FBI adequately equipped with the resources, personnel, and legal tools to track the activities of the PRC in the United States?
4. What role do these outposts play in PRC intelligence gathering in the United States?
5. Have these outposts targeted American residents and/or American citizens and what steps is the FBI taking to protect American citizens and residents?

⁵ "110 Overseas"; Christopher Wray, "The Threat Posed by the Chinese Government and the Chinese Communist Party to the Economic and National Security of the United States," Federal Bureau of Investigation, July 7, 2020, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/speeches/the-threat-posed-by-the-chinese-government-and-the-chinese-communist-party-to-the-economic-and-national-security-of-the-united-states>.

⁶ Rajagopalan & Rashbaum, "With F.B.I. Search," <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/12/world/europe/china-outpost-new-york.html>.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ Michael Martina and Ted Hesson, "FBI director 'very concerned' by Chinese 'police stations' in U.S.," *Reuters*, Nov. 17, 2022, <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/fbi-director-very-concerned-by-chinese-police-stations-us-2022-11-17/>.

6. What role do these facilities play in the CCP's Operation Fox Hunt or Operation Skynet?
7. Has the FBI engaged with the State Department to address this issue with its PRC counterparts or with U.S. partners and allies who may host similar facilities?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AG", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Gallagher
Chairman