

*Embassy of United States of America*  
*Bei jing, China*  
October 13, 2004

Mr. Jude J. Shao  
P.O. Box 701-422  
Qing Pu Prison  
Shanghai, China 201701

Dear Mr. Shao:

Thank you for the copy of your letter of September 5 addressed to Secretary Colin Powell. Let me assure you that your case continues to be at the forefront of the American citizen and human rights cases we raise with the Chinese at every appropriate opportunity. I agree with the Ambassador that the facts and circumstances of your case warrant a review of your conviction by Chinese authorities. Through the Embassy's persistent efforts, others who have been unfairly incarcerated in China have regained their freedom, and we are actively engaged in advocating for your release.

As you know, the ambassador met with Mr. Chuck Hoover and with Professor Jerome Cohen to discuss your case last May. You are fortunate to have such devoted friends and tireless advocates working on your behalf. We are also carefully monitoring developments with regard to the Supreme People's court's response to the findings of the panel of six prominent Chinese legal scholars, including the new evidence concerning your tax payment records. On the diplomatic side, the Ambassador and other Embassy officials continue to raise your case in many consular, human rights, and other bilateral contexts. As you know, the Ambassador has also mentioned your case prominently in speeches and other public forums. High-level officials visiting from Washington regularly inquire about government as well.

The United States remains concerned about violations of human rights and the rule of law wherever they occur and, particularly, where the rights of Americans are violated. We will continue to press Chinese authorities to live up to their stated commitment to the rule of law as it applies in your case. We will continue to do our utmost to advocate for justice and fair treatment for you and other American citizens unfairly incarcerated in China.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

David S. Sedney  
Charge' d'Affaires, a.i.