

February 11, 2005

U.S. Department of State  
2201 C. Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary of State Rice:

I'm a former political science student of yours at Stanford ('88) who took your invaluable advice to me to work on Capitol Hill after graduation. I spent the next 3 years working as a legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, and it is because of this experience and my belief in our democracy and system of justice that I am now seeking your support for my classmate from Stanford Business School, Jude Shao, who is in prison in China.

First, my classmates and I would like to offer our heartfelt congratulations on your Senate confirmation. You are an inspiration and role model to many of us in the Stanford community, and we know that you will represent our country well.

Second, we would like to take this time to make sure you are aware of the case of Jude Shao, a Stanford alumnus who is one of many Chinese-Americans incarcerated in China. An entrepreneur who started a medical equipment trading company in San Francisco with a branch in Shanghai, Jude was falsely convicted of tax evasion in March, 2000 and sentenced to 16 years in prison, one of the longest sentences handed down to a foreigner. According to the Congressional-Executive Commission on China's Political Prisoner Database, "Shao's attorney was neither permitted to meet with him nor to review the evidence against him prior to trial." Although Jude has retrieved tax receipts from his offices in San Francisco that prove his innocence, his petition to the the Supreme People's Court for a retrial was just recently denied as reported in the Wall Street Journal today (see below).

While Jude would like to have his day in court, it seems that the legal avenues may be exhausted at this point. His family filed for medical parole last year, but has yet to hear back. Jude suffers from debilitating back pain and headaches, as well as a heart ailment. We recently received an email from a former cellmate of Jude's who expressed great concern about his obviously deteriorating health and the fact that he is subject to mental torture.

Ambassador Randt and his staff have been very supportive. We also understand that President Bush discussed human rights issues with Chinese officials at last fall's APEC summit, and Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs James A. Kelly raised Jude's case. While we appreciate the actions the Bush administration has taken thus far, we hope that you might be able to further advocate for Jude in your new position. We note with approval your personal intervention in the case of Avnish Bajaj, the Chief Executive Officer of Baazee.com, who was unjustly imprisoned in India. Jude Shao is in an analogous situation, an American businessman unjustly imprisoned, and it would be a small, but important step in the name of human rights for China if you could intercede to request Jude Shao be released on medical parole.

We would welcome an opportunity to share more about Jude's case with you in person and could make ourselves available at any time that is convenient for you. We have also posted the pertinent facts and documents on his case at <http://www.freejudeshao.com>. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Caroline Pappajohn, Stanford '88, MBA '93, \*Enterprise Director, Golden Gate Community, Inc.  
Chuck Hoover, MBA '93, \*SVP Marketing and Business Development, CarsDirect, Inc.  
Cynthia Dai, MBA '93, \*Principal, Dainamic Consulting, Inc.  
Lang Anh Pham, MBA '93, Entrepreneur

Mark Williams, JD/MBA '93, MD, Yale, \*VP Medical Affairs, Tibion  
\*for identification purposes only