

**United States Department of State**

Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC - 7 2004

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DEC 8 - 2004
Zoe Lofgren
D.C. Office

Dear Ms. Lofgren:

This is in response to your letter of November 9 to President Bush discussing the imprisonment of Jude Shao and your interest in bringing this matter to the attention of Chinese President Hu Jintao during the Asia Pacific Economic Conference. The White House has asked the Department of State to respond.

Since Mr. Shao's detention, we have regularly raised his case both publicly and privately. Last month, President Bush traveled to Chile for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit, where he met with Chinese President Hu Jintao. The President raised his concerns over human rights in China overall, and Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs James A. Kelly, who was with the President, raised Mr. Shao's case with senior Chinese officials. Let me assure you that the U.S. Embassy in Beijing and the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai continue to be concerned about Mr. Shao's situation and recently made their 59th prison visit to him. On this visit, Mr. Shao mentioned his small food rations but otherwise had no complaints regarding his health or other prison conditions.

We hope this information is useful in responding to your constituent. If you have additional questions regarding this or any other consular matter you may contact Anita Allegra in the East Asia and Pacific Division of the Office of Overseas Citizens Services and Crisis Management at telephone (202) 736-9136. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul V. Kelly". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Paul V. Kelly
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

The Honorable
Zoe Lofgren,
House of Representatives.