



March 10, 2016

Honorable Judge Danny Chun
Supreme Court of the State of New York
County of Kings
320 Jay Street, 19th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

RE: People V. Peter Liang
Indictment No. 9988/2014

Dear Honorable Judge Chun:

OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates is a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans. OCA was founded in 1973 and has over 100 chapters and affiliates across the country. Our goals include advocacy for social justice, equal opportunity and fair treatment of Asian Pacific Americans.

The case of Akai Gurley and rookie Officer Peter Liang has profoundly struck and moved our community. We are deeply saddened by the loss of another young innocent life. We are forced to see clearly the failed systems that brought the two young men together and the resulting tragic accident. We are also deeply troubled that our judicial system engages in unfair selective prosecution resulting in Peter Liang bearing the full burden of appeasing the public's outcry on the many more egregious police misconducts in recent news.

The Greater New York OCA chapters, covering New York City, Long Island, Westchester-Hudson Valley, and New Jersey on behalf of our members, respectfully call for the fair and equitable sentencing of Peter Liang in accordance with his actions. We respectfully ask that you consider the following mitigating factors of the case:

- Peter Liang was a rookie officer tasked to conduct a vertical patrol of a known dangerous area without proper supervision and support; therefore, it is fair to believe that any reasonable person under the circumstances might have reacted the same way;
- Peter Liang, as a police officer, was expected to perform CPR but was poorly trained to have the confidence to perform such life-saving technique;
- The systemic failures of NYCHA in maintaining its elevators and lights and providing a safe environment for its tenants and the officers who serve the tenants played a prominent role in this tragedy;
- It is unequivocal that Peter Liang did not intend to cause the death of Akai Gurley;
- It is unequivocal that Akai Gurley's death was an accident;
- Peter Liang's punishment should be based on his actions and not the actions of other police officers in the recent cases of police misconduct; and
- Peter Liang is not a criminal who would benefit from being rehabilitated.



OCA NEW YORK - Asian Pacific American Advocates

EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS

We hope you will mete out a sentence that is fair, just, and commensurate with the true nature of this case. We thank you for your careful attention and consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "June Jee".

June Jee
President, OCA-New York Advocates

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gladys Yan".

Gladys Yan
President, OCA-Long Island Advocates

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Chen".

Peggy Chen
President, OCA-Westchester Hudson Valley Advocates

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia Ng".

Virginia Ng
President, OCA-New Jersey Advocates