

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4305

February 15, 2023

Director Christopher Wray
Federal Bureau of Investigation Headquarters
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Director Wray,

It has come to our attention that President Biden has appointed an individual with existing Chinese Communist Party (CCP) ties to an advisory role. China has proved themselves as our greatest adversary and foreign competitor, and yet our leaders continuously jeopardize U.S. national security by allowing the People's Republic of China (PRC) to infiltrate our third-party sector and federal government. This lack of scrutiny should be promptly evaluated, and the Biden Administration should take immediate steps to ensure blunders like this will not happen again.

On July 25th, 2022, the Biden Administration appointed Dominic Ng as a U.S. member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council. The primary purpose of APEC is to advise world leaders on international affairs and commerce. However, more recent and substantial allegations discovered Mr. Ng's past connections to U.S.-based Chinese third party entities. Between 2013 and 2017, he served as the executive director of the China Overseas Exchange Association (COEA) which is a front organization for the United Front Work Department (UFWD). UFWD is a Chinese intelligence service whose mission is to liaison with foreign political parties, influence operations, and collect intelligence.¹ According to the U.S.-China Economic and Security Exchange Commission (USCC), COEA merged with the China Overseas Friendship Association (COFA), which remained a front group for UFWD when Mr. Ng began a 5-year term as COFA's executive director in 2019. Organizations like the UFWD and its affiliated groups play an increasingly important role in Chinese foreign policy and allow political actors like Mr. Ng to gain influence in sensitive American institutions to advocate for the interests of communist China. This tactic is regularly employed by the CCP to infiltrate governments and influence policies for CCP-oriented outcomes.

Throughout his tenure as the executive director of two UFWD front groups, Mr. Ng has met with UFWD and Chinese government leaders dozens of times in the U.S. and China. This includes a

¹ 2009 Report to Congress of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, November 2009.
https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/annual_reports/2009-Report-to-Congress.pdf

meeting(s) with Tung Chee-hwa, a U.S. government-recognized influence operative that USCC has previously connected with UFWD. Additionally, APEC is slated to host a summit of world leaders, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, in San Francisco this fall, which will expose Mr. Ng and potentially our nation's secrets to numerous CCP officials and possible intelligence operatives. Mr. Ng, who leads East West Bank in Southern California, donated \$100,000 to the Biden Victory Fund, and \$35,500 to the Democrat National Committee (DNC).² Not only does Mr. Ng's ties to CCP operatives raise national security concerns, but there is a potential conflict of interest in his appointment to the APEC Business Advisory Council, which began in 2023. As a result of Mr. Ng's membership on the Business Advisory Council, he will have access to privileged information and intelligence that risks exposure to UFWD and, subsequently, the Chinese Community Party.

Prior to his appointment to APEC, California Democratic Representative Judy Chu advocated for Mr. Ng's nomination to be the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. Like Mr. Ng, California Representative Judy Chu is the "honorary president" for the All America Chinese Youth Federations (AACYPF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to strengthen the social impact of the Chinese community within the U.S. However, under Representative Chu's tenure, five of AACYPF's leaders have been alleged members of organizations belonging to UFWD. For decades, a broad range of Chinese entities have forged ties with foreign government and business leaders and reaped the benefits of exposed national intelligence. Communist China is creating and operating front organizations in the U.S. that are designed to influence events, businesses and leaders throughout our nation, and their mission is proving successful.

If the Biden Administration does not take the CCP seriously, our leaders are risking an endless slew of national security breaches. In 2015, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) data system was hacked, effecting 4.1 million individuals current and former federal employees at the time, and exposing sensitive background information – including fingerprints, financial and travel history, and family and employment information – gathered for government security clearances. China may use this opportunity and others like it to exploit U.S. government officials and employees and pursue their agenda through the collection of sensitive intelligence information. This is why the president's appointment of Mr. Ng to the APEC Business Advisory Council is just another example of the reach and motives of the CCP and the lengths its affiliated organizations will go to install influential Chinese operatives in U.S. leadership roles.

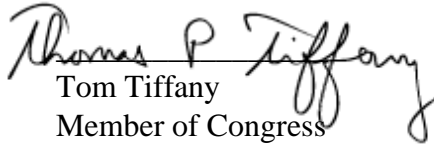
The Biden Administration has allowed the CCP to infiltrate the third-party sector and, consequently, political leaders that have existing relationships to these groups and are privy to U.S. intelligence. Further encroachments cannot be tolerated, and we request the FBI investigate and provide a report to Congress on the extent of Mr. Ng's knowledge of sensitive information, as well as any potential violations of the Espionage Act. We look forward to your response and working with you to safeguard our national security.

² Campaign Finance Data – Receipts, Federal Election Commission.
https://www.fec.gov/data/receipts/?data_type=processed&committee_id=C00010603&committee_id=C00703975&committee_id=C00744946&contributor_name=ng%2C+dominic

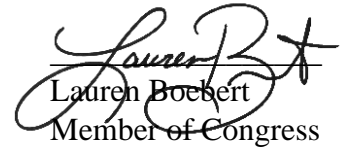
Sincerely,



Lance Gooden
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



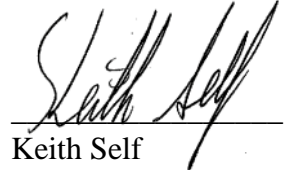
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