



**Homeland
Security**

Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

December 1, 2020

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL TO: foia@americanoversight.org

Austin Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

Re: 2021-HQFO-00054

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is the electronic final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated October 13, 2020, and received by this office on October 14, 2020. You are seeking email communications sent by (a) the officials specified below or anyone serving in the capacity of his or her chief of staff that contain any of the following specified terms.

Specified DHS Officials:

- I. Chad Wolf, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security
- II. John Gountanis, Acting Chief of Staff
- III. Ken Cuccinelli, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Deputy Secretary
- IV. Chad Mizelle, Senior Official Performing the Duties of General Counsel
- V. Anyone serving as Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, including both former Under Secretary Brian Murphy and Acting Under Secretary Joseph Maher

Specified Terms:

- I. Antifa
- II. Anti-fascist
- III. BLM
- IV. "Black Lives Matter"
- V. "Patrisse Cullors"
- VI. "Alicia Garza"
- VII. "Opal Tometi" (Date Range for Record Search: From 7/1/2020 To 10/13/2020).

A search of the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) for documents responsive to your request produced a total of 7 pages. Portions of these pages are partially releasable entirety pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. § 552: (b)(6), FOIA Exemption 6.

Enclosed are 7 pages with certain information withheld as described below;

FOIA Exemption 6 exempts from disclosure personnel or medical files and similar files the release of which would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. This requires a balancing of the public's right to disclosure against the individual's right to privacy. The privacy interests of the individuals in the records you have requested outweigh any minimal public interest in disclosure of the information. Any private interest you may have in that information does not factor into the aforementioned balancing test.

You have a right to appeal the above withholding determination. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter, to: Privacy Office, Attn: FOIA Appeals, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane, SW, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.8. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS FOIA regulations are available at www.dhs.gov/foia.

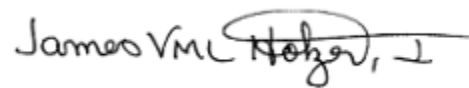
Provisions of FOIA allow DHS to charge for processing fees, up to \$25, unless you seek a waiver of fees. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact the analyst below who processed your request and refer to **2021-HQFO-00054**. You may send an e-mail to foia@hq.dhs.gov, call 202-343-1743 or toll free 1-866-431-0486, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in the same manner.

Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at

ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James V.L.M. Holzer, J." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J" at the end.

James V.L.M. Holzer
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer

Enclosure(s): Responsive Documents, 7 pages

From:	AS2KTC </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (b)(6)>
To:	
CC:	
Subject:	RE: Heritage Exposes Link Between BLM and Chinese Government
Date:	2020/09/15 17:26:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

If true. wow

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:15 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Heritage Exposes Link Between BLM and Chinese Government

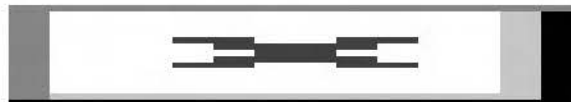
Not sure if true but interesting read.

Good Afternoon,

I thought you would be interested in this [explosive report](#) from my colleague Mike Gonzalez. It ties the Chinese Progressive Association, a pro-communism organization that works closely with the Chinese government, to Black Lives Matter co-founder Alicia Garza.

As always, please let me know if The Heritage Foundation can be of any help and if you would like to speak with Mike Gonzalez about his ongoing research.

Thank you,
Mike Howell



<https://www.dailysignal.com/wp-content/themes/daily-signal/assets/images/brand/the-daily-signal-logo-black.png>

This BLM Co-Founder and Pro-Communist China Group Are Partnering Up. Here's Why.

Mike Gonzalez / September 15, 2020

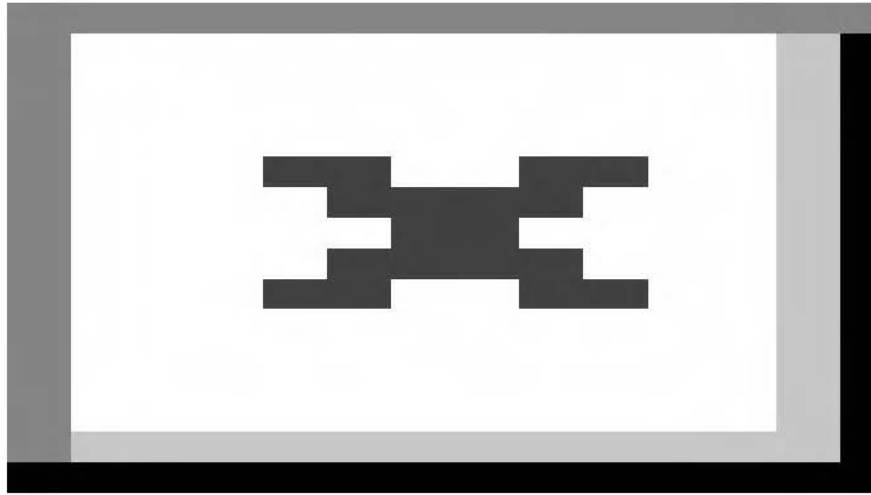
Imagine that far-right demonstrators were laying siege to American cities for months, led by activists explicitly calling for an “ethno-state,” and that one of their groups was funded by an outfit involved with Vladimir Putin’s Russia. It would lead the news every day and there would be congressional hearings, right?

And rightly so. The threat of foreign interference in our domestic affairs is a serious matter, whether the suspects are rivals such as Russia or friendlies such as [Mexico](#). This is especially the case if a foreign power were abetting unrest that aims to topple our constitutional order.

Well, the scenario described above is happening, though not with Russia or the far right, but with [China](#) and the [leftist disturbances](#) upending America and seeking to transform it.

Yet, there has not been a peep from the media or Congress about China’s support of the riots.

Go to the website for the Black Futures Lab, a venture of [Black Lives Matter](#) founder Alicia Garza, and click on the “[Donate](#)” button. It will ask you to send your money to an obscure organization, the Chinese Progressive Association, explaining that “Black Futures Lab is a fiscally sponsored project of the Chinese Progressive Association.”



<https://www.dailysignal.com/wp-content/uploads/Donation-Page-BLM-CPA-1024x489.jpg>

History of Chinese Progressive Association

The CPA was founded in San Francisco in 1972 during the heady days of the Marxist-oriented Asian American Movement, and today it also has a very active chapter in Boston. From its start, it has been a promoter of the People's Republic of China.

According to an authoritative 2009 Stanford University paper tracing its early days to the present, and which can be found on Marxist.org, "The CPA began as a Leftist, pro-People's Republic of China organization, promoting awareness of mainland China's revolutionary thought and workers' rights, and dedicated to self-determination, community control, and 'serving the people.'"

The CPA, continued the paper, "worked with other pro-PRC groups within the U.S. and San Francisco Bay Area ... Support for the PRC was based on the inspiration the members drew

from what they saw as a successful grassroots model that presented a viable alternative to Western capitalism.”

One of the ways it did this was by holding “film screenings that were open to the public, sometimes showing Chinese films as well to facilitate understanding of the country’s revolutionary ideas. ... CPA also took the lead with groups such as the U.S.-China People’s Friendship Organization to celebrate China’s National Day on Oct. 1”.

To this day, the CPA continues to be a partner of the PRC in the United States. Three years ago, the Boston chapter teamed up with China’s Consulate General in New York to offer Chinese nationals the opportunity to renew their passports, getting praise from China’s official mouthpiece, China Daily.

Last year, the CPA sponsored the raising of the PRC’s flag for the first time ever over Boston’s City Hall to honor the takeover of China by the Chinese Communist Party, just as the Stanford paper says has been its practice from the beginning, but this time drawing protesters. The event was organized, again, with the Chinese Consulate. Consul General Sun Guoxiang was on hand to say that, “The common interests are far more important than differences between U.S. and China.”

CPA co-founder Lydia Lowe also spoke at the event, reminding her audience that “McCarthyism is behind us. The Cold War is behind us.” In an essay she authored with other people on the Marxist revolutionary site LeftRoots last year, Lowe sounded as though she wanted to start another Cold War, writing that she wanted Asians to play a role in creating a “revolutionary strategy” that would achieve a “fundamentally different society.”

And CPA drew praise from China’s mouthpiece China Daily just a few weeks ago, for taking part again in Black Lives Matter demonstrations in San Francisco.

Black Lives Matter Opposes Capitalism

It is clear, then, that CPA works with China’s communist government, pushes its agenda here in the United States, and is regularly praised by China’s state-owned mouthpieces. It is clear, too, from this perspective, why the CPA would sponsor a new enterprise by BLM founder Alicia Garza: they espouse the same desire for world communism.

Garza sits atop a worldwide revolutionary empire, starting with the [Black Lives Matter Global Network](#) she founded, which now has [15 chapters](#) in the U.S. and several more all over Canada, Australia, and Europe. As Foreign Affairs [wrote](#) in its September/October issue, “Today, BLM has a global network of dozens of chapters. This number will likely grow exponentially in the coming years.”

Garza is also [behind](#) the Movement for Black Lives, with its 50 domestic organizations. In July she said, “We helped to also pull together an ecosystem that was much broader than the organization that we founded, and that ecosystem is called the Movement for Black Lives and it is taking the world by storm.”

Movement for Black Lives is unabashedly anti-capitalist, saying on its website, “we are anti-capitalist. We believe and understand that Black people will never achieve liberation under the current global racialized capitalist system.”

So is Garza, and she means to use her international platform to end world capitalism. In 2015, she told an important [gathering](#) of global Marxists, “It’s not possible for a world to emerge where black lives matter if it’s under capitalism, and it’s not possible to abolish capitalism without a struggle against national oppression.”

There, she portrayed BLM as an offshoot of the Black Liberation Movement, the Marxist pan-Africanist Movement. “BLM, BLM,” she said coyly.

Last year, Garza [told](#) a roomful of Maine progressives, “We’re talking about changing how we’ve organized this country, so that we actually can achieve the justice that we are fighting for. I believe we all have work to do to keep dismantling the organizing principle of this society, which creates inequities for everyone.”

The Role of Black Futures Lab

Two years ago, Garza created the Black Futures Lab, the organization that the Chinese Progressive Association funds, as yet another asset in the vast Garza empire. By the looks of it, it acts as a sort of a lobbying arm of this empire.

As Colorlines [put it](#) when it was launched on Sept. 26, 2018, [Black Futures Lab](#) “seeks to engage advocacy organizations and legislators to advance local-, state- and federal-level policies that

make Black communities stronger. It will also craft strategies that harness Black political power to bring those policies to fruition.”

“Today, we are launching the Black Futures Lab as a way to mobilize around our needs, hopes, and dreams,” Garza told Colorlines in an emailed statement. “For too long, people have spoken for us and perpetuated false representations of the issues that drive our votes.”

This legislative clout adds to the organizing muscle that The Black Lives Matters Global Network and Movement for Black Lives organizations already bring.

As I wrote at City Journal last month, the BLM organizations have been the nerve center of this year’s protests: “They have been laying the groundwork for years, carefully cultivating a network of groups that could organize protests when the moment came and amplify the message through social media.”

Communist China has put its vast propaganda apparatus to work in support of the mayhem that has wreaked havoc in American cities this year. China is, after all, a rival of the United States, and would see weakening of U.S. society and the country in general as advantageous.

The involvement of an outfit as closely associated with the Chinese government in the funding of one of Garza’s ventures is something else entirely, however.

Maybe journalists and congressmen have not seen it till now (I myself hadn’t until Jenny Nguyen, a graduate of The Heritage Foundation’s Young Leaders Program, alerted me to it).

But now they have.

Mik Howell
e
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Sender:

AS2KTC </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP
(b)(6)

Recipient	(b)(6)	
Sent Date:	2020/09/15 17:27:07	
Delivered Date:	2020/09/15 17:26:00	