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Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

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National Lodge
ESTABLISHED 1895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 15, 2019

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C.A.C.A. National Condemns President Trump for Racist Remarks Aimed at U.S. Congresswomen

San Francisco, July 15, 2019 – the oldest, continuous civil rights and advocacy organization serving Asian Americans, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) condemns President Donald Trump for his racist tweet aimed at four minority Congresswomen who identify with the progressive wing of the Democratic Party.

On Sunday, July 14, the President tweeted “Why don’t they go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. Then come back and show us how it is done...” Though not identified by name, the Representatives the President had targeted are outspoken critics of his immigration policies, in particular of the conditions of border detention facilities. They are Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (New York) who was born in the Bronx (not far from where the President was born), Ayanna Pressley (Massachusetts) who was born in Cincinnati, Rashida Tlaib (Michigan) who was born in Detroit, and Ilhan Omar (Minnesota) who immigrated to the U.S. in 1992 and became a citizen in 2000.

“Americans look to our head of state to set the tenor of civil discourse on impactful national issues,” says C.A.C.A. National President Melanie Chan. “It is disheartening when President Trump adds fuel and legitimacy to the behavior of those who express hatred of our diverse society. Chinese Americans are pained by a long history of bigoted attacks encouraged by extremist rhetoric and legislation from elected and government officials. We hope the President will exercise restraint and diplomacy and will use his office to end divisiveness.”

“It is dismaying to still see and hear reports of people of color being told to leave and go back to ‘their’ own country,” adds Ted Gong, C.A.C.A. National Vice President of Civic and Public Affairs. “But, coming from the President, it is appalling. Such xenophobic pronouncements drag the nation back to the worse of the Chinese Exclusion Act.”

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The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.