



June 22, 2013

Ambassador Stephen M. Young
Consul General of the United States of America in Hong Kong
Consulate General of the United States of America in Hong Kong & Macau
26 Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ambassador Young,

The recent reports of revelation by National Security Agency whistleblower Edward Snowden that the U.S. Government has been collecting phone and on line data of its citizens and hacking computers in Hong Kong and on the Mainland has caused widespread disquiet. He claims that this includes the Chinese University and public officials, businesses and students in the city. The U.S. Government's attempt to justify such indiscriminate surveillance on the grounds of national security only serves to set a dangerous precedent for authoritarian governments which may use the same excuse to justify violations of human rights and suppression of dissidents.

We write to ask that the United States consulate respond to the accuracy of allegations made by Mr Snowden, in particular:

- (1) Whether and to what extent the revelations made by Mr Snowden in relation to widespread and indiscriminate hacking and cyber surveillance in Hong Kong are true;
- (2) The purpose and justification for these acts; and
- (3) Whether there are any safeguards or counter measures or oversight to ensure that these acts are not in violation of human rights and freedoms

If the United States wish to be respected as a champion of rights and freedoms, it is imperative that the serious allegations made by Mr Snowden are responded to promptly and clearly. We also seek an assurance that the U.S. Government respect the law in Hong Kong and confirm that it has not authorized or conducted any illegal surveillance activities in Hong Kong.

Sincerely,

Audrey Eu
Chairman of the Civic Party

Alan Leong
Party Leader of the Civic Party