Resolution Concerning Civil Liberties after September 11, 2001
Adopted by OCA National Board
January 20, 2002

Whereas the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) condemns the acts of terror that occurred on September 11 in the United States and believes the perpetrators of these acts are guilty of crimes against humanity and should be pursued and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law;

Whereas the Arab American, South Asian American, Sikh and Muslim communities in this country are as vital and law-abiding as all other communities;

Whereas vengeful threats and incidents of violence directed at law-abiding, patriotic Americans of Arab and South Asian descent, particularly the Sikh community, and adherents of the Islamic faith have occurred with alarming regularity;

Whereas legislation has been introduced in Congress that gives the government power to investigate any suspected terrorists without strictly defining the limits to said power;

Whereas the federal government has not clearly defined “terrorism;”

Whereas the government has created provisions allowing nationwide search warrants for e-mail and subpoenas for payment information;

Whereas the government has imposed new screening requirements on certain applicants for non-immigrant visas;

Whereas OCA does not support the infringement on the constitutional rights of any American;

Therefore, be it resolved that OCA continue to be actively involved in protecting and preserving the rights and civil liberties of all Americans;

Be it further resolved that OCA oppose any action that violates the rights guaranteed to all Americans by the United States Constitution;

Be it further resolved that OCA oppose any acts of hate-motivated violence perpetrated against any individual(s) because of perceived links to terrorist activity;

Be it further resolved that OCA supports the efforts of Arab American, Muslim, Sikh, South Asian American and other communities to educate the broader American population.