RESOLUTION TO PROTECT CIVIL LIBERTIES IN RESPONSE TO THE
USA PATRIOT ACT – Passed January 2003

WHEREAS The Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), a civil rights education and
advocacy organization for Americans of Chinese and Asian descent, represents 80
local chapters and college affiliates; and

WHEREAS OCA continues to strive toward fulfilling the hopes and aspirations of Chinese
Americans and Asian Pacific Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS Individual civil liberties are a continuing vital element of the OCA agenda; and

WHEREAS Chinese Americans and Asian Pacific Americans constitute a diverse population,
including immigrants and students, whose contributions to the community are vital
to the nation’s economy, culture and civic character; and

WHEREAS OCA recognizes that the preservation of civil rights and liberties is essential to the
well-being of a democratic society; and

WHEREAS Federal, state and local authorities should protect the public from terrorist attacks
such as those that occurred on September 11, 2001, but should do so in a rational and
deliberative fashion to ensure that any new security measure enhances public safety
without impairing constitutional rights or infringing on civil liberties; and

WHEREAS OCA believes that there is no inherent conflict between national security and the
preservation of liberty; and

WHEREAS Federal policies adopted since September 11, 2001, including provisions in the USA
PATRIOT ACT (Public Law 107-56) and related executive orders, regulations and
actions threaten fundamental rights and liberties.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA affirms its strong support for fundamental
constitutional rights and its opposition to federal measures that infringe on civil
liberties.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT OCA affirms its strong support for the rights of
immigrants and opposes measures that single out individuals for legal scrutiny
or enforcement activity based on their country of origin, religion, and ethnicity.