RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
JUSTICE FOR CHAPLAIN JAMES YEE
Passed April 18, 2004*

WHEREAS The Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) is a national civil rights advocacy and educational organization, and

WHEREAS OCA has always fought against racial and religious profiling, and

WHEREAS Chaplain James Yee is a third generation Chinese American born into a Lutheran Christian family, and

WHEREAS Chaplain James Yee was a West Point graduate with numerous honors and recognition for serving his country, and

WHEREAS Chaplain James Yee converted to Islam in April 1991 and was deployed to Saudi Arabia in the aftermath of the Gulf War, and

WHEREAS after the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, Chaplain James Yee publicly condemned the terrorist act and preached exclusively about Islam as a religion of peace, and

WHEREAS Chaplain James Yee is a captain in the U.S. Army who served honorably at Guantanamo Bay, where his primary duty was in ministering to detainees and suspected terrorists of Islamic faith, and

WHEREAS on Sept. 10, 2003 the U.S. Army decided to secretly arrest Chaplain James Yee in which he was searched and seized, and

WHEREAS without sustainable evidence, Chaplain James Yee was placed in solitary confinement for 76 days while the U.S. Army tried to figure out what to charge him with, and

WHEREAS his disappearance resembles those of the thousands of immigrants of Arab, Islamic, and South Asian descent who disappeared through secret arrests, detention, and deportations, and were forcibly separated from their wives and children, and

WHEREAS someone, anonymously, leaked to the media (Washington Times) about the U.S. Army's intention to charge Chaplain James Yee with treason and espionage, among other charges, with fanfare and mystery, and

WHEREAS only later did the U.S. Army file formal charges against him for “improper handling of classified information,” and