



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

If someone from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or the police comes to talk to you about your academic work or connections to China, you have rights. Be safe and use them!

1. You have the right to remain silent, and to speak to an attorney. Contact us for free legal help (see #5).

You do not have to answer the questions that they ask you, and if you decide you want to talk with them, you have the right to have an attorney there with you, even if they say you do not need one. Even if you have done nothing wrong, you can get into trouble if you say the wrong thing to the FBI or law enforcement. They may try to contact your family, friends, or acquaintances if you mention them. Protect yourself by checking with an attorney beforehand. *Remember: if you do not talk to them, or you wait until later to talk to them, they are not allowed to use that against you.*

2. Never lie to law enforcement. Either remain silent (see #1) or tell the truth. Never guess if you do not know.

If you tell something to law enforcement that is not true, even if it is accidental and you thought you were telling the truth, you might be charged with a crime.

3. You are not necessarily in trouble.

If you are being contacted, it does not necessarily mean that law enforcement thinks you have done something wrong or that you are under investigation. However, law enforcement is allowed to mislead you, so it is important to be safe, know your rights, and use them!

4. Don't discuss your political or religious views.

Law enforcement has asked Chinese Americans about their views on communism, the Chinese government, their religion, and other inappropriate topics. Regardless of your views on these subjects, they are protected by the U.S. Constitution. They should not ask you about these things, and if you tell them, it could end up in a file about you and be used against you.

5. Protect yourself! Contact our attorneys.

For a fuller description of your rights, see <http://www.advancingjustice-alc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/KYR-Academics-Scientists.pdf>.

To contact our attorneys, call (415) 848-7733, or email christinas@advancingjustice-alc.org. If you are in the Southern California area, call (888) 349-9695 (or for Chinese language assistance, call (800) 520-2356).