



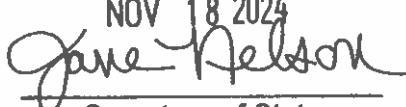
GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

November 18, 2024

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

10:00AM O'CLOCK

The Honorable Jane Nelson
Secretary of State
State Capitol, Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

NOV 18 2024

Secretary of State

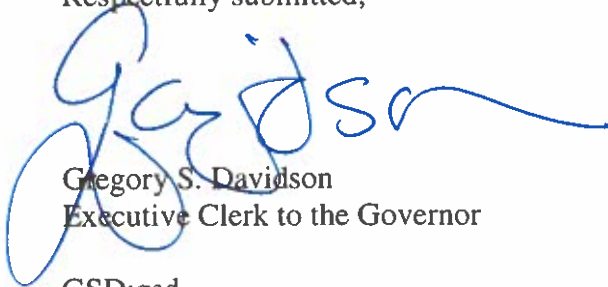
Dear Secretary Nelson:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-47 relating to the prevention of harassment or coercion of Texans by foreign adversaries.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized blue ink signature of Gregory S. Davidson.

Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD:gsd

Attachment

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
November 18, 2024

EXECUTIVE ORDER
GA 47

Relating to the prevention of harassment or coercion of Texans by foreign adversaries.

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2020, Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Christopher Wray announced criminal charges against eight defendants in connection with a campaign to harass, stalk, and coerce U.S. residents to return to the People's Republic of China (PRC); and

WHEREAS, this operation by the PRC, known as Operation Fox Hunt, is part of a broader effort by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to forcibly return Chinese dissidents to the PRC; and

WHEREAS, these dissidents are often "guilty" of nothing more than opposing the PRC government or CCP actions, including by exposing corruption; and

WHEREAS, the PRC forces targeted dissidents to return in several ways, including threatening dissidents' families still residing in China, using PRC assets to target dissidents abroad in their host countries, and kidnapping and smuggling dissidents back into the PRC; and

WHEREAS, according to Safeguard Defenders—a human rights non-profit focused on protecting people's basic rights and enhancing the rule of law in Asia—as of 2022, the PRC has at least 102 illicit overseas "police service stations" worldwide, including some in the United States, which carry out this unlawful campaign of threats, harassment, and harm against U.S. citizens and lawful U.S. residents of Chinese origin or descent; and

WHEREAS, the FBI has shut down one PRC "police service station" in New York City, and Safeguard Defenders believes there are at least six more in the United States, including one in Houston; and

WHEREAS, these illicit "police service stations" are also used to further the PRC's espionage goals within the United States; and

WHEREAS, Texas is home to more than 250,000 individuals of Chinese descent; and

WHEREAS, the Chinese people, including the Chinese diaspora communities across America and within Texas, are often the primary victims of these PRC and CCP intimidation efforts; and

WHEREAS, it is a fundamental duty of a state government to protect the safety and welfare of its residents; and

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WHEREAS, all residents of Texas deserve the utmost security and protection that can be provided by the State of Texas, including against foreign adversaries; and

WHEREAS, under Section 411.002 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is a state agency with the duty to protect public safety and provide for the prevention and detection of crime; and

WHEREAS, any potential harassment or coercion of individuals in Texas by the PRC or CCP is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by my administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order DPS to take the following actions to protect Texans, including Texans of Chinese descent, from the unlawful and repressive actions of the PRC, the CCP, and their proxies in Texas:

1. Identify and bring appropriate criminal charges against individuals preying on dissidents on behalf of any foreign adversary.
2. Work with local and federal law enforcement partners through the Texas Fusion Center to assess the incidence of transnational repression executed by foreign adversaries occurring within the State of Texas.
3. Uncover and document suspected actors planning, attempting, or carrying out acts of repression, and—by January 15, 2025—provide policy recommendations to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker on how to effectively counter such threats and develop training programs that can be used by governmental and nongovernmental organizations to identify and report this kind of illicit activity to DPS.
4. Create and publicize a hotline, and update the iWatch Texas Community Reporting System, so Texans can report potential acts of oppression or coercion by the PRC or CCP actors, or other foreign adversaries, against Texans.

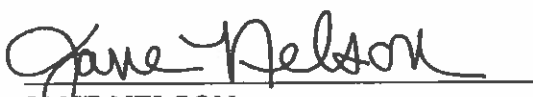
This executive order supersedes all previous orders in conflict or inconsistent with its terms and shall remain in effect and in full force until modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by the Governor.

Given under my hand this the
18th day of November, 2024.



GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:



JANE NELSON
Secretary of State

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