



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



September 16, 2020

Bruce D. Brown, Executive Director
Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
1156 15th Street NW, Suite 1020
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Brown:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
ARREST OF JOURNALIST JOSIE HUANG

This letter is in response to your letter dated September 16, 2020, regarding the arrest of Journalist Josie Huang.

Let me first start off by saying that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department values the media and respects the freedom of the press. I am an advocate of responsible reporting and truly believe in transparency.

With regard to the arrest of Ms. Huang, it is unfortunate this incident took place during a time in which our focus was on the horrific attempted assassination of two of my deputy sheriffs. As you can imagine, the events during this time were tense and rapidly evolving. At the location where the incident occurred, my personnel were dealing with protesters who were chanting for my deputies to die. Unfortunately, Ms. Huang became part of the problem by inserting herself too close to the situation.

An internal investigation has been opened into this matter and appropriate administrative action will be taken. This case will still be presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office for filing consideration.

Should you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me at (213) 229-3000.

Sincerely,

ALEX VILLANUEVA
SHERIFF

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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