



November 2006

Dear Supporter,

Opportunity to Promote Access to Justice In China

I am writing to invite you to participate in an exciting new pro bono program to strengthen the capacity of Chinese public defenders to secure access to justice for their clients, the Chinese Defender Training for Trainers Program (the "Chinese Defender Program"). The program is co-sponsored by International Bridges to Justice ("IBJ") and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia ("PDS") and hosted by the Greater Washington IBJ Community of Conscience ("GWCoC"). The Chinese Defender Program, to be held in Washington, D.C. for the two week period from January 20, 2007 to February 4, 2007, will serve as a national model for replication in other cities.

The Problem: Denial of Justice in China

Access to justice including representation by legal counsel and fair legal process is a fundamental requirement of a just society. Despite recent legal reforms under Chinese law, the right to access to justice remains elusive for most Chinese citizens, especially the poor and minorities. Many citizens continue to face arbitrary detention, torture and denial of access to a fair trial. Chinese public defenders are at the forefront of the struggle in China to further the rule of law by promoting greater access to justice.

Strengthening the Capacity of Chinese Public Defenders

The Chinese Defender Program will train Chinese public defenders in applicable trial advocacy skills to enhance their capability to ensure access to justice. The program will provide a select number of Chinese legal aid lawyers with training in essential trial advocacy skills by some of Washington, D.C.'s best public and private lawyers. See attached sample candidate bios. Additionally, this program will inspire Chinese public defenders to play a more active role in the criminal process by illustrating the essential role of a vigorous and independent defense. As part of the training program, these lawyers will also be trained to train other criminal defenders to improve and excel in the defense of the indigent accused. In this way, International Bridges to Justice and its D.C. partners can ensure that the program will not only train a core team of lawyers to advocate for their individual clients more effectively, but have a broader impact on the development of China's criminal justice system.

How You Can Help

As set forth in greater detail in the attached participation forms, individuals, corporations and law firms may participate in the Program in several ways:

- Volunteer. Help produce training materials, facilitate the program, mentor a defender, provide translation services, provide other services.
- Make a Financial Contribution. Contribute towards the travel and incidental expenses of Chinese defenders. Send a check with the participation form or make a contribution at www.globalgiving.com/1606.
- Host a Special Event. Host a brunch, lunch, dinner or sightseeing/entertainment event for Chinese defenders.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to partnering with you in promoting access to justice in China through the Chinese Defender Program.

Sincerely,

The Greater Washington IBJ Community of Conscience



SUPPORT COMMITMENT FORM

for individuals

Yes! I will support the **Chinese Defender Training for Trainers Program** co-sponsored by **International Bridges to Justice** and the **Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia** and hosted by the **Greater Washington IBJ Community of Conscience**. The support offered is:

- Volunteer Time
 - I am an attorney and offer my pro bono time to produce training materials (blending existing PDS materials with IBJ materials used in China to produce materials tailored for program) *minimum 10 hours*
 - I am an experienced criminal defense attorney and would like to be considered for a position as a mentor to one of the Chinese defenders (during program and on an ongoing basis thereafter by email, telephone and, at mentor's option, self-financed trip to China) *minimum 10 hours*
 - I am fluent in Chinese and offer to serve as a translator for one or more of training sessions, special events, social events, sightseeing, etc. *minimum 5 hours*
 - I am willing to facilitate the following program events *minimum 5 hours*:
 - field trips to courthouse, jail, police station, etc.
 - weekend sightseeing
 - speakers
 - I am able to volunteer public relations, press and publicity services *minimum 5 hours*
 - I am willing to host defenders at my home *15 nights lodging/some meals/Chinese speaking preferred*
- Financial Contribution
 - \$ _____ towards travel and incidental expenses of Chinese defenders (checks payable to International Bridges to Justice OR www.globalgiving.com/1606)
- Airline Mileage
 - _____ miles towards travel of Chinese defenders

*Please complete the following information and return form to Joan Darby by November 8, 2006.
(Email DarbyJ@dicksteinshapiro.com; Fax 202-420-2201; Mail Dickstein Shapiro LLP, 1825 Eye Street NW, Washington, DC 20006)*

Name:

Affiliation, if any:

Address:

Telephone Nos:

Email:



SUPPORT COMMITMENT FORM

for firms and enterprises

Yes!

This firm will support the **Chinese Defender Training for Trainers Program** co-sponsored by **International Bridges to Justice** and the **Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia** and hosted by the **Greater Washington IBJ Community of Conscience**. The support offered is:

- Volunteer Time
 - pro bono volunteer attorneys to produce training materials (blending existing PDS materials with IBJ materials used in China to produce materials tailored for program)
 - pro bono volunteers to facilitate program (e.g., legal field trips, speakers, sightseeing, etc.)
 - pro bono volunteers to serve as mentors to Chinese defenders (during program and on an ongoing basis thereafter by email, telephone and, at mentor's option, self-financed trip(s) to China)
- Financial Contribution
 - \$_____ towards travel and incidental expenses of ___ Chinese defenders @ \$1500 each (checks payable to International Bridges to Justice OR www.globalgiving.com/1606)
- Sponsor Special Event (provide space and meal or provide tickets)
 - opening brunch (Sunday, January 21) for defenders and hosts (@25 persons)
 - weekday lunch for defenders and mentors (@25 persons)
 - weekday dinner for defenders and firm guests (@25 persons)
 - closing dinner for defenders, hosts, mentors, trainers and organizers (@50 persons)
 - entertainment (sightseeing/sports/concert) for defenders and firm guests (@25 persons)

*Please complete the following information and return form to Joan Darby by November 8, 2006.
(Email DarbyJ@dicksteinshapiro.com; Fax 202-420-2201; Mail Dickstein Shapiro LLP, 1825 Eye Street NW, Washington, DC 20006)*

Name of Firm or Enterprise:

Name of Contact:

Address:

Telephone Nos:

Email: