



美洲同源總會

# Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

National Lodge  
ESTABLISHED 1895

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: December 10, 2019**

**CONTACT: [info@cacanational.org](mailto:info@cacanational.org)**

## **C.A.C.A. Opposed Proposed Fee Hikes for USCIS Genealogy Services**

San Francisco, December 10, 2019 — The Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) is against the proposed increase in fees charged by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for its genealogy services. On November 14, USCIS announced its intention to raise the request fees it charges, notably Form G-1041 Index Search Request and Form G-1041A Genealogy Records Request. The fee hikes would bring Form G-1041 from \$65 to \$240 and Form G-1041A from \$65 to \$385. This is a 269 percent and 492 percent change respectively. Notification of the proposed increase was made through the *Federal Register*, the official journal of the federal government that publishes government agency rules, proposed rules, and public notices.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is the agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that administers the country's naturalization and immigration system. USCIS justified the increases based on the projected costs and volumes of the genealogy program, including estimated staffing requirement for genealogy workload and a portion of the lockbox service costs that is set up to receive and process payments.

G-1041 Index Search Request is used to request a search of USCIS historical databases and G-1041A Genealogy Records Request is required to obtain copies of USCIS historical records. These forms are commonly utilized by researcher seeking records of your ancestors for genealogical or family history purposes and by historians or social scientists seeking historical records of persons that can be identify by name, date of birth and place of birth. The search fee is non-refundable if nothing is found in their search.

“It is a matter of an American's right to have access to their family records at reasonable price, if not for free, because these records are fundamental to individual and community identity,” states National C.A.C.A. Vice President of Civic and Public Affairs Ted Gong. “Moreover, the process should be continuously upgraded to reduce costs especially considering digital processes and concepts. It, and any government service, should not be seen as a revenue source.”

Mr. Gong, who also serves as executive director of the 1882 Foundation, an American civil rights organization, encourages concerned citizens and community groups with focuses on public education and historic preservation to oppose the proposed hikes. To submit your opposition to the proposed increases, use the Federal eRulemaking Portal: [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). In the search box for Rules, Comments, Adjudications or Supporting Documents, type “DHS Docket No. USCIS– 2019–0010” and then submit a



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statement in the Comment Now section. Written comments will be accepted on or before December 16, 2019.

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1044 Stockton St.  
San Francisco, CA.

Web: [www.CACAnational.org](http://www.CACAnational.org)  
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Sacramento (CA), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.