

VIETNAMESE INTERFAITH COUNCIL IN AMERICA  
HỘI ĐỒNG LIÊN TÔN VIỆT NAM TẠI HOA KỲ

2114 W. McFadden Ave, Santa Ana, CA. 92704

July 14, 2018

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Vietnamese Interfaith Council in America, a coalition of all major Vietnamese-American religious groups and denominations, is pleading for your intervening and facilitating quick release of William Nguyen from detention in Vietnam.

William Nguyen, a U.S. citizen and graduate student, while visiting Vietnam and participating in a street protest against the contemplated policy for special economic zones in favor of China, was violently assaulted, arrested and detained by the Vietnamese authorities on June 10, 2018. Born and raised in Houston, Texas, William graduated from Yale University and pursues a master degree at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore. He was supposed to graduate on July 14, 2018. Last month, he went to Vietnam exploring and looking for his roots. Perhaps, out of curiosity, William joined a historical public demonstration against the Vietnamese government. His naivety action might have caused suspicious misunderstanding, which led to extremely harsh treatment and undeserving arrest.

Together with William's family, we share great concern of his well being while being incarcerated. William should be free and come home to his family here in the United States. Thus, we urge that you ask the Vietnamese government to immediately release William without any condition.

We wholeheartedly thank you for your time and consideration in this vital matter.

Respectfully,



Professor Giau Van Nguyen  
Secretary General

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 16, 2018

Thank you for contacting the White House. We are carefully reviewing your message.

President Donald J. Trump believes the strength of our country lies in the spirit of the American people and their willingness to stay informed and get involved. President Trump appreciates you taking the time to reach out.

Sincerely,

*The Office of Presidential Correspondence*

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[Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).*