

# CALDA

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## CALDA Annual Report

(Feb 2023 – Jan 2024)

### Executive Summary

The Chinese American Legal Defense Alliance (CALDA) combats systematic discrimination through civil rights litigation and education, aiming to stop Asian hate and protect the rights of Chinese Americans in the United States. CALDA positions itself as the ACLU for Chinese Americans.

CALDA is firmly committed to eradicating all forms of prejudice, discrimination, and hostility directed towards individuals of Chinese descent living in the United States. We call for a unified effort to create an inclusive and respectful society where Chinese Americans can live free from fear and injustice.

Between February 2023 and January 2024, CALDA generated a total income of \$256,828.16, with total expenses amounting to \$102,600. Throughout the year, CALDA engaged in two major litigations: the ongoing "Fight Against China Initiative" and the "End Florida SB 264," launched in February 2023.

Besides the ongoing litigations against the "China Initiative" since 2021, in 2023, Texas, Florida, and Georgia introduced bills aimed at prohibiting Chinese individuals from purchasing or owning real estate. These discriminatory laws, driven by the perception of China as a strategic enemy, equate Chinese Americans with the Chinese government, fostering a climate of prejudice and hostility. CALDA underscores the importance of combating these measures to prevent a repeat of past injustices and protect the rights and safety of Chinese Americans.

Despite limited resources, CALDA allocated significant efforts to challenge Florida's SB 264, achieving temporary success by the end of the year. Moving forward, CALDA will continue to build its legal strategy, prepare court documents, and strengthen collaborations with partner organizations to ensure the constitutional rights of Chinese Americans are upheld.

## **Key Accomplishments in 2023**

### **1. Status of Ongoing Litigations Since 2021 - Fighting Against the "China Initiative"**

CALDA has taken the federal government to court for its infamous "China Initiative," which has unfairly targeted Chinese American professors and scientists. We have two pending cases on the China Initiative against different government agencies, and we are determined to stop this type of racial profiling by the federal government.

The "China Initiative" represents a pernicious form of government-sanctioned racism, where discrimination is legitimized under the guise of national security or public interest. This initiative has disproportionately targeted Chinese American academics, raising significant concerns about racial bias and systemic injustice.

Since November 2021, CALDA has combated this injustice through several Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) filings against five government agencies.

CALDA's FOIA requests to the DOJ, NSF, NIH, FBI, DHS, and other agencies seek answers to three critical questions:

1. Did federal agencies investigate and prosecute academics for technical violations before the "China Initiative"? If so, how many involved Chinese Americans?
2. After the "China Initiative," how many investigations and formal charges were there, and how many involved Chinese American academics?
3. Of all investigations and charges under the "China Initiative," how many involved economic espionage or theft of technology for China, and how many of these cases involved Chinese American academics?

These actions align with President Biden's Executive Order to advance equity and racial justice and eliminate systemic racism in federal policies.

In May 2022, CALDA filed a FOIA lawsuit against the Department of Energy (DOE) to compel the release of data on its investigations and prosecutions of Chinese American professors under the "China Initiative." This lawsuit aims to expose government practices and reduce racial bias in future law enforcement actions. CALDA filed similar FOIA lawsuits against the Department of Justice on July 11, 2022, and the National Institutes of Health on July 17, 2023, to further uncover and challenge systemic racial bias. CALDA plans to file additional FOIA lawsuits against more federal agencies to continue this important work.

### **2. Legal Advocacy and Litigation of 2023**

In response to the discriminatory bill passed in Florida, CALDA proactively launched legal challenges. In May 2023, CALDA organized and initiated a lawsuit against the Florida state government for its newly adopted alien land law, SB 264, which prohibits Chinese Americans from buying real properties. CALDA brought in ACLU and major law firms such as Quinn Emanuel as co-counsel, with the U.S. DOJ filing an amicus brief supporting our position. We achieved a significant win in early February 2024 when the 11th Circuit issued a partial injunction in favor of the plaintiffs.

<b>Timeline of "End Florida SB 264"</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
January 15, 2023	Texas Governor Greg Abbott's tweet about signing a bill prohibiting citizens and entities from China, Iran, North Korea, and Russia from purchasing property in Texas sparks widespread concern among Chinese Americans.
March 1, 2023	Similar discriminatory bills are proposed in Texas, Florida, and Georgia, aiming to ban Chinese nationals from buying real estate, based on national security concerns.
March 22, 2023	Public hearing on Texas HB2206, which seeks to ban the use of Chinese social media apps. CALDA prepares testimony for Chinese American representatives to oppose the bill.
May 8, 2023	Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed SB264 into law, targeting Chinese nationals. It takes effect on July 1, 2023. CALDA immediately announced legal action to overturn the law. We are forming a legal team, contacting potential plaintiffs, and collaborating with groups like FAAJA and UCA to oppose this anti-Chinese measure.
May 15, 2023	Nearly 15 states propose similar bills. CALDA monitors these developments closely and plans legal action if necessary.
May 22, 2023	CALDA, with ACLU and AALDEF, files a lawsuit against Florida's SB264 in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida.
June 7, 2023	CALDA's legal team files a preliminary injunction to prevent SB264 from taking effect. Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP joins the lawsuit pro bono.
June 15, 2023	Hearing for the preliminary injunction scheduled for July 18, 2023, in Tallahassee. 19 civil rights organizations submitted an amicus brief supporting the injunction.
June 28, 2023	The U.S. Department of Justice files an amicus brief supporting CALDA's injunction request, indicating federal support for Chinese American rights.
July 18, 2023	Hearing for the preliminary injunction takes place in Tallahassee, with support rallies organized by APA Justice, FAAJA, and YWI.
August 17, 2023	The district court denies the preliminary injunction, allowing SB264 to remain in effect. CALDA announces plans to appeal the decision.

August 21, 2023	CALDA files an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and requests a stay of the law's enforcement during the appeal.
January 17, 2024	The appeals court grants CALDA's request for an expedited hearing.
February 1, 2024	The Eleventh Circuit grants a temporary injunction, allowing two Chinese American plaintiffs to purchase property without SB264 restrictions, pending the final appeal decision. This suggests other Chinese buyers may also be exempt from the law's restrictions for now.

Note:

- FAAJA: Florida Asian American Justice Alliance
- UCA: United Chinese Americans
- ACLU: American Civil Liberties Union
- AALDEF: Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund
- YWI: Yick Wo Institution

3. Virtualizations of Notable Impacts

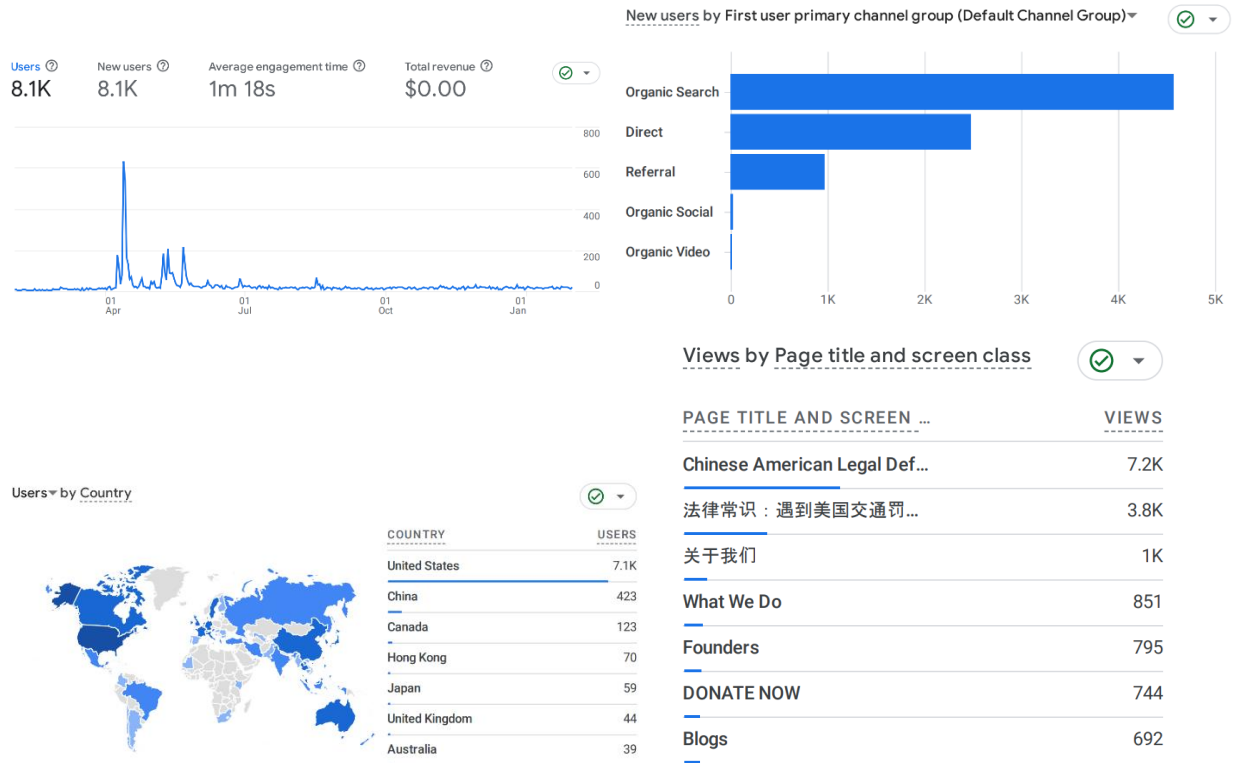
• WeChat Engagement

From February 2023 to January 2024, CALDA published 12 articles on its WeChat account, achieving significant engagement. The account gained a readership of 4,539 followers, with notable metrics in article views, likes, and shares, demonstrating active community involvement and support. A detailed graph illustrating these metrics is attached for reference.

	Reads	Likes	Wow-top stories
CALDA在行动：推翻多州禁止华人购买房地产法案的捐款倡议书	10,900	160	55
CALDA已为出席反对德州HB2206法案的听证会华人代表准备好证词提要	2,575	55	9
我们法院见：CALDA将立即起诉推翻佛州歧视性法案	19,700	244	78
佛州诉讼最新动态：下周一法院见！	6,906	111	22
已立案！CALDA携ACLU·AALDEF打响佛州排华恶法阻击战！	31,700	290	90
提交动议战鼓再擂，强所昆鹰上场助攻	8,892	78	18
法官确定禁止令时间表，19家民权组织联名向法院提交法庭之友附议书	5,228	57	18
美国联邦政府正式参与佛州案，与我们携手捍卫华人权益	15,900	151	52
致华人朋友们：参与7月18日佛州听证会的温馨提示及注意事项	2,274	28	11
历史不容倒退：地区法院未批准禁止令，我们将立即全力上诉	11,200	113	35
佛州案件今天启动上诉，维权到底誓不罢休	3,007	53	15
阻击佛州SB264上诉最新动态，判决即将发布	3,459	55	17

- **Website Traffic and Engagement**

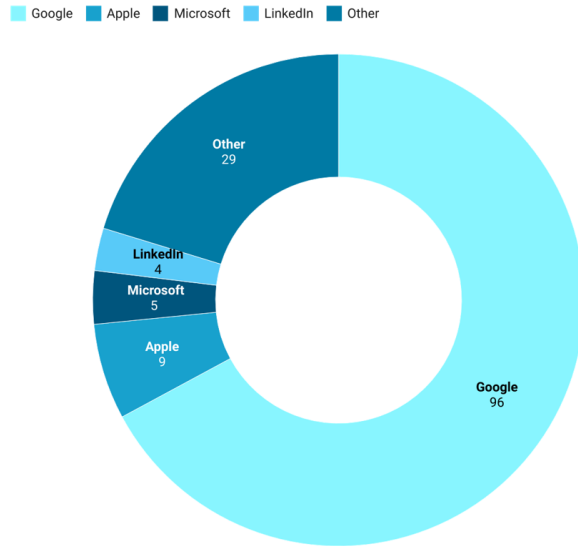
From February 2023 to January 2024, CALDA's official website (www.caldausa.org) achieved significant traffic, with 8.1K total visits. Of these, 5.8K came from organic searches, and around 7.1K visitors were from the U.S. Additionally, CALDA published 99 blog posts, with certain blogs receiving the highest number of clicks. Detailed graphs are attached below.



- **Donation Support from Various Channels**

From February 2023 to January 2024, CALDA received substantial donation support through multiple channels:

1. Benevity: 143 donation transactions from 26 companies. The transaction amounts and companies are detailed in the attached chart.



2. GoFundMe: 1,791 donation transactions.

3. Zelle Transfers: 1,974 donation transactions.

4. Checks: 54 check deposit transactions from various national civil society organizations.

These contributions reflect widespread support and trust in CALDA's mission. Please refer to the chart below for more details.



- **Media Coverage**

From February 2023 to January 2024, CALDA's efforts against the property ban targeting Chinese Americans were reported by 124 national and local media outlets. Notably, 29 of these reports directly mentioned CALDA. Prominent media coverage included Associated Press, CNN, NBC News, and The Washington Post, reflecting significant public interest and support for CALDA's mission.

Through these efforts, CALDA reaffirms its commitment to defending the civil rights of Chinese Americans and combating systemic racism and discrimination. The organization's work in 2023 has laid a strong foundation for continued advocacy and legal action in the face of growing challenges.

# CALDA

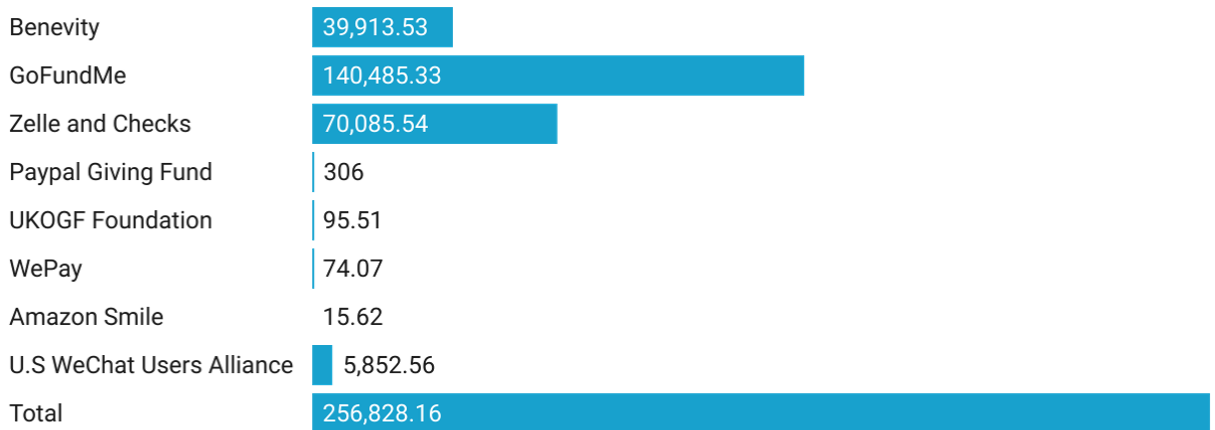
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## CALDA Annual Financial Report

February 2023 – January 2024

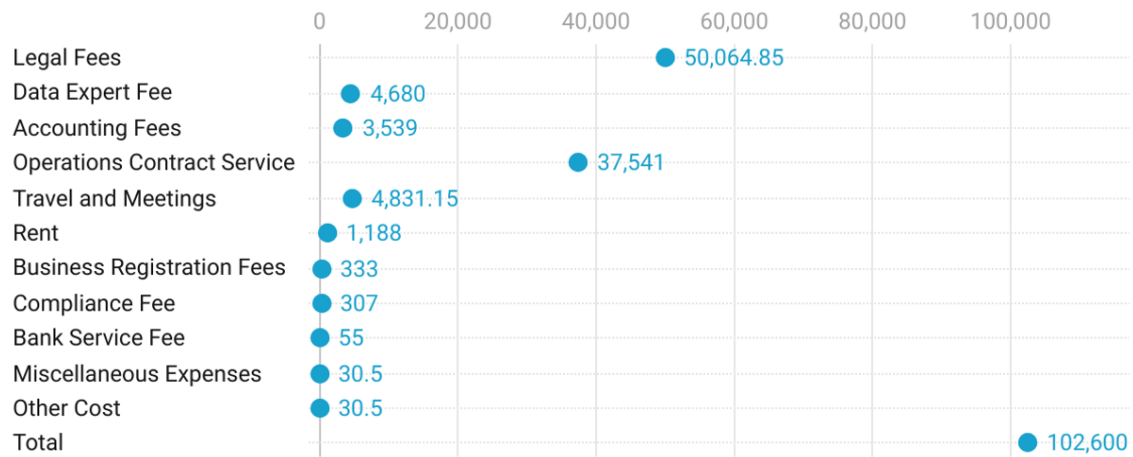
### 1. Sources of Funding and Income

Between February 2023 and January 2024, CALDA generated a total income of \$256,828.16 from direct public support. This includes contributions through platforms and methods such as GoFundMe, Benevity, Zelle, checks (from both individuals and businesses), the PayPal Giving Fund, the UKOGF Foundation, WePay, and Amazon Smile. (Refer to the graph below: All amounts are in USD).

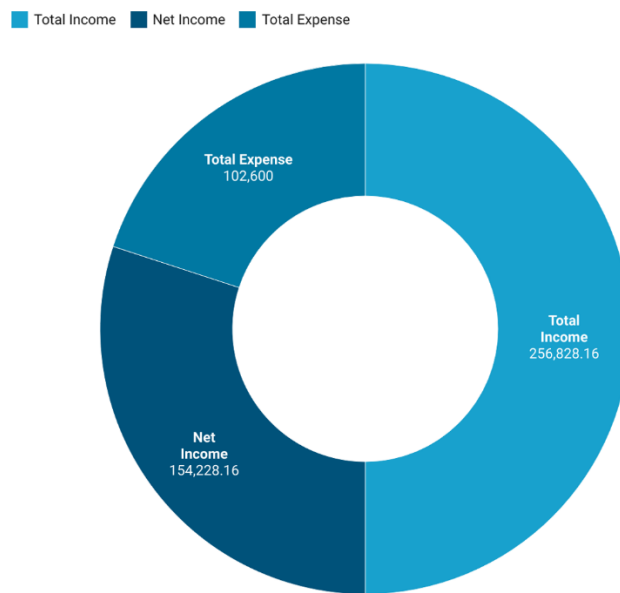


### 2. Expenses

The total expenses amounted to \$102,600, covering business registration costs, bank service fees, data expert fees, rent, compliance fees, legal service fees (including efforts against the China Initiative and Florida SB 264), accounting fees, operations management costs, travel and meetings, and miscellaneous expenses. (Refer to the graph below: All amounts are in USD).



The net income from February 2023 to January 2024 totaled \$154,228.16. (Refer to the graph below: All amounts are in USD).

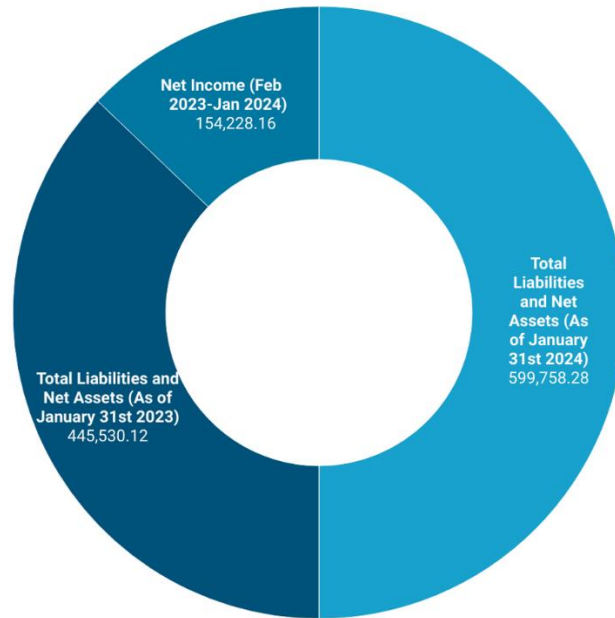


### 3. Audited Financial Statements

As of January 2023, the financial position showed total liabilities and equity at \$445,530.12. After accounting for the net income of \$154,228.16 between February 2023 and January 2024, the total liabilities and equity reached \$599,758.28 as of January 2024. (Refer to the graph below: All amounts are in USD).



■ Total Liabilities and Net Assets (As of January 31st 2024)  
■ Total Liabilities and Net Assets (As of January 31st 2023) ■ Net Income (Feb 2023-Jan 2024)



Attached below is the appendix containing our annual financial statements:

Appendix I: Income Statement (Profit and Loss) for the period from February 1st, 2023, to January 31st, 2024, detailing our profit and loss.

Appendix II: Balance Sheets (Financial Position) as of January 31st, 2023, and January 31st, 2024, providing a snapshot of our financial position at these two points.

Appendix III: Certified Internal Audit Letter as of January 31st, 2024, verifying the accuracy and integrity of our financial reporting.

\*\*\*CALDA's fiscal tax year begins on the first day of March annually.

# CHINESE AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE ALLIANCE

## Profit & Loss

Accrual Basis

February 2023 through January 2024

	Feb '23 - Jan 24
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Direct Public Support</b>	
<b>Individ, Business Contributions</b>	
Benevity	39,913.53
Check Donation	3,483.45
Donation form Wechat Alliance	5,852.56
Donation from Amazon Smile	15.62
Donation from WePay	74.07
GoFundMe	140,485.33
Paypal Giving Fund	306.00
UKOGF FOUNDATION	95.51
Zelle and Checks	66,602.09
<b>Total Individ, Business Contributions</b>	256,828.16
<b>Total Direct Public Support</b>	256,828.16
<b>Total Income</b>	256,828.16
<b>Expense</b>	
Bank Service Fee	55.00
<b>Business Expenses</b>	
Business Registration Fees	333.00
<b>Total Business Expenses</b>	333.00
Data Expert Fee	4,680.00
<b>Facilities and Equipment</b>	
Rent	1,188.00
<b>Total Facilities and Equipment</b>	1,188.00
<b>Legal and other Professional</b>	
Accounting Fees	3,539.00
Legal Fees	50,064.85
Outside Contract Services	37,541.00
<b>Total Legal and other Professional</b>	91,144.85
Miscellaneous Expenses	30.50
<b>Other Types of Expenses</b>	
Other Costs	30.50
<b>Total Other Types of Expenses</b>	30.50
Tax Compliance Fee	307.00
<b>Travel and Meetings</b>	
Travel	4,831.15
<b>Total Travel and Meetings</b>	4,831.15
<b>Total Expense</b>	102,600.00
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	154,228.16
<b>Net Income</b>	154,228.16

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Accrual Basis

**CHINESE AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE ALLIANCE****Balance Sheet**

As of January 31, 2023

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	<u>Jan 31, 23</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
Checking at Chase	445,381.62
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>445,381.62</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	445,381.62
<b>Other Assets</b>	
Security Deposits Asset	148.50
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>148.50</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>445,530.12</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Unrestricted Net Assets	40,498.29
Net Income	405,031.83
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>445,530.12</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>445,530.12</u></b>

CHINESE AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE ALLIANCE

Balance Sheet

As of January 31, 2024

Accrual Basis

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	<u>Jan 31, 24</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
Checking at Chase	599,609.78
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>599,609.78</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	599,609.78
<b>Other Assets</b>	
Security Deposits Asset	148.50
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>148.50</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>599,758.28</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Unrestricted Net Assets	448,402.42
Net Income	151,355.86
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>599,758.28</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>599,758.28</u></b>

**LAM S. MUI, CPA, P.C.**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT**  
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February 28, 2024

To the Board of Trustees of

CHINESE AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE ALLIANCE A NJ NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
27 BLEEKER ST  
MILLBURN, NJ 07041

I have compiled the accompanying Statement of Activities for the period of February 01, 2023, to January 31, 2024, and Statement of Financial Position as of January 31, 2024, for CHINESE AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE ALLIANCE A NJ NONPROFIT CORPORATION, in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Sincerely yours,

*Lam S. Mui, CPA, PC*