

# URGENT ACTION

## LAWYER ARRESTED FOR “SUBVERSION”

**Jiang Tianyong, human rights lawyer detained under “residential surveillance in a designated location” for over six months, has been formally arrested for “subverting state power”. Held incommunicado and without access to a lawyer, he is at risk of torture or other ill-treatment.**

**Jiang Tianyong** has been formally arrested for “subverting state power” according to a notification received by his father from the Changsha City Public Security Bureau. His father, who resides in Jiang Tianyong’s hometown Xinyang, Henan province, only received the notification, issued on 31 May 2017, at the local post office on 5 June 2017. He was taken to the police station by the police right after returning home from the post office, warned not to disclose the details about Jiang Tianyong’s formal arrest to the outside world and was later released the same day. If convicted, the maximum punishment for the charge of “subverting state power” is life imprisonment. Jiang Tianyong is now detained at the Changsha City No.1 Detention Center.

Jiang Tianyong’s lawyer, **Qin Chenshou** and **Chen Jinxue**, have requested a meeting with Jiang Tianyong for the ninth time since he was detained. The Changsha City Public Security Bureau rejected all previous meeting requests on the grounds of “obstructing investigation” and “endangering national security”. To date, Jiang Tianyong has had no access to a lawyer. Jiang Tianyong was accused of “inciting subversion of state power” when he was placed under “residential surveillance in a designated location” in December 2016.

Jiang Tianyong is a well-known human rights lawyer, whose activism resulted in him being disbarred in 2009. He has since continued his work as a human rights defender, despite suffering ongoing harassment, detention and physical beatings.

### 1) TAKE ACTION

**Write a letter, send an email, call, fax or tweet:**

- Calling on the authorities to immediately release Jiang Tianyong as he has been charged solely for peacefully exercising his human rights;
- Urging the authorities to ensure that while detained Jiang Tianyong is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and that he is allowed access to his family, a lawyer of his choice and adequate medical care.

**Contact these two officials before 26 July, 2017:**

Director  
Changsha City No.1 Detention Center  
1736 Yuandaerlu  
Quantang Zhen  
Changsha Xian, 410131  
Hunan Sheng,  
People’s Republic of China  
**Salutation: Dear Director**

Ambassador Tiankai Cui  
Embassy of the People’s Republic of China  
3505 International Place NW  
Washington DC 20008  
Fax: 1 202 495 2138  
Phone: 1 202 495 2000  
Email: [chinaembpress\\_us@mfa.gov.cn](mailto:chinaembpress_us@mfa.gov.cn)  
**Salutation: Dear Ambassador**

### 2) LET US KNOW YOU TOOK ACTION

[Click here](#) to let us know if you took action on this case! *This is Urgent Action 141.17*

Here’s why it is so important to report your actions: we record the actions taken on each case—letters, emails, calls and tweets—and use that information in our advocacy.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Jiang Tianyong**, last heard from on 21 November 2016, was placed under “residential surveillance in a designated location” on suspicion of “inciting subversion of state power” according to a notification received by his father-in-law on 23 December 2016 from the Changsha City Public Security Bureau.

Lawyer Jiang Tianyong went missing on 21 November 2016 on the way back to Beijing after visiting Xie Yang’s wife. He had accompanied her and three other lawyers to Changsha City No.2 Detention Centre to try to arrange a meeting with Xie Yang. Mainland Chinese media released interviews and video-recorded “confessions” of Jiang Tianyong in February 2017, claiming that he was the one who fabricated Xie Yang’s account of torture, and labelling the foreign media reports about Xie Yang’s account of torture as “fake news”.

Following an unprecedented government crackdown on human rights lawyers and other activists, almost 250 lawyers and activists have been questioned or detained by state security agents since 9 July 2015. In addition to the raiding of many offices and homes, family members of those detained were also subjected to police surveillance, harassment and restriction of their freedom of movement.

Jiang Tianyong has been involved in some high profile cases and has supported other human rights defenders, including human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng, who was imprisoned and consistently harassed due to his human rights work, and blind legal activist Chen Guangcheng, who exposed forced abortion practices on villagers by local officials in Dongshigu Village in Linyi, Shandong.

Prior to his current detention, Jiang Tianyong was most recently detained in March 2014, after he and three other lawyers went to investigate a “black jail”, or unofficial detention facility, in Jiansanjiang, Heilongjiang which allegedly detained Falun Gong practitioners. He was beaten while detained and had eight ribs fractured as a result.

Previously, in May 2012, Jiang Tianyong was detained by public security officers while on his way to visit Chen Guangcheng in Chaoyang Hospital, Haidian District, Beijing. Detained for nine hours, Jiang Tianyong was beaten so badly that his left eardrum was perforated and the hearing in his right ear was temporarily impaired.

Name: Jiang Tianyong  
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 141/17 Index: 17/6491/2017 Issue Date: 14 June 2017