



**STATEMENT OF OCA-NY**  
**Before the New York City Council Redistricting Commission**  
**Given by Rose Eng**  
**August 21, 2012**

Good evening. My name is Rose Eng. I have been a Queens resident for more than 30 years and currently live in Hollis Hills. I am a retired educator for the NYC Dept. of Education and have worked in the educational system for 33 years. Today, I am testifying as a board member of OCA-NY. Founded in 1976, OCA-NY, formerly known as Organization of Chinese Americans, is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the political, economic, social, and cultural rights of Asian Americans. OCA-NY is a founding member of ACCORD-Asian American Community Coalition on Redistricting and Democracy.

OCA-NY covers the five boroughs of New York City. In Queens, OCA-NY held a naturalization training in downtown Flushing that attracted over 100 people. We participate in the Flushing Lunar New Year Parade, conduct voter registration drives, and organize community education forums, including meetings with the Queens District Attorney involving crimes against Asian Americans. We co-sponsored candidate forums for former State Senate Districts 11 and 16, current City Council District 20, and newly drawn State Assembly District 40 and Congressional District 6 at Flushing Public Library. We participate in the International Dragon Boat Races in Flushing Meadows. OCA-NY works with MinKwon Center for Community Action, Chinatown Planning Council-Queens division, Korean Community Services, and Flushing Chinese Business Association. Our joint projects include language access, voter empowerment, and immigration reform.

The 2010 Census shows that there are 500,000 Asians living in Queens alone. OCA-NY's position on redistricting is based on its community involvement, input from its Queens members and the 2010 Census.

**City Council District 20**

OCA-NY supports City Council District 20 remaining in tact. Many Flushing residents face the same issues of street sanitation problems, parking, and access to language instruction. More than half the population in Flushing are foreign born and need bilingual assistance. Under section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act, poll sites in Queens are required to provide translated materials and assistance to Asian American voters with limited English proficiency. However, to encourage greater voter participation, communities of interests must be drawn together so that we can unite more effectively to elect a candidate of our choice. Thank you.