

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Help Poet Wo Chan & His Family Fight Unjust Deportation

Chiwan Choi · Tuesday, October 6th, 2015

Wo Chan is a queer Fujianese poet, writer, and drag performer. A recipient of fellowships from [Poets House](#), [Kundiman](#), and [Lambda Literary](#), Wo's work has been published in [cream city review](#), [BARZAHK](#), [The Cortlandt Review](#), [iO: A Journal for New American Poetry](#), and [VYM Magazine](#). As a member of Brooklyn-based drag alliance, [Switch n' Play](#), Wo has performed at venues including Brooklyn Pride, The Trevor Project, and the Architectural Digest Expo. Wo is a [2015 Asian American Writers Workshop Margins Fellow](#).



And he and his family are being threatened with unjust deportation because of someone else's crimes.

I am writing today because my mother, father, and I are facing unjust deportation charges due to the criminal actions of former Homeland Security supervisor Robert Schofield.

In 2002, my father and mother applied for naturalization through the Department of Homeland Security. My parents believed they were lawfully applying for citizenship at the time, when in fact, Schofield was profiting off of them. He spoke Chinese and was the acting assistant director for examinations from 1998-2004. In 2006, he was convicted of bribery and various related crimes in connection with his issuance of certificates of naturalization to nearly 200 applicants, all of whom are in the Asian American community.

You can catch up on [the Schofield story in the Washington Post](#).

Neither my parents nor myself had any reason to obtain our citizenship outside of the regulations in place; my family was unfortunate to have Officer Schofield involve himself in our citizenship cases. Mr. Schofield's conviction and sentence lead to the US government placing all files that he had ever handled under investigation and in deportation proceedings.

Our lawyer is now fighting to show that neither my parents nor myself were involved or aware of this officer's fraudulent actions against the US government.

As this is a very unique and high-stakes case, we have hired a lawyer to represent us. The judge, however, has expedited our trial, meaning that the timeline for paying my attorney has shrunk dramatically. We need to come up with \$15,000 by the first week of December to pay our attorney to represent us in our final hearing on December 23.

He is trying to raise a third of that unexpected and urgent legal cost. Let's help out his family so they can continue to work and thrive in this country. Hit the link below and pitch in what you can.

## Help Wo Fight Deportation – GoFundMe

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