



Province of  
British Columbia

ADULT FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC  
OUT-PATIENT SERVICES

Ministry of  
Health and  
Ministry Responsible  
for Seniors

Forensic Psychiatric  
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October 19, 1993

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FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES OF B.C.

The Presiding Judge  
Richmond Provincial Court of B.C.  
6900 Minoru Blvd.  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6Y 1Y3

Your Honor,

Re: Feng GAO  
D.O.B. 1959-01-29

#### OFFENSE

Breach of recognizance to wit: harrassing phone calls to lawyers whom Mr. Gao had contacted to represent him and who had declined to do so.

#### PREVIOUS LEGAL INVOLVEMENT

Mr. Gao has had a series of charges dating back to January 14, 1993 which have included assault by trespass, harrassing phone calls, assault, breach of an undertaking and his most recent charges to date are; two charges of mischief occurring on the 6th and 7th of October 1993 by wilfully obstructing, interfering and interrupting, unlawful use of a law firm that Mr. Gao had contacted to represent him.

#### REFERRAL SOURCE

Mr. David Phillips, Probation Officer, 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver, B.C.

#### STAGE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS

This is a Pre-sentence Report.

Mr. Gao is due to appear in Provincial Court Richmond on the 4th of November 1993.

#### REASONS FOR PSYCHIATRIC OPINION

1. Existence of mental illness.
2. Personality Assessment.
3. Mental state at time of the offense.
4. Treatment needs.

This report has been prepared at the request of the court and with the consent of Mr. Gao.

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INFORMATION SOURCES

Prior to preparing this report I have:

1. Reviewed a police report outlining the circumstances surrounding Mr. Gao's charges.
2. Reviewed Mr. Gao's file at the Forensic Psychiatric Outpatients Clinic, 307 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Gao has had three previous assessments by Forensic Services which are as follows:
3. Mr. Gao was first assessed by Forensic Services on the 15th of January, 1993 by Dr. [REDACTED] a consulting Psychiatrist to Forensic Services.

S 19(1)(a)

Mr. Gao had been charged with assault by trespass and making harrassing phone calls. The charges arose out of instances occurring at the C.B.C. Building at 700 Hamilton Street. In brief Mr. Gao had developed a series of paranoid delusions from approximately one year previously in the early part of 1992. Mr. Gao believed that his supervisor at the Faculty of Computer Science at U.B.C. was discriminating against himself and other employees. Mr. Gao also believed that there was corruption involved in the administrative offices of the University of B.C. and furthermore, Mr. Gao believed that the then Prime Minister, Mr. Brian Mulroney was deliberately causing Mr. Robert Bourassa, the Premier of Quebec to attend long lasting meetings thereby aggravating Mr. Bourassa's cancer. Mr. Gao wanted to expose these actions on television hence his attending at the C.B.C. building. However, understandably the C.B.C. staff were reluctant to allow him on National Television and after repeated requests including the attendance of the police Mr. Gao finally left. However, Mr. Gao subsequently made numerous phone calls to C.B.C. and again attended at the C.B.C. premises where he was eventually arrested.

19(1)(a)

Dr. [REDACTED] documented in his report that Mr. Gao was somewhat suspicious, with pressured speech, loosening of associations and manifested delusions of grandiosity and persecution. Mr. Gao's affect, (re: mood) appeared to be elated and inappropriate. His attention and concentration were described as poor. However, Mr. Gao appeared to understand his charges, the court process excetera and appeared to be fit to stand trial. Dr. [REDACTED] concluded that Mr. Gao was suffering from Paranoid Schizophrenia in an active phase and certified him under the Mental Health Act and suggested appropriate treatment.

S 19(1)(a)

4. Mr. Gao was assessed by Forensic Psychiatric Services for the second time, on the 10th of May, 1993 by Dr. [REDACTED], a Consulting Psychiatrist, to Forensic Services. Mr. Gao had been charged with the assault of a member of the security staff at the University Hospital.

The police report indicates that Mr. Gao was attending the U.B.C. Hospital to try and arrange a psychiatric evaluation so that he could claim U.I.C. benefits. The staff at the U.B.C. Hospital felt that this was inappropriate and referred him to another physician. Mr. Gao refused to accept this and eventually Security and Police had to be called on several occasions, finally culminating with Mr. Gao being charged with assault. Dr. Levy documented in his report, that Mr. Gao had a clear understanding of his charges and his court process etc. and was fit to stand trial.

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~~XXXXXX~~ also documented that in his opinion Mr. Gao did not manifest any evidence of major mental illness at that time; however, ~~XXXXXX~~ thought that Mr. Gao was suffering from some obsessive, compulsive personality traits. ~~XXXXXX~~

5. Mr. Gao was assessed for the third time by Forensic Psychiatric Services on June 14, 1993, by ~~XXXXXX~~, a consulting psychiatrist, to Forensic Services. Mr. Gao had been charged with assault. The police report indicated that once again Mr. Gao had attended the U.B.C. Hospital and refused to leave and when a member of the Security staff attended to escort Mr. Gao from the Hospital, the Security member was assaulted.

~~XXXXXX~~ concluded in her report that in her opinion Mr. Gao was fit for court but on reviewing his previous psychiatric history thought that Mr. Gao may have a delusional disorder in partial remission.

6. Discussed the case with Mr. David Phillips, Probation Officer, 345 Kingsway, Vancouver, B.C.
7. Interviewed Mr. Gao on the 12th of October, 1993 at the Adult Forensic Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic, 307 West Broadway, Vancouver.

#### PAST PSYCHIATRIC HISTORY

Mr. Gao's psychiatric difficulties appeared to begin around the early part of 1992 while he was an assistant professor in the Faculty of Computer Sciences at the University of British Columbia. Mr. Gao apparently developed a number of paranoid delusions in regards to his supervisor and the University Administration. Mr. Gao attended for psychiatric assessment and treatment as an outpatient and was eventually admitted to the psychiatric unit of U.B.C. in December of 1992. Unfortunately, Mr. Gao had little insight into his difficulties and upon discharge to the community discontinued his medication. Following Mr. Gao's discharge into the community in December of 1992 he did not co-operate with regular psychiatric follow-up or treatment.

At the present time Mr. Gao is not in receipt of any anti-psychotic medication. Mr. Gao is not attending any psychiatrists on a regular basis for monitoring of his mental state.

#### PAST MEDICAL HISTORY

Mr. Gao said he has had a tonsilectomy and appendectomy but apart from the above has no significant illnesses.

#### CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES

At the present time Mr. Gao is living in a rental basement suite at 258 East 8th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. and he has been residing there for the last few months. Mr. Gao is currently supporting himself on U.I.C. which began in April of 1993.

Mr. Gao had been working as an assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Sciences at U.B.C. up until June of 1992.

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**PERSONAL HISTORY**

Mr. Gao was born in Canton, mainland of China on the 29th of January, 1959 and is now aged 34. Mr. Gao lived in Canton, China up until the age of 23 at which time he enrolled at the University in Berkeley, California to take a Ph.D., in Mathematics. Following obtaining his Ph.D., Mr. Gao applied to a number of Universities in North America and was accepted at U.B.C. and he attended there beginning in the academic year of 1988 and he has been living in B.C. since that time.

Mr. Gao's father, Qiyum, he is now aged about 60 lives in Canton, mainland China and is a Professor of Philosophy at a University. Unfortunately he has severe heart disease and has been hospitalized on several occasions because of this. Mr. Gao's mother, Ruifang Wang, is also about aged 60 and normally lives in Canton with her husband. She is a retired high school teacher, who taught Chinese Literature. Mr. Gao's mother, has severe hypertension. Mr. Gao said his mother came to visit him here in June of this year and she will be staying for approximately six months, returning to China around December 1993 or January 1994. Mr. Gao said his mother is very concerned about his current situation before the Court.

Mr. Gao has one sibling his sister, Ning, who is currently aged 29 and has just finished a Ph.D., in Chemistry at a University in New York State. Ning's husband, is an assistant Professor in the department of Chemistry at the same University.

Mr. Gao said that he gets along well with his parents and with his sister.

**SCHOOLING AND OCCUPATIONAL HISTORY**

Mr. Gao said that he Graduated from Grade 12 around the age of 18 and then entered the Zhong Shan University in Canton, where he took a degree in Computer Science. Mr. Gao then took his Ph.D., at Berkeley in California and then transferred to U.B.C. in 1988. As mentioned previously Mr. Gao was let go from U.B.C. in June of 1992 and is currently unemployed, although he hopes to pursue a career in Computer Science Research.

**MARITAL HISTORY**

Mr. Gao said that he has never been engaged to married and does not have a steady relationship at the present time.

**LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Gao said that he enjoys swimming and hiking, does not smoke or drink or take any illicit drugs.

**RESULTS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING**

Unfortunately we were unable to carry out any psychological testing of Mr. Gao. This was due to a number of factors which included:

His not attending his outpatients appointment because he was already returning to U.B.C. and continuing to harrass the staff at the Hospital.

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Furthermore, I understand that Mr. Gao has also been attending V.G.H., and at some point, he was taken into custody and indeed was recently admitted to the Vancouver General Hospital Psychiatric department for a short period of time.

#### EXAMINATION OF MENTAL STATE

Mr. Gao presented himself on time for his appointment on the 12th of October, 1993. He was neatly dressed in casual clothes. He was able to give a sensible and coherent history. Mr. Gao had some difficulty in remembering some of the behaviors outlined in the police reports and seemed somewhat surprised when the extent of his harrassing phone calls and assaults by trespass were read to him. At today's interview Mr. Gao denied that he currently believed the delusional beliefs that he had believed in 1992 and 1993. In essence Mr. Gao said he no longer believed that his previous supervisor was against him nor did he believe that the administrative department at U.B.C. was corrupt, nor did he believe that Mr. Mulroney deliberately tried to aggravate the health of Premier Bourassa.

Mr. Gao said that as he now had his own lawyer, he would no longer make phone calls to the other lawyers which had in the past led to charges. Mr. Gao also said that now that his U.I.C. had been sorted out he no longer needed to attend the U.B.C. Hospital. Mr. Gao said that he has appealed to obtain U.I.C. funds for the months of February and March, 1993 and has already been in receipt of U.I.C. funds since April of 1993.

Mr. Gao was well orientated for time, place and person and his intellectual and cognitive functions were grossly intact.

Mr. Gao did not appear to be seriously depressed or suicidal.

Mr. Gao denied that he was in any way a danger to himself or others.

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is my opinion that Mr. Gao suffers from a major mental illness, which is probably Paranoid Schizophrenia. However, Mr. Gao has seen other psychiatrists and he has been variously described as having (a) Schizoid Personality with Obsessive/Compulsive Traits, (b) a paranoid disorder and (c) Paranoid Schizophrenia.

It is my own opinion that Mr. Gao does indeed suffer from Paranoid Schizophrenia and that his overall functioning is gradually deteriorating and his illness is causing him to come into increasing conflict with the community.

In spite of the fact that Mr. Gao is clearly very intelligent, he does not seem able to appreciate the seriousness of the disruptions he is causing at various hospitals, etc. Furthermore, Mr. Gao has been before the Courts on a number of occasions and has so far refused to obey their instructions.

Indeed, when I interviewed Mr. Gao on the 12th of October, 1993 he did not tell me the truth; he said that he had not been attending the U.B.C. Hospital nor was he harrassing the staff, when in fact, he had actually been at U.B.C. the previous day and that morning!

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In view of the above, unfortunately Mr. Gao's version of events cannot be taken as truthful which makes his assessment more difficult.

2. Although Mr. Gao in my opinion is suffering from a major mental illness, namely Paranoid Schizophrenia, he is an intelligent man and does appear to have an intellectual grasp of the Court process. However, one must wonder whether at a deeper level, his level of appreciation is not adversely affected by his underlying illness.
3. In regards to treatment recommendations, this poses somewhat of a problem. At the present time there appears to be no clear agreement upon Mr. Gao's diagnosis, which therefore effects any treatment plan. While Mr. Gao currently denies any psychotic symptoms I do wonder whether or not Mr. Gao continues to suffer from a number of delusional symptoms which he is not disclosing to physicians, because he does not wish to be perceived as mentally ill nor does he wish any kind of treatment. However, because Mr. Gao's behavior is so clearly disturbed I would assume by inference that he continues to suffer from mental illness.

Unfortunately, we are unable to force Mr. Gao to take medication treatment unless he is certified under the Mental Health Act. Since Mr. Gao has no insight into his illness, at the moment treatment is not possible. Indeed, I understand that Mr. Gao was recently at Vancouver General Hospital where he was seen by a number of Psychiatrists, none of whom found him to be psychotic, none of whom found him to be certifiable and he was therefore released to the community without any on-going treatment.

It is my opinion that Mr. Gao does need medication, but unfortunately at the present time he refuses to take it.

Mr. Gao has been before the Courts on many occasions, and although the Courts have directed him not to attend certain places, he has in fact disregarded the Courts' orders on a number of occasions.

However, it makes common-sense that Mr. Gao should be asked to refrain from attending those places where he has been causing difficulties and he should refrain from contacting persons whom he has been harrassing.

However, I suspect that Mr. Gao will continue on with his disregard of Court orders until such time as he receives the appropriate treatment.

If Mr. Gao were directed to attend the Forensic Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic so that his mental state could be monitored, I suspect that he would miss a number of his appointments; however, in spite of this I would certainly recommend that Mr. Gao be instructed to attend the Forensic Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic so that we can continue to monitor his mental state and if his mental state deteriorates to a point where he is certifiable and then he could be placed in hospital and appropriate treatment commenced.

As indicated earlier in my report, Mr. Gao is apparently facing further charges which will presumably become before the Courts after these particular charges have been dealt with.

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I hope this report can be of some help to you and if there is any further information you may require please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours very truly,

[REDACTED]

S.19(1)(a)

[REDACTED]

Psychiatrist

S.19(1)(a)

ADULT FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC OUTPATIENT SERVICES

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