



February 23, 2016

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I respectfully urge you to consider the nomination of the late Colonel Young Oak Kim for the 2016 Presidential Medal of Freedom. His heroic service in the United States Army and his dedicated civic leadership is a steadfast example to both the Korean American community and to the United States. Personally, as the youngest Korean American elected official in the United States, this medal will encourage younger and future generations to forever commemorate his sacrifice and legacy to our country.

I am proud that the City of La Palma is the first city in Orange County to be majority Asian American and I know that Colonel Young Oak Kim is one of the most respected Asian American leaders in the United States. Bestowing the Medal of Freedom to Colonel Kim will validate his contributions and be celebrated throughout the country.

Colonel Kim's service to our country is unique in that he served as the only Korean American in the famous Japanese American unit, the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II. His devotion and commitment to the United States transcended any ethnic or racial barrier he may have faced as both him and his Japanese American colleagues fought for the country they so dearly loved. He is an amazing example of how our democratic ideals and principles are what make us American, not our ethnicity or background.

I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Colonel Young Oak Kim for the 2016 Presidential Medal of Freedom and I want to respectfully thank you for your consideration of his nomination.

Most Respectfully,

PETER L. KIM
Council Member
City of La Palma

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