

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
for the  
District of Rhode Island

United States of America )  
v. )  
ZHENPENG HU, a/k/a "TODD" )  
DOB 1986 )  
Malden, MA )  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant )

Case No. *1:11-MJ-75M*

**CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date of 04/02/2011 in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ District of Rhode Island \_\_\_\_\_, the defendant violated 18 U. S. C. § 371 \_\_\_\_\_, an offense described as follows:

18 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1) and (c) and 18 U.S.C. § 2119

Conspiracy to commit kidnaping and kidnaping in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 1201(a)(1) and (c) and carjacking in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2119.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See attached Affidavit of Justin M. Bowers, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Continued on the attached sheet.

  
Complainant's signature  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUSTIN M. BOWERS, SPECIAL AGENT  
Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 4-4-11

  
Judge's signature  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID L. MARTIN, U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

City and state: Providence, Rhode Island

Printed name and title

1.11-MJ-75M

AFFIDAVIT

I, Justin M. Bowers, do under oath depose and say that:

1. I am a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). I have been FBI Agent for over 23 years. I am currently assigned to the Providence Resident Agency, Boston Division.

2. This affidavit is submitted in support of arrest warrants for Zhenpeng Hu (d.o.b. 4-4-86) who is known as Todd (hereinafter "Todd") and Shengfeng Cui (d.o.b. 2-2-84) who is known as Alex (hereinafter "Alex") as well as criminal complaints charging them with conspiracy to commit kidnaping and carjacking; kidnaping; and carjacking. All in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371; 1201 (a)(1) & (C); and 2119.

3. The facts and information supplied in this affidavit are based upon my own personal knowledge gained in the course of this investigation or have been reliably provided to me by other Special Agents of the FBI, as well as detectives and officers of the Providence Police Department and the Malden Police Department.

4. The victims of this crime, a young woman named Xiaoshuang Yu ("Yu") and a young man named Xianglong Wu ("Wu") share an apartment at the Regency Plaza Apartments in Providence, RI. Both Yu and Wu are believed to be Chinese nationals lawfully present in this country on student visas.

5. In the early morning hours of Saturday, April 2, 2011 while Yu and Wu were in their beds two men entered their apartment. There were no signs of forced entry. The intruders brandished a knife and a stun gun. The men fought with Wu. Yu was struck in the face and was told to be quiet or she would be killed. Wu was beaten. Both were overpowered by the assailants and were restrained with plastic flex ties. Yu was put into a large suitcase. She was warned to remain there and was ultimately left behind in the apartment.

6. Sometime around 6:00 AM Yu managed to escape the apartment with her hands still bound and sought help from a neighbor. A 911 call was placed for emergency assistance. Yu later told investigating officers about the home invasion. An acquaintance provided background information on Wu. Wu's parents are reportedly wealthy and own a clothing company in China. Wu reportedly drove a Porsche and had recently purchased a BMW motorcycle.

7. Wu was taken from his apartment against his will. He was beaten, placed in a large duffle bag, and carried out of his apartment by the kidnapers. Security camera

footage depicts two men in hooded clothing carrying a large bag believed to contain Wu. During the early phases of the abduction, Wu believed that he saw a small section of dark skin on the wrist of one of the men which led him to believe that the man may have been African American.

8. Wu was put into his own car, a 2011 Porsche, which was parked in the garage at the Regency Plaza Apartment complex and was driven from the area. Wu was later placed into a second car in which he was beaten again. Wu thought the second car was a BMW.

9. Wu was driven from Rhode Island to Malden, Massachusetts. He was taken into an apartment where he was again beaten. The apartment was later determined to be located in an apartment building located at 160 Pleasant St., Malden, MA ("160 Pleasant Street"). Wu was kept in a bathroom where he was restrained with duct tape and plastic ties. During the abduction and beatings Wu tried to negotiate with his kidnappers. But no demands were made of him.

10. After a period of time Wu was left alone in the apartment by his abductors. He struggled to free himself for approximately 2 hours. Eventually successful, he went to the apartment manager's office. They summoned the Malden police.

11. The FBI Evidence Response Team searched the apartment in Malden where Wu had been held captive. They found many plastic flex ties. The bathroom in which Wu was restrained was covered with a dark colored plastic tarp. They also recovered purchase receipts. One receipt from Home Depot dated March 31<sup>st</sup> reflected the purchase of plastic ties, dust masks, and tape. Another from TJ Maxx reflected the purchase of two items of "Team Apparel." A receipt from K Mart included the purchase of Depends adult sized diapers. A lap top computer inscribed with the name Todd was also recovered.

12. It was determined that the apartment in which Wu was constrained at 160 Pleasant Street was rented by Shiquan Wang, who is known as Ben (hereinafter, "Ben"). Ben was located in California. He reported that while he was away on vacation he had left the keys to his apartment and to his BMW with Todd. Todd also lives in the same apartment complex. It was therefore believed that the transfer vehicle was Ben's BMW.

13. During questioning of Yu and Wu, it was determined that Todd, who they knew from school, had asked to borrow their apartment key sometime prior to this incident. A key is required to gain access to the apartment complex and to the apartment. Todd is also a Chinese national. Based on preliminary immigration checks, he appears to have overstayed his student visa.

14. Law enforcement officers attempted to locate Todd by going to his apartment which was also located at 160 Pleasant Street. While at Todd's apartment, with his girlfriend, officers heard a noise at the door. Outside the door officers found a set of keys and a note that had been left there. They heard the sound of footsteps running from the apartment. Todd's girlfriend recognized the keys. She said they were hers. She also said the note, which was written in Chinese, was from Todd.

15. At approximately 11:30 PM, Todd was located on the roof of the apartment building. He was hiding inside a maintenance control room and had cut his right wrist with the top of a broken paint can. Todd was conscious and was attended to by emergency personnel. A Malden police officer asked him about the BMW. In response, Todd asked, "The black one?" The officer answered affirmatively and Todd said, "Alex has it." When asked who Alex was Todd stated, "Alex Cui. The car is in Providence." Todd stated the Malden police officer that Alex is Chinese and 2 years older than him. Todd specified that Alex took the BMW to the Four Seasons Apartments. Those apartments are located in East Providence, RI. Todd also informed the police officers that Alex's friend had Wu's Porsche at a house in Cranston, RI. Todd was transported to a hospital for medical treatment and all questioning ended. After medical treatment, due to the nature of the self-inflicted injuries, Todd was transferred to Bridgewater State Hospital for evaluation.

15. I attempted to locate Alex. I went to his apartment and spoke with his roommate. I obtained his telephone number from her and tried to call him. I have since learned that he borrowed his roommate's phone and credit card to hastily book an early morning flight from JFK International Airport in New York to China via Seoul, Korea. The Department of Homeland Security verified that Alex departed this country on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at approximately 12:50 AM bound for China via Korea. Alex's roommate has since confirmed that she believes that he managed to get to Korea. She said that Alex called her to say that he had arrived in Seoul. In a subsequent interview, she said that Alex told her that he and Todd were in trouble and that he could not use his own phone or credit card to make his travel arrangements.

16. Ben's BMW has been located in East Providence. Wu's 2011 Porsche has been located in Cranston, RI. Rhode Island DMV records confirm that Wu has a car matching that description registered in his name. I have been informed Wu had purchased the 2011 Porsche new with cash. Porsche does not manufacture automobiles in Rhode Island. The motor vehicle has therefore been transported, shipped or received in interstate or foreign commerce.

17. After he received medical treatment and was psychologically evaluated, Todd agreed to continue to speak with investigators. He was next interviewed on April 3<sup>rd</sup> by FBI agents. Todd admitted that he and Alex had planned to kidnap Wu in order

to steal his Porsche automobile which they valued at approximately \$80,000. They planned to split the proceeds. Todd claimed that the kidnaping and carjacking was Alex's idea and stated that Alex knew someone who would get rid of the car for them. Todd had obtained a key to the apartment some days before the crime by borrowing Wu's. He said that they used Ben's apartment to hold Wu hostage because Ben was on a pre-planned vacation. Todd explained that they covered everything in the bathroom with a tarp so that the victim would not be able to recognize his surroundings. They planned to keep the victim there for about two days while they sold the Porsche. That was why they bought the adult sized Depends. He talked about purchasing the supplies and disguises used to commit this crime and admitted that he had purchase a stun gun on e-bay using his own laptop. Todd also disclosed that he had covered security cameras in the Malden apartment complex garage. Todd confessed that he and Alex were the two kidnapers.

18. I therefore suggest that there is probable cause to believe that Zhenpeng Hu, who is known as Todd and Shengfeng Cui, who is known as Alex conspired to kidnap and kidnaped Xiagnlong Wu in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 1201 (a)(1) and (C); and that they also conspired to commit and committed carjacking in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371 and 2119.



Justin M. Bowers  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed to and sworn  
before me this 4th day of  
April, 2011 at Providence, RI



DAVID L. MARTIN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE