For Immediate Release
Contact: Edward Wright, Legislative Aide
Cell: (530) 748-9093

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Supervisor Gordon Mar to Host Rally Condemning Attempted Killing of Indigenous & Environmental Rights Advocate; Urges U.S. Embassy in the Philippines to Provide Protection for American Citizen in Critical Condition

Chinese and Filipino Leaders Call on US Embassy and Congress to Protect Sunset-raised Chinese American and San Francisco Native Ahead of Community Rally

Who:
District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar
Pam Tau Lee, Chairperson - International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines
Representatives from Chinese Progressive Association, friends of Brandon Lee, League of Filipino Students- SFSU, and Malaya Movement SF.
Full speaking program to be announced.

Where: San Francisco City Hall, 1 Carlton B. Goodlett Steps

What: Press Conference and Rally

When:
10:00 AM PT, Friday August 9th, 2019 - International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples

Background:
Brandon Lee is a journalist, environmental rights advocate, and Chinese American San Francisco native who has been living in Ifugao, Philippines and serves as a paralegal for the Cordillera Human Rights Alliance. Lee grew up in the Sunset District where his family still lives, and attended Lincoln High School and San Francisco State University.

Lee is in critical condition following four gunshots to the back and spine sustained early Tuesday morning, Pacific time. He is the first United States citizen believed to be the target of an extra-judicial assassination attempt by the regime of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte.

Prior to the Tuesday shooting, Lee was “red-tagged” by the Philippine military in 2015 for his advocacy to protect the land and rights of indigenous people in the Cordilleras, and has been subject to surveillance and threats over the past four years.

Supervisor Mar joined Lee’s family and community to call on Congressional support from Speaker Pelosi and Senators Feinstein and Harris for immediate security protections from the U.S. Embassy and an investigation of his shooting.
There have been over 30,000 reported extrajudicial killings in the Philippines under President Duterte. Most of the victims are alleged drug users or dealers, as well as administration critics and human rights advocates, killed without due process. In April of this year the San Francisco Labor Council and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors each unanimously passed resolutions condemning the killings under the Duterte regime.

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