



## Latino Resource & Welcome Center

An Outreach of the Sisters of St. Joseph

### PRESS RELEASE

#### **Casa San Jose condemns the abrupt arrest of VietLead's Executive Director, Nancy Nguyen**

**Pittsburgh, PA, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020\_** Today, Casa San Jose condemns the abrupt arrest of VietLead's Executive Director and longtime community advocate, Nancy Nguyen, on the night of October 8th, 2020 by Philadelphia police in collaboration with federal law enforcement. Her charges are related to a non-violent protest that took place weeks ago outside the Virginia home of the head of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Mr. Tony Pham.

As an organization that supports and advocates for immigrant communities, Casa San Jose joins VietLead's statement to drop all charges against Nancy, a mother of two and a major Asian American leader in Philadelphia. We cannot remain silent while institutions like ICE continue to enact state-sanctioned violence against Black, Brown and Latinx communities when participating at peaceful protests.

Casa San Jose makes an urgent call to our federal elected officials, U.S. Senator Bob Casey and Congressman Brendan F. Boyle, to demand that federal officials stop criminalizing Ms. Nguyen.

At Casa San Jose, we will keep advocating in favor of the rights of leaders like Nancy, who passionately defend and work in favor of the development of our immigrant communities in the U.S.