## **Supporting Information for:**

Aggregation-induced emission and reversible mechanochromic luminescence of carbazole-based triphenylacrylonitrile derivatives

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Fig. S1 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) spectra of compound Cz1-TPAN.

Fig. S2 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of compound Cz1-TPAN.





Fig. S3 The MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of compound Cz1-TPAN.

Fig. S4 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) spectra of compound Cz2-TPAN.



Fig. S5 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of compound Cz2-TPAN.



Fig. S6 The MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of compound Cz2-TPAN.



Fig. S7 The optimized molecular configurations of Cz1-TPAN (a, b) and Cz2-TPAN (c, d) in two different views calculated by the DFT method (B3LYP/6-31G level) on Gaussian 09 software.



Fig. S8 Normalized UV-vis absorption (a) and fluorescence emission (b,  $\lambda_{ex} = 400 \text{ nm}$ ) spectra of Cz1-TPAN in different solvents (2.0 × 10<sup>-5</sup> M).



Fig. S9 Normalized UV-vis absorption (a) and fluorescence emission (b,  $\lambda_{ex} = 420 \text{ nm}$ ) spectra of Cz2-TPAN in different solvents (2.0 × 10<sup>-5</sup> M).





Fig. S10 Cyclic voltammetry diagrams of Cz1-TPAN and Cz2-TPAN in anhydrous  $CH_2Cl_2$  with 0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as electrolyte at a scan rate of 50 mV/s.



Fig. S11 Maximum fluorescent emission of Cz1-TPAN upon repeating treatment of grinding and fuming with DCM.



**Fig. S12** XRD patterns of **Cz2-TPAN** in as-synthesized solid states. Inset is photographs in as-synthesized solid states under UV illumination.



Fig. S13 The structure of Cz1-TPAN in single crystal.

Table S1 Electrochemical data and HOMO/LUMO energy levels of Cz1-TPAN and Cz2-TPAN.

Compounds	E <sub>1/2</sub> oxa	HOMO <sup>b</sup>	LUMO <sup>b</sup>	Egc	HOMO <sup>d</sup>	LUMO <sup>d</sup>
	(V)	(eV)	(eV)	(eV)	(eV)	(eV)
Cz1-TPAN	0.88	-5.29	-2.51	2.78	-5.02	-1.94
Cz2-TPAN	0.68	-5.09	-2.35	2.74	-4.71	-1.94

<sup>a</sup>  $E_{I/2}^{ox}$  = first half-wave potential; Fc/ Fc<sup>+</sup> was used as the external reference. <sup>b</sup> calculated using the empirical equation:  $E_{HOMO} = -(E_{I/2}^{ox} + 4.41)$  and  $E_{LUMO} = E_{HOMO} + E_g$ . <sup>c</sup> Estimated from the onset of the absorption spectra ( $E_g = 1240/\lambda_{onset}$ ). <sup>d</sup> Obtained from quantum chemical calculation using TDDFT/B3LYP/ 6-31G(d).