Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI):

A Water-soluble Phosphorescent Polymer for Time-Resolved Assay and Bioimaging of Cysteine/Homocysteine

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- 1. Low-temperature (77K) photoluminescence spectra of P1 in CH₂Cl₂
- 2. The excitation spectra of P1.
- 3. The time-depentent spectra of P1.
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1. Low-temperature (77K) photoluminescence spectra of P1



Fig. S1 Low-temperature (77K) photoluminescence spectra of P1 in CH₂Cl₂.

2. The excitation spectra of P1



Fig. S2 The excitation spectra of P1 in the presence of different concentrations of Cys/Hcy in the PBS at 28 °C.

3. The time-depentent spectra of P1



Fig. S3 The time-depentent spectra of P1 in the presence of 160 eq of Cys/Hcy in the PBS at 28 °C.

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4. Changes in the phosphorescence emission spectra of P1



Fig. S4 Changes in the phosphorescence emission spectra of **P1** (20 μ M) in PBS at 45°C with different amounts of Hcy (0-160 equiv). Inset: titration curve of P1 with Hcy (0-160 equiv).

5. Relative phosphorescence intensity changes of P1-Hcy



Fig. S5 Relative phosphorescence intensity changes of P1-Hcy in the temperature range of 28-45°C.

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6. Z-scan images of P1



Fig. S6 The overlap Z-scan confocal luminescence image of living KB cells incubated with 50 μM **P1** in PBS for 45 min at 25°C.

7. Confocal luminescence images of P1



Fig. S7 Confocal luminescence images of living KB cells: cells incubated solely with 50 μ M **P1** in PBS for 45 min at (a) 4°C and (b) 25°C.

8. Confocal luminescence images of P2



Fig. S8 Confocal luminescence images of living KB cells: cells incubated solely with 50 μ M **P2** in PBS for 45 min at (a) 25°C and (b) 37°C.

9. Photophysical Properties of P1

polymer	solvent	λ_{abs} , nm (log $\epsilon)$	$\lambda_{PL}(298K)$, nm	$\lambda_{PL}(77K)$, nm	$\Phi_{\scriptscriptstyle em}$	τ, ns
	CH ₂ Cl ₂		532	541max, 567	0.141	810
P1	EtOH		552		0.051	296
	PBS	276(4.77), 380(3.91)sh, 419(3.70)sh	564		0.023	366

Table S1. Photophysical Properties of P1

10. Calculation results of M1 and M1-Cys

Table S2. Calculated excited triplet states, emission wavelength, dipole, character of the transitions for M1 and M1-Cys

Complex	State	$\lambda_{cal}, \mathrm{nm}^a$	$E_{cal}, \Box \mathrm{eV}$	μ_{cal}, \mathbf{D}	Main configuration(CI	character
					coeff)	
M1	T_1	543	2.28	12.70	HOMO→LUMO(0.62)	³ MLCT/ ³ LLCT
					HOMO-1→LUMO(0.27)	³ MLCT/ ³ LLCT
M1-Cys	T_1	585	2.12	9.28	HOMO→LUMO(0.70)	³ MLCT/ ³ LLCT
^a Calcu	lated in	water solutio	n			