

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:28 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Customs Summons
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

FYI

(b) (6) found a complaint being issued since the OPR Miami office used a Customs Summons to try to get Twitter data.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Professional Responsibility-Los Angeles

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Customs Summons

I know you all have a Title 19 and 8 background so the attached is not likely to affect our AOR. Too bad the rest of our organization doesn't have a better understanding of the Customs Summons.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Senior Special Agent
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

San Francisco, CA
Phone: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 3:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Customs Summons
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

FYI if you haven't seen this yet.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff
TWITTER, INC.

8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

10 TWITTER, INC.,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
14 SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
15 in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
16 MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
17 Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
18 in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
19 and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
20 Border Protection,

21 Defendants.

Case No. _____

22 **COMPLAINT**

23 Plaintiff Twitter, Inc. ("Twitter"), by and through its attorneys, hereby alleges:

24 **INTRODUCTION**

25 1. This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"),
26 U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
27 abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
28 persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account

1 named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
2 Administration. The rights of free speech afforded Twitter's users and Twitter itself under the
3 First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution include a right to disseminate such anonymous or
4 pseudonymous political speech. In these circumstances, Defendants may not compel Twitter to
5 disclose information regarding the real identities of these users without first demonstrating that
6 some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users' identity is the least
7 restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not
8 motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation
9 outweigh the important First Amendment rights of Twitter and its users. But Defendants have
10 not come close to making any of those showings. And even if Defendants could otherwise
11 demonstrate an appropriate basis for impairing the First Amendment interests of Twitter and its
12 users, they certainly may not do so using the particular investigatory tool employed here—which
13 Congress authorized solely to ensure compliance with federal laws concerning imported
14 merchandise—because it is apparent that whatever investigation Defendants are conducting here
15 does not pertain to imported merchandise.

16 2. In the days and weeks following the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump, a
17 new and innovative class of American speakers emerged on Twitter's ubiquitous online
18 platform: speakers who purport to be current or former employees of federal agencies, or others
19 with special insights about the agencies, who provide views and commentary that is often
20 vigorously opposed, resistant, or "alternative" to the official actions and policies of the new
21 Administration. Typically, these so-called "alternative agency" accounts are named and self-
22 described by their users in a manner that both (a) identifies the particular federal agency that the
23 user seeks primarily to criticize and with which the user purports to have significant knowledge,
24 and (b) proclaims that the user is not an official voice or spokesperson for the agency. Examples
25 of these accounts include @alt_labor, which purports to provide informed but unofficial
26 commentary on the U.S. Department Labor, and @blm_alt, which does the same for the federal
27 Bureau of Land Management. Dozens of such accounts have sprung up, and many of them are
28 actively used to disseminate criticism of the Administration and its policies. Many of these

1 accounts have attracted large audiences of other Twitter users (“followers”), often numbering in
2 the tens of thousands or more.

3 3. Like many Twitter users, those who speak through these “alternative agency”
4 accounts do so pseudonymously, often going to considerable lengths to avoid disclosing their
5 real identities. The motivations these users have for preserving their anonymity presumably
6 include a desire to speak freely and without the fear of negative consequences that may flow
7 from being identified as the source of controversial views and commentary concerning the
8 Administration and its agencies. Such fears are likely to be especially great for users of
9 “alternative agency” accounts who are currently employed by the very agency that is a principal
10 target of the commentary, in light of the retaliation, harassment, or even loss of livelihood that
11 might occur if their real identities became known to their superiors.

12 4. One such “alternative agency” account is @ALT_USCIS. Like other accounts of
13 this sort, @ALT_USCIS claims to be run by one or more current government employees—in this
14 case, employees of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”), a unit
15 within the Defendant DHS. And as with other such accounts, the person or persons who
16 established and speak through @ALT_USCIS have identified themselves only by means of this
17 pseudonymous account name. To the best of Twitter’s knowledge, they have not disclosed their
18 real identities in any of their public communications through this account.

19 5. In the just over two months since it was created, @ALT_USCIS has frequently
20 criticized the immigration policies of the new Administration, highlighted what the user views as
21 a history of waste and mismanagement within USCIS and DHS, and publicized facts that the
22 account’s users portray as casting doubt on Administration policies.

23 6. The Defendants are now threatening the anonymity of the person(s) speaking
24 through the @ALT_USCIS account. Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered
25 to Twitter an administrative summons (the “CBP Summons”) demanding that Twitter provide
26 them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s)
27 responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in
28

Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.

7. *First*, the sole statutory authority CBP invoked in issuing the summons—19 U.S.C. § 1509—authorizes the agency to compel production of only a narrow class of records relating to the importation of merchandise. But CBP’s investigation of the @ALT_USCIS account plainly has nothing whatsoever to do with the importation of merchandise into the United States. Section 1509 thus provides CBP no power to compel Twitter to reveal information pertaining to the identity of the individual(s) behind the @ALT_USCIS account.

8. *Second*, permitting CBP to pierce the pseudonym of the @ALT_USCIS account would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other “alternative agency” accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies. The Supreme Court has long recognized the extraordinary value of the kind of speech emanating from these accounts—pure political speech criticizing government policies and highlighting government waste and mismanagement. And the Court has likewise recognized that anonymity is often essential to fostering such political speech where, as here, the speaker could face retaliation or retribution if his or her real identity were linked to the speech. In this context, the CBP Summons must be declared unlawful and enjoined absent an evidentiary showing by Defendants that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users’ identity is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important free speech rights of Twitter and its users. Defendants have not even attempted to meet that burden.

9. For these and other reasons discussed below, Twitter respectfully requests that this Court declare the summons unlawful and enjoin its enforcement.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because this action arises under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and other Federal statutes.

12. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) and (e)(1). A substantial part of the events giving rise to this claim occurred in this District, and each Defendant is an officer or agency of the United States sued in his or its official capacity.

13. Twitter is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 1355 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Twitter operates a global platform for self-expression and communication, with the mission of giving everyone the power to create and share ideas and information instantly. Twitter’s more than 300 million active monthly users use the platform to connect with others, express ideas, and discover new information. Hundreds of millions of short messages (known as “Tweets”) are posted on Twitter every day. Twitter provides these services at no charge to its users.

14. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is a cabinet department of the United States federal government. Its stated missions include antiterrorism, border security, immigrations and customs, and disaster prevention and management.

15. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection is an agency within DHS. It is responsible for managing and controlling the border of the United States, including with respect to import customs, immigration, border security, and agricultural protection.

16. John F. Kelly is the Secretary of DHS. He is sued in his official capacity.

17. Kevin K. McAleenan is the Acting Commissioner of CBP. He is sued in his official capacity.

18. Stephen P. Caruso is a special agent in charge within CBP. He is sued in his official capacity.

19. Adam Hoffman is a special agent within the Office of Professional Responsibility of CBP. He is sued in his official capacity.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Emergence And Popularity Of “Alternative Agency” Accounts On The Twitter Platform

20. President Donald J. Trump was inaugurated on January 20, 2017. That day the official Twitter account of the National Park Service retweeted an image comparing the crowd size at President Trump’s inauguration to the apparently larger crowd size at President Obama’s 2009 inauguration.

21. As the public began to remark on the agency’s retweet, the National Park Service abruptly shut down its own account and sent an internal email to agency employees explaining that “[a]ll bureaus and the department have been directed by [the] incoming administration to shut down Twitter platforms immediately until further notice.” And President Trump called the acting director of the National Park Service to complain about the agency retweeting an unflattering comparison of his inaugural crowd size. The day after the inauguration, the Park Service reactivated its official account and Tweeted an apology for “the mistaken [retweets] from our account yesterday.”¹

22. Four days after the inauguration, on January 24, 2017, the official Twitter account for Badlands National Park began to Tweet a series of statements about climate change from the @BadlandsNPS account.



¹ Lisa Rein, *Interior Department Reactivates Twitter Accounts After Shutdown Following Inauguration*, WASH. POST (Jan. 21, 2017), https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/01/20/interior-department-banned-from-twitter-after-retweet-of-smaller-than-usual-trump-inauguration-crowd/?utm_term=.4e6d99996772.

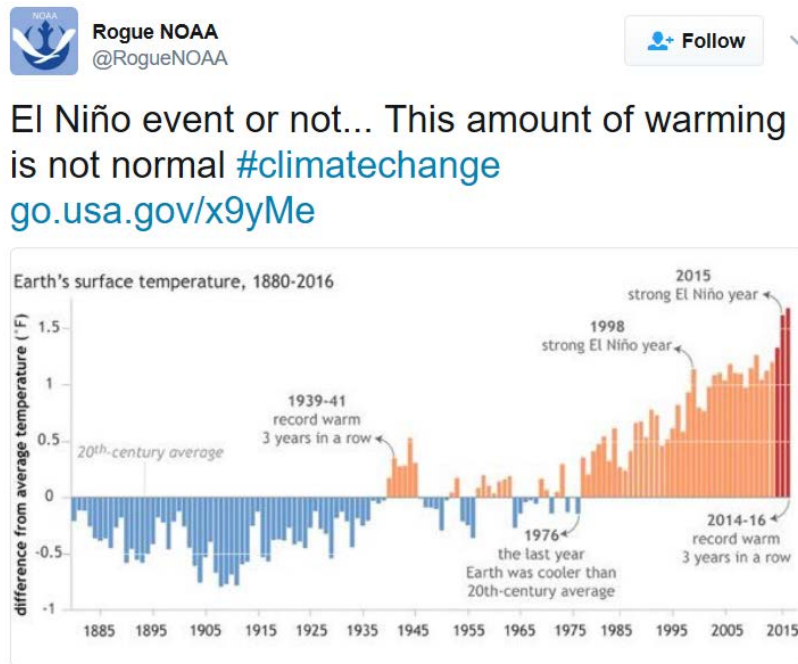
1 23. Press reports described the @BadlandsNPS account as having gone “rogue,” and
2 the National Park Service explained that a former employee who still had access to the
3 @BadlandsNPS account had been responsible for the Tweets. The Park Service quickly
4 removed the unauthorized Tweets and blocked the former employee’s access.

5 24. Shortly thereafter, a new wave of Twitter accounts began to appear on the
6 Twitter platform: self-identified as expressing “alternative” ideas, views, and information about
7 a particular federal agency. Although seemingly inspired by the National Park Service’s
8 inauguration day Tweet or by the short-lived takeover of the @BadlandsNPS account, these new
9 alternative agency accounts were not “official” accounts of any government agency. Instead,
10 they operated under names such as @blm_alt, @alt_labor, and @RogueEPastaff. Within
11 weeks, dozens of such accounts had been created, many attracting tens of thousands of followers
12 or more. In some cases, multiple alternative agency accounts appeared for a single agency.

13 25. While some of these alternative agency accounts appear to be run by former
14 federal employees or activists with no connection to the government, many of the accounts
15 claim, through their user-created account descriptions or the content of their Tweets, to be
16 administered by individuals who are currently employed by the federal agency after which the
17 account is named.

18 26. These self-designated alternative agency accounts have tended to challenge views
19 of the Administration and its policies, often (but not always) focusing on the policies of the
20 particular agency for which the account was named. The styles of expression emanating from
21 these accounts vary greatly.
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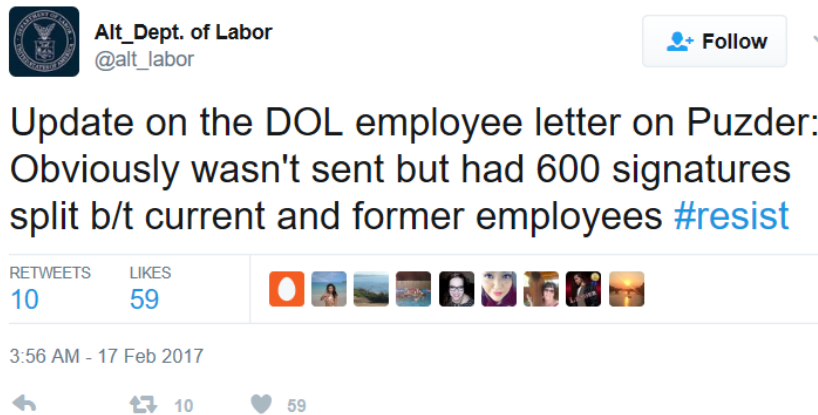
27. Some accounts appear to equate the simple act of broadcasting facts as an expression of dissent.



28. The accounts often have expressed disagreement with specific policies of the official agency.



29. One of the many Tweets from the @alt_labor account publicized a letter signed by 600 current and former Labor Department employees opposing the confirmation of the President's nominee for Labor Secretary, Andrew Puzder.



30. Like many online platforms, Twitter's platform offers users the choice between speaking in a self-identifying manner (for example, by selecting a user name that matches or is similar to the user's real name) or pseudonymously (through an account that has a user name and user description that do not disclose the speaker's real identity).

31. Pseudonymity of the speaker(s) is a defining feature of the alternative agency accounts that have recently emerged on the Twitter platform. While the persons who establish and use these accounts sometimes provide highly general descriptions of themselves (for example, by stating in the account's biography that the user or users work or previously worked for a particular agency), they typically refrain from revealing their real names. The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies. Preserving anonymity appears to be especially important for users of these alternative agency accounts who are current federal employees, given the risk that such users could face retaliation, sanctions, or other negative repercussions from their federal employer if they were identified as the source of criticism of their agency.²

² Alleen Brown, *Rogue Twitter Accounts Fight To Preserve The Voice Of Government Science*, THE INTERCEPT (Mar. 11, 2017), <https://theintercept.com/2017/03/11/rogue-twitter-accounts-fight-to-preserve-the-voice-of-government-science> (reporting that several "alternative agency" accounts are administered by current agency employees and that those employees wish to

The @ALT USCIS Twitter Account

32. This case concerns one particular alternative agency account that, like many others, was created in late January 2017: @ALT_USCIS.

33. As of the time Twitter received the CBP Summons, the public, user-provided description of the @ALT_USCIS account described its user or users as “[o]fficial inside resistance.” As of then and now, the account description prominently declares that the account is “[n]ot [expressing] the views of DHS or USCIS.” The account’s profile image plays off USCIS’s official logo (displayed side-by-side below), further indicating a correspondence or relationship to the agency, albeit one that is unofficial, ideologically or politically averse, and/or “rogue.”³ Tweets from this account use hashtags such as “#altgov,” expressly self-identifying as part of the broader alternative agency movement.



34. On several occasions, Tweets from the @ALT_USCIS account have claimed that the person speaking through the account is a current federal employee of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), an entity that reportedly has 19,000 employees and contractors. But beyond purporting to identify his or her employer, the person(s) using the account have chosen to remain pseudonymous.

35. In two months of existence, the @ALT_USCIS account has attracted over 32,000 followers and has issued thousands of Tweets.

preserve their anonymity “out of fear of workplace retaliation and pressure to shut down their accounts”).

³ The accountholder reworked the account’s description and profile image at some point after Twitter received the CBP Summons. The profile image displayed above is as it was when the summons was received.

36. The @ALT_USCIS account has expressed dissent in a range of different ways. One of the account's first Tweets asserted a fact about illegal immigration in the United States that the author apparently believed cast doubt on the Administration's immigration policy.

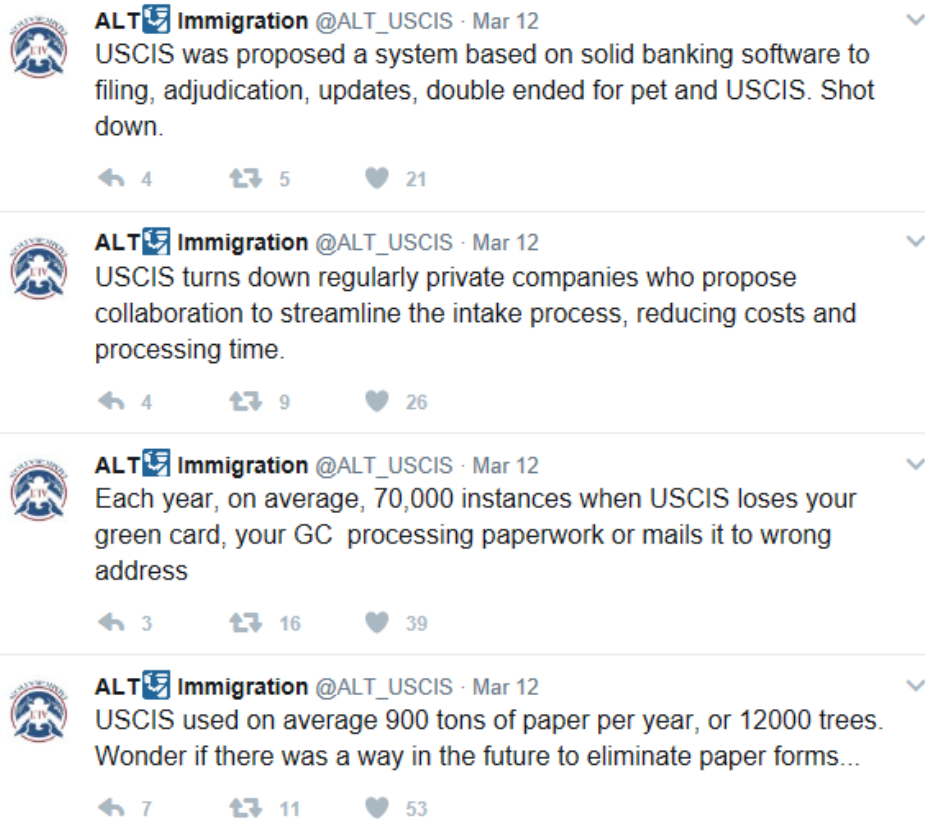


37. The @ALT_USCIS account has often criticized immigration policies with which the speaker apparently disagrees. The account was created on nearly the same day that the President issued his original immigration Executive Order. Tweets from the account have repeatedly criticized the Order—often referring to it as the “#MuslimBan.” Other Tweets have taken aim at the President's proposal to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. For example, on March 11, 2017, the account used news that a fence-jumper had trespassed onto the White House grounds to argue that the Administration's proposed border fence will be ineffective.



38. Tweets from the @ALT_USCIS account have also purported to shine a light on historical and recent mismanagement at USCIS. For example, on March 12—two days before issuance of the CBP Summons challenged in this suit—a series of Tweets from the account

1 decried what the author described as waste, inefficiency, and poor management in the agency's
 2 attempts to set up a new automated system for processing immigration applications.



16 39. The account has regularly leveled criticism at U.S. Customs and Border
 17 Protection—the agency that issued the summons challenged by this lawsuit.



27 40. The account has also frequently tweeted disagreement with the current
 28 Administration's policies on subjects other than immigration—expressing opposition to efforts in

1 Congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act and urging Democrats to resist confirmation of
2 Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch, among many other issues.

3 41. Occasionally, the account has highlighted USCIS or DHS policies that the speaker
4 appears to support. For example, the day DHS Secretary Kelly announced that the Department
5 would continue to exempt from removal individuals covered by the prior Administration's
6 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy (DACA), the account issued the following Tweet.



14 U.S. Customs And Border Protection Orders Twitter To Produce
15 Records That Would Strip The @ALT USCIS Account Of Anonymity

16 42. On March 14, 2017, Defendant Adam Hoffman, an agent within U.S. Customs
17 and Border Protection, transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons, ordering Twitter to produce
18 certain records pertaining to the @ALT_USCIS account. The CBP Summons invoked as
19 authority 19 U.S.C. § 1509. It was signed by Defendant Stephen P. Caruso, a CBP Special
20 Agent in Charge based in Miramar, Florida. A true and accurate copy of the CBP Summons, in
21 the form it was received by Twitter, is attached as Exhibit A.

22 43. The CBP Summons states that Twitter is “required” to “produce[] for inspection”
23 “[a]ll records regarding the [T]witter account @ALT_USCIS to include, User names, account
24 login, phone numbers, mailing addresses, and I.P. addresses.” The purpose of this request
25 appears to be, and the effect of Twitter’s complying with it likely would be, to enable or help to
26 enable Defendants to pierce the anonymity of the person or persons who established and use the
27 @ALT_USCIS account.
28

1 44. The CBP Summons warned Twitter that “[f]ailure to comply with this summons
2 will render you liable to proceedings in a U.S. District Court to enforce compliance with this
3 summons as well as other sanctions.”

4 45. The CBP Summons ordered Twitter to produce the records to a CBP office in
5 Washington D.C. by 11:45 A.M. on March 13, 2017—the day *before* the CBP Summons was
6 faxed to Twitter.

7 46. The CBP Summons states generically that “production of the indicated records is
8 required in connection with an investigation or inquiry to ascertain the correctness of entries, to
9 determine the liability for duties, taxes, fines, penalties, or forfeitures, and/or to ensure
10 compliance with the laws or regulations administered by CBP and ICE.” Beyond that boilerplate
11 language, the CBP Summons provides no justification for issuance of a summons targeting the
12 @ALT_USCIS account.

13 47. The CBP Summons further “requested”—but did not order or otherwise compel—
14 Twitter “not to disclose the existence of this summons for an indefinite period of time.”

15 48. Notwithstanding the request on the face of the CBP Summons that Twitter not
16 disclose the existence of the CBP Summons to anyone, a “Summons Notice” included in the
17 CBP Summons describes a procedure whereby the subject of the summons (i.e., the person
18 whose “business transactions or affairs” are purportedly being investigated) supposedly could
19 “object to the examination” of the requested records by “advis[ing] the person summoned [i.e.
20 Twitter], in writing, not to comply with the summons” and “send[ing] a copy of that notice by
21 registered or certified mail to the CBP Officer ... who issued the summons.” To be effective,
22 any such objection would have to be sent “not later than the” deadline set by the CBP Summons
23 for compliance—which, again, had already passed by the time the CBP Summons was served on
24 Twitter. Neither the CBP Summons itself, nor the statute that supposedly authorizes issuance of
25 the summons (*i.e.*, 19 U.S.C. § 1509), nor the regulations implementing that statute describe any
26 procedure for Twitter to object to compliance with the summons.

27 49. On March 28, 2017, counsel for Twitter contacted Defendant Hoffman to raise
28 concerns regarding the request not to provide notice to the user and the legal basis for seeking

1 information about the identified account using a summons issued under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.
2 Defendant Hoffman advised counsel for Twitter that CBP did not want the user notified and that
3 he would discuss notice with his supervisors. With regard to the legal basis for the summons,
4 Defendant Hoffman stated vaguely that he is conducting an investigation. But he did not identify
5 any law or laws that he believed had been broken or point to any evidence substantiating any
6 such belief—such as particular Tweets that he believes were unlawful. Defendant Hoffman took
7 the position that the summons was an appropriate investigative tool, but he did not provide any
8 specifics as to how a summons issued under 19 U.S.C. § 1509 could be an appropriate means for
9 CBP’s Office of Professional Responsibility to be conducting this particular investigation. In
10 fact, to the limited extent he did explain the nature of the investigation, it seemed to confirm that
11 the investigation had nothing to do with obtaining records to assess whether appropriate duties
12 and taxes had been paid on imported merchandise.

13 50. Twitter advised Defendant Hoffman that, unless he or his agency obtained a court
14 order under the federal Stored Communications Act, 18 U.S.C. § 2705, directing Twitter not to
15 disclose the CBP Summons to the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s), Twitter would, in
16 accordance with its standard practices, notify the accountholder(s) of the existence and content of
17 the CBP Summons. On March 31, 2017, Defendant Hoffman sent Twitter an email confirming
18 that no such court order would be obtained. On April 2, 2017, Twitter stated in a response to
19 Defendant Hoffman that it intended to notify the accountholder(s) the next day about the CBP
20 Summons.

21 51. On April 4, 2017, Twitter notified the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) about the
22 existence and contents of the CBP Summons. At approximately the same time, Twitter also
23 informed Defendant Hoffman of its intention to challenge the CBP Summons in court if it was
24 not withdrawn within 48 hours. Later that day, counsel for Twitter sent Defendant Hoffman an
25 email elaborating the bases for Twitter’s legal objections to the CBP Summons—namely that the
26 summons falls outside the statutory parameters of 19 U.S.C. § 1509 and infringes on the First
27 Amendment rights of Twitter’s users and Twitter itself—and reiterating Twitter’s intention to
28 sue absent withdrawal of the summons.

52. As of today's date, Defendants have not notified Twitter of any intent to withdraw the CBP Summons.

COUNT I
(19 U.S.C. § 1509; Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202;
APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706)

THE SUMMONS EXCEEDS THE SCOPE
OF CBP'S AUTHORITY UNDER 19 U.S.C. § 1509

53. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-52 as if set forth fully herein.

54. The summons is unlawful because it demands production of records that CBP is not authorized to obtain under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.

55. The summons exceeds the scope of CBP's authority under 19 U.S.C. § 1509 for two reasons. *First*, 19 U.S.C. § 1509 authorizes CBP to obtain documents only for investigations and inquiries relating to the importation of merchandise. *Second*, even if CBP issued the summons for a proper purpose, the summons seeks production of records that are not of the narrowly limited type that CBP is authorized to obtain under 19 U.S.C. § 1509. These two reasons are explained more fully below.

56. *First*, 19 U.S.C. § 1509 confers authority on the Secretary (or a delegate at or above the rank of district director or special agent in charge) to compel disclosure of records only in connection with "any investigation or inquiry conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the correctness of any entry, for determining the liability of any person for duty, fees and taxes due or duties, fees and taxes which may be due the United States, for determining liability for fines and penalties, or for insuring compliance with the laws of the United States administered by the United States Customs Service." 19 U.S.C. § 1509(a). The first three items on the list clearly relate narrowly to imports, and the meaning of the fourth term is "cabin[ed]" by the first three. *See Yates v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 1074, 1085 (2015) (applying "the principle of *noscitur a sociis*—a word is known by the company it keeps—to 'avoid ascribing to one word a meaning so broad that it is inconsistent with its accompanying words, thus giving unintended breadth to the Acts of Congress.'" (quoting *Gustafson v. Alloyd Co.*, 513 U.S. 561, 575 (1995))).

57. Defendants could not plausibly establish that they issued the CBP Summons—which demands “[a]ll records regarding the [T]witter account @ALT_USCIS to include User names, account login, phone numbers, mailing addresses, and I.P. addresses”—in any investigation or inquiry relating to the import of merchandise.

58. *Second*, § 1509 does not authorize the Defendants to compel production of the account-related records that the summons demands. The Secretary or his delegate can compel the production of only records that fall within a narrow category defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1509(d)(1)(A). *See* 15 U.S.C. § 1509(a)(2)(D) (“[T]he Secretary ... may ... summon ... any ... person he may deem proper ... to produce records, *as defined in subsection (d)(1)(A).*”).

59. Subsection 1509(d)(1)(A) limits the “records” whose production may be permissibly compelled through a summons to those (1) that are “required to be kept under section 1508 of this title” and (2) “regarding which there is probable cause to believe that they pertain to merchandise the importation of which into the United States is prohibited.” The records that the CBP Summons demands Twitter to disclose meet neither of these criteria.

60. Section 1508 requires importers to maintain certain records relating to their activity of importing merchandise. *See United States v. Frowein*, 727 F.2d 227, 233 (2d Cir. 1984) (“Section 1508 ... imposes recordkeeping requirements on those who import or cause goods to be imported.”). Specifically, the entities that must maintain records under section 1508 are limited to the following: any “owner, importer, consignee, importer of record, entry filer, or other party who—(A) imports merchandise into the customs territory of the United States, files a drawback claim, or transports or stores merchandise carried or held under bond, or (B) knowingly causes the importation or transportation or storage of merchandise carried or held under bond into or from the customs territory of the United States,” 19 U.S.C. § 1508(a)(1); *or* any “agent of any party described in paragraph (1),” *id.* § 1508(a)(2); *or* any “person whose activities require the filing of a declaration of entry, or both,” *id.* § 1508(a)(3). The records Section 1508 requires these entities to maintain are limited to records that both “pertain to any such activity, or to the information contained in the records required by this chapter in

1 connection with any such activity” and “are normally kept in the ordinary course of business.” 19
 2 U.S.C. § 1508(a)(3).

3 61. Subsection 1509(d)(1)(A)(ii) likewise limits the scope of records whose
 4 production CBP may compel pursuant to a summons to records relating to the importation of
 5 merchandise—specifically, records “pertain[ing] to *merchandise the importation of which into*
 6 *the United States is prohibited.*”

7 62. The CBP Summons plainly does not request records relating to the importation of
 8 merchandise. It requests that Twitter produce information that pertains to the identity of the
 9 person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account. And it is utterly implausible that
 10 Defendants’ interest in the person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account stems
 11 from their importation of merchandise into the United States.

12 63. The CBP Summons also violates the Stored Communications Act (“SCA”),
 13 18 U.S.C. § 2701 *et seq.*, which “protects individuals’ privacy and proprietary interests,”
 14 “reflect[ing] Congress’s judgment that users have a legitimate interest in the confidentiality of
 15 communications in electronic storage at a communications facility.” *Theofel v. Farey-Jones*, 359
 16 F.3d 1066, 1072 (9th Cir. 2003). The SCA establishes legal processes that government agencies
 17 must follow in order to obtain certain types of information from a service provider such as
 18 Twitter, which have not been followed here. The basic subscriber information the CBP
 19 Summons seeks—such as the user’s name and address—can be obtained “us[ing] an
 20 administrative subpoena authorized by a Federal or State statute.” 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(2). But
 21 the CBP Summons is not a valid administrative subpoena because, among other defects, it
 22 exceeds the scope of CBP’s authority under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.

23 64. For the foregoing reasons, the Court should enjoin Defendants from taking any
 24 further action to enforce the CBP Summons and declare it to be an unlawful exercise of
 25 Defendants’ authority, in contravention of 15 U.S.C. § 1509 and the SCA. Such relief is
 26 warranted under, among other laws, the APA because issuance, service, and enforcement of the
 27 subpoena is “not in accordance with law” and “in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or
 28 limitations.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A), (C).

COUNT II

(U.S. Const. amend. I; Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202;
APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706)

**THE FIRST AMENDMENT BARS THE CBP SUMMONS ABSENT SATISFACTION
OF THE STRINGENT STANDARD FOR UNMASKING ANONYMOUS SPEAKERS**

65. Plaintiff herein incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-64 as if set forth fully herein.

66. Twitter provides a platform for speech for hundreds of millions of users. Its users Tweet about a broad range of topics, from a favorite sports team to the birth of a child to the latest executive order. Many of Twitter’s users choose to express themselves on the platform pseudonymously.

67. The CBP Summons seeks to force Twitter to disclose information that would identify, or likely lead to the identification of, a person (or group of persons) who has chosen to criticize the government pseudonymously and whose speech is potentially valuable since the person—as a self-described public employee—may be in the best position to “know what ails the agenc[y] for which [he or she] work[s].” *Dahlia v. Rodriguez*, 735 F.3d 1060, 1066-1067 (9th Cir. 2013) (quoting *Waters v. Churchill*, 511 U.S. 661, 674 (1994)).

68. Compelled disclosure of the identities of Twitter users who have engaged in pseudonymous speech would chill their exercise of the constitutionally protected right to speak anonymously. Moreover, independent of its users’ rights, Twitter’s actions in providing a platform for the dissemination of its users’ speech—including its decision to permit the publication of pseudonymous speech—is fully protected by the First Amendment. *See, e.g., Marcus v. Search Warrants*, 367 U.S. 717, 731-732 (1961); *cf., e.g., Arkansas Educ. Television Comm’n v. Forbes*, 523 U.S. 666, 674 (1998). When rights of free speech—especially anonymous free speech—are at stake, courts generally permit an organization or business to assert those rights on behalf of its members or customers. *See, e.g., Virginia v. American Booksellers Ass’n, Inc.*, 484 U.S. 383, 392-393 (1988) (permitting booksellers to assert First Amendment rights of buyers of adult-oriented books); *Publius v. Boyer-Vine*, 2017 WL 772146,

at *5 n.5 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 27, 2017) (collecting cases holding that entities such as websites can assert the First Amendment rights of their anonymous users).

69. The decision to speak anonymously or pseudonymously is protected by the First Amendment. As the Supreme Court has explained, “an author’s decision to remain anonymous, like other decisions concerning omissions or additions to the content of a publication, is an aspect of the freedom of speech protected by the First Amendment.” *McIntyre v. Ohio Elections Comm’n*, 514 U.S. 334, 342 (1995). “Anonymity is a shield from the tyranny of the majority. It thus exemplifies the purpose behind the Bill of Rights, and of the First Amendment in particular: to protect unpopular individuals from retaliation—and their ideas from suppression—at the hand of an intolerant society.” *Id.* at 357.

70. A time-honored tradition of pseudonymous free speech on matters of public moment runs deep in the political life of America. “Undoubtedly the most famous pieces of American political advocacy are *The Federalist Papers*, penned by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay, but published under the pseudonym ‘Publius.’” *In re Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d 1168, 1172-73 (9th Cir. 2011) (citing *McIntyre*, 514 U.S. at 344 n.6).

71. The decision to maintain anonymity “may be motivated by fear of economic or official retaliation, by concern about social ostracism, or merely by a desire to preserve as much of one’s privacy as possible.” *Watchtower Bible and Tract Soc’y of New York, Inc. v. Village of Stratton*, 122 S. Ct. 2080, 2089-90 (2002) (internal citation omitted). In the present case, there is reason for concern that the CBP Summons itself may reflect the very sort of official retaliation that can result from speech that criticizes government officials and agencies. Because of the potential for retaliation and ostracism, “[t]here can be no doubt that [requiring identification of pseudonymous authors] would tend to restrict freedom to distribute information and thereby freedom of expression.” *Talley v. California*, 362 U.S. 60, 64-65 (1960); *see also* (*WIN*) *Washington Initiatives Now v. Rippie*, 213 F.3d 1132, 1139 (9th Cir. 2000) (“Depriving individuals of ... anonymity is ... ‘a broad intrusion, discouraging truthful, accurate speech by those unwilling to [disclose their identities] and applying regardless of the character or strength of an individual’s interest in anonymity.’”) (quoting *American Constitutional Law Found., Inc. v.*

1 *Meyer*, 120 F.3d 1092, 1103 (10th Cir. 1997)); *see also Am. Civil Liberties Union of Nevada v.*
 2 *Heller*, 378 F.3d 979, 988 (9th Cir. 2004).

3 72. These First Amendment interests are at their zenith when, as here, the speech at
 4 issue touches on matters of public political life. Political expression “occupies the core of the
 5 protection afforded by the First Amendment” and must be afforded the highest level of First
 6 Amendment protection. *McIntyre*, 514 U.S. at 346; *see also Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214,
 7 218 (1966) (“[T]here is practically universal agreement that a major purpose of that Amendment
 8 was to protect the free discussion of governmental affairs.”); *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*,
 9 376 U.S. 254, 270 (1964) (a case should be considered “against the background of a profound
 10 national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust,
 11 and wide-open, and that it may well include vehement, caustic, and sometimes unpleasantly
 12 sharp attacks on government and public officials.”).

13 73. These protections for anonymous and pseudonymous political speech are as
 14 robust on the Internet as any other mode of speech. The Supreme Court has unequivocally held
 15 that speech on the Internet is entitled to the highest form of First Amendment protection. *See*
 16 *Reno v. ACLU*, 521 U.S. 844, 870 (1997). As the Supreme Court aptly recognized, through the
 17 Internet and interactive services such as Twitter, “any person with a phone line can become a
 18 town crier with a voice that resonates farther than it could from any soapbox. Through the use of
 19 Web pages, mail exploders, and newsgroups, the same individual can become a pamphleteer.”
 20 *Id.*; *see also In re Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d at 1173 (“Although the Internet is the
 21 latest platform for anonymous speech, online speech stands on the same footing as other
 22 speech.”). “As with other forms of expression, the ability to speak anonymously on the Internet
 23 promotes the robust exchange of ideas and allows individuals to express themselves freely
 24 without ‘fear of economic or official retaliation ... [or] concern about social ostracism.’” *In re*
 25 *Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d at 1173 (quoting *McIntyre*, 514 U.S. at 341-342).

26 74. Compelling Twitter to disclose information that would identify or lead to the
 27 identification of the person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account would chill
 28 the expression of particularly valuable political speech—namely speech by current or former

public employees, or others with special insight into operations of our government. The Constitution does not permit a government agency to suppress dissent voiced by current or former employees in their private capacity—especially when such efforts exceed the agency’s statutory authority. “[C]itizens do not surrender their First Amendment rights by accepting public employment.” *Lane v. Franks*, 134 S. Ct. 2369, 2374 (2014). Indeed, “[t]here is a significant First Amendment interest in encouraging public employees, who have special access to facts relevant to debates on issues of public concern, to speak freely and make that information available.” *Johnson v. Multnomah Cty., Or.*, 48 F.3d 420, 424 (9th Cir. 1995). “[S]peech by public employees on subject matter related to their employment holds special value precisely because those employees gain knowledge of matters of public concern through their employment.” *Franks*, 134 S. Ct. at 2378-2381. “It may often be the case that, unless public employees are willing to blow the whistle, government corruption and abuse would persist undetected and undeterred.” *Dahlia*, 735 F.3d at 1066-1067. “The interest at stake is as much the public’s interest in receiving informed opinion as it is the employee’s own right to disseminate it.” *San Diego v. Roe*, 543 U.S. 77, 82 (2004).

75. In light of the compelling First Amendment interests at stake, Defendants must satisfy “stringent standards” before using a subpoena or other compulsory legal process to attempt to unmask the identity of the person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account. *Mason Awtry v. Glassdoor, Inc.*, 2016 WL 1275566, at *1 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 1, 2016); see *In re Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d at 1778 (“[T]he nature of the speech should be a driving force in choosing a standard by which to balance the rights of anonymous speakers” against the interests of those seeking disclosure, with political speech warranting “imposition of a heightened standard”). In particular, Defendants must demonstrate that (1) “there is a real evidentiary basis for believing” that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, *Highfields Capital Mgmt., L.P. v. Doe*, 385 F. Supp. 2d 969, 975-976 (N.D. Cal. 2005); (2) revealing the identity of the speaker(s) is “necessary”—that is, that it is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, *Glassdoor, Inc.*, 2016 WL 1275566, at *16; *Art of Living Foundation v. Does 1-10*, 2011 WL 5444622, *10 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 9, 2011); (3) Defendants’

1 demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech; and (4) the
 2 interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important First Amendment rights of Twitter
 3 and its users, *Highfields*, 385 F. Supp. 2d at 975-976. *See also Doe No. 1 v. Cahill*, 884 A.2d
 4 451 (Del. 2005) (preventing disclosure of identity of anonymous online speaker); *Dendrite*
 5 *Intern., Inc. v. Doe No. 3*, 775 A.2d 756 (N.J. Super. 2001) (same). The heightened showing
 6 required for such compulsory legal process is not only supported by substantial judicial
 7 precedent, but also is consistent with the special procedures erected in other contexts to protect
 8 First Amendment rights. *E.g., Makaeff v. Trump Univ., LLC*, 736 F.3d 1180, 1182-1183 (9th
 9 Cir. 2013) (California’s anti-SLAPP statute “establish[es] a summary-judgment-like procedure
 10 available at an early stage of [a] litigation that poses a potential chilling effect on speech-related
 11 activities” (internal quotation omitted)); 28 C.F.R. § 50.10(c)(1) (requiring subordinates in the
 12 Department of Justice to obtain the authorization of the Attorney General to issue a subpoena to
 13 a member of the news media, or to use a subpoena to obtain from a third party communications
 14 records or business records of a member of the news media).

15 76. Defendants have satisfied none of these requirements. To meet the first
 16 requirement, Defendants must “adduce *competent evidence*” that “address[es] *all* of the
 17 inferences of fact that [Defendants] would need to prove in order to [substantiate] at least one of
 18 the” offenses that Defendants believe has been committed. *Highfields Capital Mgmt., L.P.*, 385
 19 F. Supp. at 975. Defendants have fallen far short of this standard, given that they have neither
 20 specified any offense they are purportedly investigating nor presented *any* evidence in support of
 21 any element of any such offense.

22 77. Defendants have likewise failed to demonstrate that unmasking the identity of the
 23 @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) is the least restrictive way to investigate any offense or offenses
 24 that they believe were committed. To establish that the CBP Summons is “necessary,”
 25 Defendants must explain why other investigatory tools they have deployed have fallen short,
 26 leaving Defendants with no choice but to pierce @ALT_USCIS’s pseudonymity. *E.g.*,
 27 *Glassdoor, Inc.*, 2016 WL 1275566, at *16; *Art of Living Foundation*, 2011 WL 5444622, at *10.
 28 Defendants have not come close to making that showing.

78. Defendants' failure to establish that some offense within the law enforcement purview of CBP was actually committed and that the CBP Summons is necessary to investigate that offense likewise confirms that Defendants have failed to demonstrate that the summons is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, or that Defendants' need to unmask the identity of the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) outweighs the harm that doing so would cause to the First Amendment rights of Twitter and its users.

79. For the foregoing reasons, the Court should enjoin Defendants from taking any further action to enforce the CBP Summons and—absent the requisite showing—declare it to be a violation of the rights of Twitter and its users under the First Amendment. Such relief is warranted under, among other laws, the APA, because issuance, service, and enforcement of the CBP Summons is “contrary to constitutional right.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(B).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

a. Declare that the CBP Summons is unlawful and unenforceable because Defendants issued it for reasons not authorized by 19 U.S.C. § 1509 and because it demands production of documents that Defendants are not authorized to demand or obtain under 19 U.S.C. § 1509, and further declare that the CBP Summons violates the Administrative Procedure Act as not in accordance with law, 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A), and “in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or limitations,” *id.* § 706(2)(C).

b. Declare that the CBP Summons is unlawful and unenforceable because it violates the First Amendment rights of both Twitter and its users by seeking to unmask the identity of one or more anonymous Twitter users voicing criticism of the government on matters of public concern without Defendants having satisfied the stringent standards for piercing a speaker's anonymity, and further declare that the CBP Summons violates the Administrative Procedure Act as “contrary to constitutional right,” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(B);

c. Issue an order vacating and nullifying the CBP Summons, enjoining Defendants or their agents from enforcing the CBP Summons, and declaring that Twitter has no obligation to comply with the CBP Summons;

- 1 d. Award Plaintiff its costs and reasonable attorney's fees as appropriate; and
2 e. Grant such other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

3
4 Dated: April 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

5 /s/ Mark D. Flanagan

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26 *Counsel for Plaintiff Twitter, Inc.*

Exhibit A

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

CD 2110-035

Date:

Control Number:

TO	Name:	Trust & Safety - Legal Policy
	Organization:	Twitter Inc
	Fax Number:	[REDACTED]
	Number of Pages (including cover):	4
FROM	Sender:	SA Adam Hoffman
	Originating Location:	DHS Customs and Border Protection
	Return FAX Number:	1-202-344-1258
	Voice Number:	1-202-344-3194
REMARKS	Please complete the Acknowledgment of Receipt and return to Fax # 1-202-344-1258	

Important: This document may contain confidential and sensitive U.S. Government information. Please deliver it immediately only to the intended recipient(s) listed above. The Bureau of Customs and Border Protection has not approved the documents review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient(s).

To (Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code) Twitter, Inc. c/o Trust & Safety - Legal Policy 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103	DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY SUMMONS NOTICE to Appear and/or Produce Records 19 U.S.C. § 1509
<p>Attached is a copy of a summons served by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), both agencies within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to examine records or to request testimony relating to records of your business transactions or affairs which have been made or kept by the person named in Block 1 of the summons.</p> <p>If you object to the examination of these records, you may stay (prevent) examination of the records until a summons enforcement proceeding is commenced in court. Compliance with the summons will be stayed if, not later than the day before the date indicated in Block 2 of the summons, you advise the person summoned (the person named in Block 1), in writing, not to comply with the summons, and you send a copy of that notice by registered or certified mail to the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent who issued the summons at the address shown in Block 6 of the summons.</p> <p>CBP or ICE may begin an action to enforce the summons in the appropriate United States District Court. In such cases, you will be notified and you will have the right to intervene and present your objections before the court. The court will decide whether the person summoned should be required to comply with the summons.</p> <p>If the court issues an order to comply with the summons and the person summoned fails to comply, the court may punish such failure as a contempt of court. Other sanctions may be provided by law.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent before whom the summoned person is required to appear. The CBP Officer's or ICE Special Agent's name and telephone number are given in Block 2 of the summons.</p>	

1. To (Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code) Twitter, Inc. c/o Trust & Safety - Legal Policy 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103	DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY SUMMONS to Appear and/or Produce Records 19 U.S.C. § 1509
Summons Number 2017012	Case Number: 201704511

By the service of this subpoena upon you, **YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED TO:**

- (A) ☐ **APPEAR** before the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officer or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Special Agent named in Block 2 at the place, date, and time indicated to testify and give information.
- (B) ☒ **PRODUCE** the records (including statements, declarations, and other documents) indicated in Block 3 before the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent named in Block 2 at the place, date, and time indicated.


Your testimony and/or production of the indicated records is required in connection with an investigation or inquiry to ascertain the correctness of entries, to determine the liability for duties, taxes, fines, penalties, or forfeitures, and/or to ensure compliance with the laws or regulations administered by CBP and ICE.

Failure to comply with this summons will render you liable to proceedings in a U.S. District Court to enforce compliance with this summons as well as other sanctions.

2. (A) CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent before whom you are required to appear Name Adam Hoffman Title Special Agent Address 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Room 8.3 Washington D.C. 20229 Telephone Number 1-202-344-3194	(B) Date 03/13/2017 (C) Time 11:45 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.
3. Records required to be produced for inspection All records regarding the twitter account @ALT_USCIS to include, User names, account login, phone numbers, mailing addresses, and I.P addresses.	

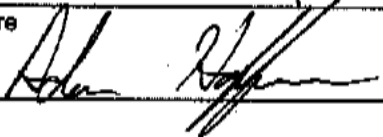
You are requested not to disclose the existence of this summons for an indefinite period of time. Any such disclosure will impede this investigation and thereby interfere with the enforcement of federal law.

Issued under authority of section 509, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by Public law 95-410 (19 U.S.C. § 1509); 44 F.R. 2217; Homeland Security Act of 2002

4. Name of person authorized to serve this summons or any other CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent Special Agent Adam Hoffman	5. Date of issue 03/14/2017 By <u>Stephen P. Caruso</u> (Signature)
	6. Name, title, address, and telephone number of person issuing this summons Name Stephen P. Caruso Title Special Agent in Charge Address 11606 City Hall Promenade Suite 400, Miramar, FL 33025 Telephone Number (954) 843-5068

If you have any questions regarding this summons, contact the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent identified in Block 2.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT

A. CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS			
I certify that I served the summons on the front of this form as follows:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I delivered a copy of the summons to the person to whom it was directed, as follows:	Address or Location	Date	
		Time	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (For corporations, partnerships, and unincorporated associations which may be sued under a common name) I delivered a copy of the summons to an officer, managing or general agent, or agent authorized to accept service of process as follows:	Address or Location	Date	
		Time	
	Twitter, Inc. c/o Trust & Safety - Legal Policy 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103	03/13/2017	
		11:45 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.	
Name of person to whom the summons was delivered			
Faxing to [REDACTED] (attn: Trust & Safety - Legal Policy)			
Signature 			
Title		Date	
Special Agent		03/13/2017	

B. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT		
I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the summons on the front of this form.		
Signature		
Title	Date	Time
		<input type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

TWITTER, INC.

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
(see attachment)

DEFENDANTS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY, in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K. MCALLENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF
THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED
Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
☒ 2 U.S. Government Defendant
☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- | | PTF | DEF | | PTF | DEF |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment Of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC § 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC § 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer w/Disabilities-Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer w/Disabilities-Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty Other: <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee-Conditions of Confinement			

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify) ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation-Transfer ☐ 8 Multidistrict Litigation-Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202; 5 U.S.C. § 706

Brief description of cause:

Summons exceeds scope of authority under 19 U.S.C. § 1509 and violates the First Amendment

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S),

IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☒ SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND ☐ SAN JOSE ☐ EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE: 04/06/2017

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s/ Mark D. Flanagan

CBP FOIA 000033

Print

Save As...

Reset

CIVIL COVER SHEET

Attachment

Part I (c) Attorneys for Plaintiffs (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Mark D. Flanagan (CA SBN 130303)
WILMER CUTLER PICKERING
HALE AND DORR LLP
950 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, California 94304
mark.flanagan@wilmerhale.com
Telephone: (650) 858-6047

Seth P. Waxman (*pro hac vice* pending)
WILMER CUTLER PICKERING
HALE AND DORR LLP
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Washington, D.C. 20006
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Patrick J. Carome (*pro hac vice* pending)
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HALE AND DORR LLP
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Washington, D.C. 20006
patrick.carome@wilmerhale.com
Telephone: (202) 663-6610

Ari Holtzblatt (*pro hac vice* pending)
WILMER CUTLER PICKERING
HALE AND DORR LLP
1875 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
ari.holtzblatt@wilmerhale.com
Telephone: (202) 663-6964

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 9:53 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Will do and thank you for the information

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 10:45 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Once we work through this summons, the C1 would like you or your OPR representative to reach out to Senator Wyden's staff and then also authorizers and approps staff. Senator Wyden made a statement yesterday regarding this issue which was picked up by Reuters and some other media outlets online. I included one of the articles below.

Thank you

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<https://www.recode.net/2017/4/6/15211214/twitter-suing-government-free-speech-anti-trump-account-first-amendment>

Twitter is suing the government for trying to unmask an anti-Trump account
The lawsuit filed Thursday contends the government is threatening free speech.
by Tony Romm Apr 6, 2017, 3:55pm EDT

Twitter is suing the Trump administration after it tried to compel the social media site to reveal the identity of an account that had been tweeting criticism of the president.

In a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California, Twitter revealed that the Department of Homeland Security in March had demanded that the company reveal who is behind @ALT_USCIS, an anonymous account that has been raising alarms about U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Trump's immigration policies.

Twitter contends the request amounts to an "unlawful" use of the government's investigative powers, as the rules that allow customs and border officials to issue summonses generally relate to the import of merchandise, including counterfeit goods — not information involving online accounts.

In seeking to unmask that user anyway, though, Twitter says the government's request "would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other 'alternative agency' accounts

that have been created to voice dissent to government policies.”

A spokesman for DHS declined to comment, citing the fact it is pending litigation. Spokespeople for the Justice Department and White House also declined to offer their views on the case.

But Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, an ally of Silicon Valley in Congress, blasted the Trump administration Thursday for its conduct. “The Department of Homeland Security appears to have abused its authority and wasted taxpayer resources, all to uncover an anonymous critic on Twitter,” the Oregon lawmaker told Recode in a statement. He said the agency’s inspector general -- a watchdog that reviews for abuse — should “investigate to determine who directed this witch hunt.”

Since Trump has taken office, a number of “alt-agency” accounts — unofficial deviations from federal agencies’ verified online Twitter profiles — have started firing 140-character salvos at the new administration. There are accounts for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Labor Department, for example, which have targeted Trump for his climate and employment policies. Some “rogue” staffers at the National Park Service even hijacked their official account to tweet criticism of the president around his inauguration, though NPS quickly reclaimed it.

In many cases, though, the authors of these accounts are not clear. “The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies,” as Twitter explains in its court briefing. The @ALT_USCIS account arrived in late January, according to Twitter’s complaint, purporting to be the site of the “[o]fficial inside resistance” of USCIS. It began tweeting sharp rebukes of Trump’s immigration policies, including his support for a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. And it soon alleged rampant mismanagement at the USCIS, pointing out a potential instance of lost green cards and poor behavior by customs agents.

On March 14, Twitter said an agent for the USCIS “transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons” that ordered it to produce records related to the alt-agency account. That information included names, addresses and phone numbers, Twitter said, along with a threat of additional sanctions if the company did not comply.

In the days to follow, Twitter said it informed the @ALT_USCIS accountholder of the government’s request — and the Trump administration of its plans to challenge the summons in court.

And on Thursday, the @ALT_USCIS also fired back:

Twitter has a long history of defending free speech on its platform, sometimes to a fault (hence its issues around abuse and harassment). Late last year, Twitter reminded everyone that it’s against the company’s guidelines to use Twitter for surveillance purposes, claiming a “commitment to social justice is core to our mission.”

Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

FALK,

FUNN, ERICK K

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that’s an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Notice: FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY - this transmission contains material covered by the Privacy Act of 1974 and should be viewed only by personnel having an official "need to know." If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the content of this information is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me immediately by email and delete the original message.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALLENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:53 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

The draft came back from OCC and OPR, and is now with OES. They will provide to OC within the next 20 mins.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Congressional Affairs
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:47 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Adding (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) here. No need to follow up with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at this point as C1 actually spoke to her on Saturday. FYI, the Senator wrote in to C1 on Friday on the issue, and C1 has evidently directed that CBP respond to the letter by the end of the day today. I believe (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is working the draft with OPR and OCC.

More relevant to you perhaps is Senate HSGAC minority staff asking after this as well (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) reached out on Friday. He's aware the suit has been dismissed, but he has outstanding general questions about OPR's overall summons authority. I'll forward you his email. OPR and OCC are likely going to have to brief him at some point soon—we've left it a little open ended with him. Can discuss more.

Thank you.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:22 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Mr. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Do you think I should reach out to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on Wyden's staff to discuss, considering this request from DHS and the subsequent lawsuit has been dropped?

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/04/07/523022497/twitter-withdraws-lawsuit-after-dhs-drops-demands-for-alt-accounts-identity>

V/r,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 1:22 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

FYSA-

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:10:10 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Thanks (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) This is an OPR issue. Let's discuss.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:05:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I just spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on Wyden's staff. They want a briefing ASAP as they are getting "a lot" of questions on their end. Mostly, they are concerned that this is an overly broad interpretation/abuse of 19 USC 1509. They want to know what the scope of that authority is for CBP. She said they would honor any requests that information not be shared beyond the committee.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 10:45 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

FALK,

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (5)

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Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
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Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
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Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:43 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Here's the email I was referencing re: OPR being prepared to brief this topic.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 10:45 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Once we work through this summons, the C1 would like you or your OPR representative to reach out to Senator Wyden's staff and then also authorizers and approps staff. Senator Wyden made a statement yesterday regarding this issue which was picked up by Reuters and some other media outlets online. I included one of the articles below.

Thank you

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<https://www.recode.net/2017/4/6/15211214/twitter-suing-government-free-speech-anti-trump-account-first-amendment>

Twitter is suing the government for trying to unmask an anti-Trump account
The lawsuit filed Thursday contends the government is threatening free speech.
by Tony Romm Apr 6, 2017, 3:55pm EDT

Twitter is suing the Trump administration after it tried to compel the social media site to reveal the identity of an account that had been tweeting criticism of the president.

In a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California, Twitter revealed that the Department of Homeland Security in March had demanded that the company reveal who is behind @ALT_USCIS, an anonymous account that has been raising alarms about U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Trump's immigration policies.

Twitter contends the request amounts to an "unlawful" use of the government's investigative powers, as the rules that allow customs and border officials to issue summonses generally relate to the import of merchandise, including counterfeit goods — not information involving online accounts.

In seeking to unmask that user anyway, though, Twitter says the government's request "would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other 'alternative agency' accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies."

A spokesman for DHS declined to comment, citing the fact it is pending litigation. Spokespeople for the Justice Department and White House also declined to offer their views on the case.

But Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, an ally of Silicon Valley in Congress, blasted the Trump administration

Thursday for its conduct. “The Department of Homeland Security appears to have abused its authority and wasted taxpayer resources, all to uncover an anonymous critic on Twitter,” the Oregon lawmaker told Recode in a statement. He said the agency’s inspector general -- a watchdog that reviews for abuse — should “investigate to determine who directed this witch hunt.”

Since Trump has taken office, a number of “alt-agency” accounts — unofficial deviations from federal agencies’ verified online Twitter profiles — have started firing 140-character salvos at the new administration. There are accounts for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Labor Department, for example, which have targeted Trump for his climate and employment policies. Some “rogue” staffers at the National Park Service even hijacked their official account to tweet criticism of the president around his inauguration, though NPS quickly reclaimed it.

In many cases, though, the authors of these accounts are not clear. “The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies,” as Twitter explains in its court briefing. The @ALT_USCIS account arrived in late January, according to Twitter’s complaint, purporting to be the site of the “[o]fficial inside resistance” of USCIS. It began tweeting sharp rebukes of Trump’s immigration policies, including his support for a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. And it soon alleged rampant mismanagement at the USCIS, pointing out a potential instance of lost green cards and poor behavior by customs agents.

On March 14, Twitter said an agent for the USCIS “transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons” that ordered it to produce records related to the alt-agency account. That information included names, addresses and phone numbers, Twitter said, along with a threat of additional sanctions if the company did not comply.

In the days to follow, Twitter said it informed the @ALT_USCIS accountholder of the government’s request — and the Trump administration of its plans to challenge the summons in court.

And on Thursday, the @ALT_USCIS also fired back:

Twitter has a long history of defending free speech on its platform, sometimes to a fault (hence its issues around abuse and harassment). Late last year, Twitter reminded everyone that it’s against the company’s guidelines to use Twitter for surveillance purposes, claiming a “commitment to social justice is core to our mission.” Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (7)(C), (b) (6); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that’s an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In

Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

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Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 6:29 AM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I'll apologize up front for my lack of response to this matter however I only now got the string of emails after I once again rebooted my phone. My involvement was signing it as an "Investigative Tool" because it was sent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and as a 14, by policy, he couldn't.

(b)
(6)

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:39:35 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR);
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations) T. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) /

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations) T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) /

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)

(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: MCALEENAN, KEVIN K
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:49 PM
To: Nielsen, Kirstjen; Maher, Joseph; (b) (6) Hamilton, Gene
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

I can provide background, as I have been briefed so far, but wanted you to have a heads up in case the media coverage continues.

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:45:38 PM
To: MCALEENAN, KEVIN K
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Update on the suit below. Will work to schedule a more substantive legal brief.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
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v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
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BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: Nielsen, Kirstjen
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:30 PM
To: MCALEENAN, KEVIN K; Maher, Joseph; (b) (6) Hamilton, Gene
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Joe
Can you pls send legal analysis to Kevin.
Thx

From: MCALEENAN, KEVIN K
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:49:07 PM
To: Nielsen, Kirstjen; Maher, Joseph; (b) (6) Hamilton, Gene
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

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CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
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POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:30 PM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

10-4.

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:39:35 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Notice: FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY - this transmission contains material covered by the Privacy Act of 1974 and should be viewed only by personnel having an official "need to know." If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the content of this information is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me immediately by email and delete the original message.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In

Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:16 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please continue to loop me in on all aspects of this request.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

DD-FO(A) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
DHS | CBP | OPR | IOD | HQ - Washington, D.C.
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | E-Mail: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 8:09:28 PM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I are working in communication and coordinating to get a briefing paper.

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:39:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
T. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'
V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:08 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Appreciate it. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will handle.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:53:23 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Let me know what i you need from me. But my part was simply completing and sending the summons at the direction of (b) (6) That said I will help in any way possible.

My flight leaves at 1100 am your time.

Thanks

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:48:30 AM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I will coordinate with (b) (6)

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:39:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN,
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

T: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) / C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY, in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K. MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:11 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,
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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
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and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
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Border Protection,
Defendants.

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)

(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:28 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Got it. Thanks!

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:15 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FYSA

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Acting Branch Chief - Border Air & Marine Operations
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Congressional Affairs
Desk: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In

Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
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capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
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Defendants.

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To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:43 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

FYSA

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:43 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

FYI...

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
KARISCH,
RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

OCA and OPA,

Please work with OCC to prepare a draft statement on our withdrawal of the summons.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:11 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <Patrick.Flanagan@dhs.gov>
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
KARISCH,
RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 7:22 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

(b) (7)

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:27 AM
To:
Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter NDCA Suit

Adding Miami as well.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:25:28 AM
To:
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter NDCA Suit

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) -- Just FYI. Thanks again.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:04:26 AM
To: Maher, Joseph
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter NDCA Suit

Joe -- (b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 7:16 PM

To: Maher, Joseph (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

FALK, SCOTT K (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter NDCA Suit

Importance: High

Joe – We wanted to ensure that you have awareness of litigation filed today that is receiving media attention.

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:44 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Just saw your email. Thanks for joining the meeting

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 12:31 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) I just saw the 1 pm invite. Do you want (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I there, or someone who works opr issues?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:10:10 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Thanks (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) This is an OPR issue. Let's discuss.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:05:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I just spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Wyden's staff. They want a briefing ASAP as they are getting "a lot" of questions on their end. Mostly, they are concerned that this is an overly broad interpretation/abuse of 19 USC 1509. They want to know what the scope of that authority is for CBP. She said they would honor any requests that information not be shared beyond the committee.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 10:45 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Once we work through this summons, the C1 would like you or your OPR representative to reach out to Senator Wyden's staff and then also authorizers and approps staff. Senator Wyden made a statement yesterday regarding

this issue which was picked up by Reuters and some other media outlets online. I included one of the articles below.

Thank you

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<https://www.recode.net/2017/4/6/15211214/twitter-suing-government-free-speech-anti-trump-account-first-amendment>

Twitter is suing the government for trying to unmask an anti-Trump account
The lawsuit filed Thursday contends the government is threatening free speech.
by Tony Romm Apr 6, 2017, 3:55pm EDT

Twitter is suing the Trump administration after it tried to compel the social media site to reveal the identity of an account that had been tweeting criticism of the president.

In a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California, Twitter revealed that the Department of Homeland Security in March had demanded that the company reveal who is behind @ALT_USCIS, an anonymous account that has been raising alarms about U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Trump's immigration policies.

Twitter contends the request amounts to an "unlawful" use of the government's investigative powers, as the rules that allow customs and border officials to issue summonses generally relate to the import of merchandise, including counterfeit goods — not information involving online accounts.

In seeking to unmask that user anyway, though, Twitter says the government's request "would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other 'alternative agency' accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies."

A spokesman for DHS declined to comment, citing the fact it is pending litigation. Spokespeople for the Justice Department and White House also declined to offer their views on the case.

But Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, an ally of Silicon Valley in Congress, blasted the Trump administration Thursday for its conduct. "The Department of Homeland Security appears to have abused its authority and wasted taxpayer resources, all to uncover an anonymous critic on Twitter," the Oregon lawmaker told Recode in a statement. He said the agency's inspector general -- a watchdog that reviews for abuse — should "investigate to determine who directed this witch hunt."

Since Trump has taken office, a number of "alt-agency" accounts — unofficial deviations from federal agencies' verified online Twitter profiles — have started firing 140-character salvos at the new administration. There are accounts for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Labor Department, for example, which have targeted Trump for his climate and employment policies. Some "rogue" staffers at the National Park Service even hijacked their official account to tweet criticism of the president around his inauguration, though NPS quickly reclaimed it.

In many cases, though, the authors of these accounts are not clear. "The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies," as Twitter explains in its court briefing.

The @ALT_USCIS account arrived in late January, according to Twitter's complaint, purporting to be the site of the "[o]fficial inside resistance" of USCIS. It began tweeting sharp rebukes of Trump's immigration policies, including his support for a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. And it soon alleged rampant mismanagement at the USCIS, pointing out a potential instance of lost green cards and poor behavior by customs agents.

On March 14, Twitter said an agent for the USCIS "transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons" that ordered it to produce records related to the alt-agency account. That information included names, addresses and phone numbers, Twitter said, along with a threat of additional sanctions if the company did not comply.

In the days to follow, Twitter said it informed the @ALT_USCIS account holder of the government's request — and the Trump administration of its plans to challenge the summons in court.

And on Thursday, the @ALT_USCIS also fired back:

Twitter has a long history of defending free speech on its platform, sometimes to a fault (hence its issues around abuse and harassment). Late last year, Twitter reminded everyone that it's against the company's guidelines to use Twitter for surveillance purposes, claiming a "commitment to social justice is core to our mission." Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

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Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Plaintiff,

v.

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in his official capacity as Secretary of

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MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

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Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:05 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (5)

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Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Cc:

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Patrick Flanagan

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(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

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Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:44 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Yes.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:42:22 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Do you have time to meet at 12:30 today?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:30 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
KARISCH,
RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Got it.

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
KARISCH,
RODOLFO (b) (7)(C), (b) (6) COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

OCA and OPA,

Please work with OCC to prepare a draft statement on our withdrawal of the summons.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:11 AM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

ALK, SCOTT K (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

RODOLFO (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)

>

KARISCH,

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 7:22 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

(b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:41 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C);
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KARISCH, RODOLFO; COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Will do

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:21 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (7)(C), (b) (6); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C);
HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C);
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (7)(C), (b) (6); COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

OCA and OPA,

Please work with OCC to prepare a draft statement on our withdrawal of the summons.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:11 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C);
HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (7)(C), (b) (6);
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (7)(C), (b) (6) >
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 7:22 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 9:33 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please see below and attached for your background.
Sen Wyden made a statement re this yesterday. I will send separately.
Thank
You

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (7)(C), (b) (6); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 7:40 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Will do. Thanks.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 8:17 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Sir,

If OCC and OPR can cover during intel that would be great.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Executive Assistant to the Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In

Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection,

Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)

(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 7:25 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Not yet working summary

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*Assistant Special Agent in Charge
Investigative Operations Division
Office of Professional Responsibility
U.S. Customs and Border Protection*

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 8:22 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Has there been additional email traffic since your message below?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

DHS | CBP | OPR | IOD | HO - Washington, D.C.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 8:16:23 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Copy

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:15:58 AM
To: (b) (5), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please continue to loop me in on all aspects of this request.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

DHS | CBP | OPR | IOD | HQ - Washington, D.C.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 8:09:28 PM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

and I are working in communication and coordinating to get a briefing paper.

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:39:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In

Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection,

Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)

(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 7:25 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:17:23 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC); FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Sir,

If OCC and OPR can cover during intel that would be great.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Executive Assistant to the Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of the Commissioner

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) UNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

<(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

Danyelle will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

OUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALLENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 7:14 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Yes; let's see if we can cover it during intel.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 8:01 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Since OCC is out next week are you okay with this getting raised during intel this morning? I have no time today to schedule.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Executive Assistant to the Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of the Commissioner

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Copy. Hard to deal with this right now. Ugh

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:16:38 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Looks like we were not quick enough. See string below. I say they are pretty aggressive.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:09:28 PM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I are working in communication and coordinating to get a briefing paper.

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:39:35 AM
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

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Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:18 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

Per my last email....

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:21:34 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:16 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Copy

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:15:58 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please continue to loop me in on all aspects of this request.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
DHS | CBP | OPR | IOD | HQ - Washington, D.C.
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 8:09:28 PM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:39:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Notice: FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY - this transmission contains material covered by the Privacy Act of 1974 and should be viewed only by personnel having an official "need to know." If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the content of this information is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me immediately by email and delete the original message.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In

Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection,

Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:14 PM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

It relates more to the circumstances under which the CBP Summons authority can be invoked.

From: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:09:27 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I don't see how we misused or abused our authority. This information was provided to us and we looked into it as is prudent.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:26:50 PM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Sir

More on the Twitter case below.

Additionally, I just got off the phone with the OIG's (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

The OIG is ordering us to stand down on the investigation (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) indicated chances are good the OIG will be opening a case on us for alleged abuse/misuse of authority.

I will be sending out a separate message to IOD noticing them to stand down on the case.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'
V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:52 PM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

Importance: High

Sir

Sorry to hit you with this immediately upon your return to DC.

As you'll recall, we opened a (b) (7)(E) associated with the anti-Trump "alt" accounts initially brought to our attention via COS Patrick Flanagan.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was designated the case agent. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was investigating the case in conjunction with OPR/Cyber Investigations.

As part of the investigation, a summons was served on Twitter. An email exchange ensued between Twitter's legal firm, Wilmer Hale, and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

Twitter objected to the summons and fought CBP's authority pursuant to Title 19 USC 1509 (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/19/1509>).

We were just alerted to the fact that Twitter's counsel filed suit against CBP in Federal Court (Ninth District, San Francisco, CA).

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is monitoring and will keep us posted.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:27 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Importance: High

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

What do you know about the below (if anything)?

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

...

6. The Defendants are now threatening the anonymity of the person(s) speaking through the @ALT_USCIS account. Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered to Twitter an administrative summons (the “CBP Summons”) demanding that Twitter provide them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s) responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.

7. *First*, the sole statutory authority CBP invoked in issuing the summons—19 U.S.C. § 1509—authorizes the agency to compel production of only a narrow class of records relating to the importation of merchandise. But CBP’s investigation of the @ALT_USCIS account plainly has nothing whatsoever to do with the importation of merchandise into the United States. Section 1509 thus provides CBP no power to compel Twitter to reveal information pertaining to the identity of the individual(s) behind the @ALT_USCIS account.

8. *Second*, permitting CBP to pierce the pseudonym of the @ALT_USCIS account would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other “alternative agency” accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies. The Supreme Court has long recognized the extraordinary value of the kind of speech emanating from these accounts—pure political speech criticizing government policies and highlighting government waste and mismanagement. And the Court has likewise recognized that anonymity is often essential to fostering such political speech where, as here, the speaker could face retaliation or retribution if his or her real identity were linked to the speech. In this context, the CBP Summons must be declared unlawful and enjoined absent an evidentiary showing by Defendants that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users’ identity is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important free speech rights of Twitter and its users. Defendants have not even attempted to meet that burden.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:53 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

Also looping in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:23 PM

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) For continued handling. Thanks.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,
This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'
V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

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Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)w)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:36 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Public Affairs – Media Division
San Diego

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 12:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:25 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf
Importance: High

Here's the part where CBP is involved:

6. The Defendants are now threatening the anonymity of the person(s) speaking through the @ALT_USCIS account. Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered to Twitter an administrative summons (the "CBP Summons") demanding that Twitter provide them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s) responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.

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Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:13 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

Thought this would be of interest to you...

We don't comment on pending litigation.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:07 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:04 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

This doesn't even make sense why CBP is named. The document says the account in question is @alt_USCIS.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:03 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

This just in, of course we can't comment...
Do you want to share with Front Office or shall I?

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:03 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

Huh?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 1:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:03 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

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Do you want to share with Front Office or shall I?

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
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in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 7:28 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

You, too! Have a good break!

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:25:45 PM
To: HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Thanks. Safe travels!

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

-----Original Message-----

From: HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 8:25 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:17:23 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC); FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (7)(C), (b) (6) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Sir,

If OCC and OPR can cover during intel that would be great.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Executive Assistant to the Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of the Commissioner

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:22 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)

(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:21 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Yes- we are aware.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 1:19:58 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

FYSA

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:05:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I just spoke to (b) (6) on Wyden's staff. They want a briefing ASAP as they are getting "a lot" of questions on their end. Mostly, they are concerned that this is an overly broad interpretation/abuse of 19 USC 1509. They want to know what the scope of that authority is for CBP. She said they would honor any requests that information not be shared beyond the committee.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 10:45 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6)
(b) (6) Once we work through this summons, the C1 would like you or your OPR representative to reach out to Senator Wyden's staff and then also authorizers and approps staff. Senator Wyden made a statement yesterday regarding this issue which was picked up by Reuters and some other media outlets online. I included one of the articles below.

Thank you

(b) (6)

<https://www.recode.net/2017/4/6/15211214/twitter-suing-government-free-speech-anti-trump-account-first-amendment>

Twitter is suing the government for trying to unmask an anti-Trump account
The lawsuit filed Thursday contends the government is threatening free speech.
by Tony Romm Apr 6, 2017, 3:55pm EDT

Twitter is suing the Trump administration after it tried to compel the social media site to reveal the identity of an account that had been tweeting criticism of the president.

In a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California, Twitter revealed that the Department of Homeland Security in March had demanded that the company reveal who is behind @ALT_USCIS, an anonymous account that has been raising alarms about U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Trump's immigration policies.

Twitter contends the request amounts to an "unlawful" use of the government's investigative powers, as the rules that allow customs and border officials to issue summonses generally relate to the import of merchandise, including counterfeit goods — not information involving online accounts.

In seeking to unmask that user anyway, though, Twitter says the government's request "would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other 'alternative agency' accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies."

A spokesman for DHS declined to comment, citing the fact it is pending litigation. Spokespeople for the Justice Department and White House also declined to offer their views on the case.

But Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, an ally of Silicon Valley in Congress, blasted the Trump administration Thursday for its conduct. "The Department of Homeland Security appears to have abused its authority and wasted taxpayer resources, all to uncover an anonymous critic on Twitter," the Oregon lawmaker told Recode in a statement. He said the agency's inspector general -- a watchdog that reviews for abuse — should "investigate to determine who directed this witch hunt."

Since Trump has taken office, a number of "alt-agency" accounts — unofficial deviations from federal agencies' verified online Twitter profiles — have started firing 140-character salvos at the new administration. There are accounts for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Labor Department, for example, which have targeted Trump for his climate and employment policies. Some "rogue" staffers at the National Park Service even hijacked their official account to tweet criticism of the president around his inauguration, though NPS quickly reclaimed it.

In many cases, though, the authors of these accounts are not clear. "The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies," as Twitter explains in its court briefing.

The @ALT_USCIS account arrived in late January, according to Twitter's complaint, purporting to be the site of the "[o]fficial inside resistance" of USCIS. It began tweeting sharp rebukes of Trump's immigration policies, including his support for a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. And it soon alleged rampant mismanagement at the USCIS, pointing out a potential instance of lost green cards and poor behavior by customs agents.

On March 14, Twitter said an agent for the USCIS "transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons" that ordered it to produce records related to the alt-agency account. That information included names, addresses and phone numbers, Twitter said, along with a threat of additional sanctions if the company did not comply.

In the days to follow, Twitter said it informed the @ALT_USCIS accountholder of the government's request — and the Trump administration of its plans to challenge the summons in court.

And on Thursday, the @ALT_USCIS also fired back:

Twitter has a long history of defending free speech on its platform, sometimes to a fault (hence its issues around abuse and harassment). Late last year, Twitter reminded everyone that it's against the company's guidelines to use Twitter for surveillance purposes, claiming a "commitment to social justice is core to our mission."

Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FALK,

SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

; FUNN, ERICK K

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sub

Patrick,
This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'
V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b)
(6),
(b)
(7)(C)
Reporter
POLITICO
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:13 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

FYSA

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:41 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:30:35 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC); FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Regarding the situation,
We (OPA) know we can't comment on pending litigation (b) (5)

V/r,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:24 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Importance: High

(b) (6)

CBP OPR opened a case associated with the matter. Our case agent, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was investigating the case in conjunction with (b) (7)(E)

As part of the investigation, a summons was served on Twitter. An email exchange between Twitter's legal firm, Wilmer Hale, and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ensued.

Twitter objected to the summons and fought CBP's authority pursuant to Title 19 USC 1509 (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/19/1509>) and Twitter's counsel filed suit against CBP in Federal Court, Ninth District, San Francisco, CA.

We've been in contact with OCC and it's our understanding they (OCC) are coordinating with OPA.

OPR's POC will be Erick Funn, Executive Director, Investigative Operations Division.

Chris

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Importance: High

(b) (6)
(b) What do you know about the below (if anything)?

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
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and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP"), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter's social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current Administration.

...

6. The Defendants are now threatening the anonymity of the person(s) speaking through the @ALT_USCIS account. Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered to Twitter an administrative summons (the "CBP Summons") demanding that Twitter provide them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s)

responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.

7. *First*, the sole statutory authority CBP invoked in issuing the summons—19

U.S.C. § 1509—authorizes the agency to compel production of only a narrow class of records relating to the importation of merchandise. But CBP's investigation of the @ALT_USCIS account plainly has nothing whatsoever to do with the importation of merchandise into the United States. Section 1509 thus provides CBP no power to compel Twitter to reveal information pertaining to the identity of the individual(s) behind the @ALT_USCIS account.

8. *Second*, permitting CBP to pierce the pseudonym of the @ALT_USCIS account would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other "alternative agency" accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies. The Supreme Court has long recognized the extraordinary value of the kind of speech emanating from these accounts—pure political speech criticizing government policies and highlighting government waste and mismanagement. And the Court has likewise recognized that anonymity is often essential to fostering such political speech where, as here, the speaker could face retaliation or retribution if his or her real identity were linked to the speech. In this context, the CBP Summons must be declared unlawful and enjoined absent an evidentiary showing by Defendants that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users' identity is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important free speech rights of Twitter and its users. Defendants have not even attempted to meet that burden.

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b)
(6),
(b)
(7)(C)
Reporter
POLITICO
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:21 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

FYI.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:14:27 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Bennett

I forgot to cc you.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:44:43 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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In the days to follow, Twitter said it informed the @ALT_USCIS account holder of the government's request — and the Trump administration of its plans to challenge the summons in court.

And on Thursday, the @ALT_USCIS also fired back:

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Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Patrick Flanagan

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

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To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

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COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (7)(C)

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v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
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Administration.

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 10:16 AM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (7)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Thank you.

Would appreciate updates as the withdrawal proceeds.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 11:11 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 7:22 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>

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Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/R

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,

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and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

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Defendants.

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Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)

c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 9:46 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

FYSA.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 10:45 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Once we work through this summons, the C1 would like you or your OPR representative to reach out to Senator Wyden's staff and then also authorizers and approps staff. Senator Wyden made a statement yesterday regarding this issue which was picked up by Reuters and some other media outlets online. I included one of the articles below.

Thank you

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<https://www.recode.net/2017/4/6/15211214/twitter-suing-government-free-speech-anti-trump-account-first-amendment>

Twitter is suing the government for trying to unmask an anti-Trump account
The lawsuit filed Thursday contends the government is threatening free speech.
by Tony Romm Apr 6, 2017, 3:55pm EDT

Twitter is suing the Trump administration after it tried to compel the social media site to reveal the identity of an account that had been tweeting criticism of the president.

In a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California, Twitter revealed that the Department of Homeland Security in March had demanded that the company reveal who is behind @ALT_USCIS, an anonymous account that has been raising alarms about U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Trump's immigration policies.

Twitter contends the request amounts to an "unlawful" use of the government's investigative powers, as the rules that allow customs and border officials to issue summonses generally relate to the import of merchandise, including counterfeit goods — not information involving online accounts.

In seeking to unmask that user anyway, though, Twitter says the government's request "would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other 'alternative agency' accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies."

A spokesman for DHS declined to comment, citing the fact it is pending litigation. Spokespeople for the Justice Department and White House also declined to offer their views on the case.

But Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, an ally of Silicon Valley in Congress, blasted the Trump administration Thursday for its conduct. “The Department of Homeland Security appears to have abused its authority and wasted taxpayer resources, all to uncover an anonymous critic on Twitter,” the Oregon lawmaker told Recode in a statement. He said the agency’s inspector general -- a watchdog that reviews for abuse — should “investigate to determine who directed this witch hunt.”

Since Trump has taken office, a number of “alt-agency” accounts — unofficial deviations from federal agencies’ verified online Twitter profiles — have started firing 140-character salvos at the new administration. There are accounts for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Labor Department, for example, which have targeted Trump for his climate and employment policies. Some “rogue” staffers at the National Park Service even hijacked their official account to tweet criticism of the president around his inauguration, though NPS quickly reclaimed it.

In many cases, though, the authors of these accounts are not clear. “The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies,” as Twitter explains in its court briefing. The @ALT_USCIS account arrived in late January, according to Twitter’s complaint, purporting to be the site of the “[o]fficial inside resistance” of USCIS. It began tweeting sharp rebukes of Trump’s immigration policies, including his support for a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. And it soon alleged rampant mismanagement at the USCIS, pointing out a potential instance of lost green cards and poor behavior by customs agents.

On March 14, Twitter said an agent for the USCIS “transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons” that ordered it to produce records related to the alt-agency account. That information included names, addresses and phone numbers, Twitter said, along with a threat of additional sanctions if the company did not comply.

In the days to follow, Twitter said it informed the @ALT_USCIS accountholder of the government’s request — and the Trump administration of its plans to challenge the summons in court.

And on Thursday, the @ALT_USCIS also fired back:

Twitter has a long history of defending free speech on its platform, sometimes to a fault (hence its issues around abuse and harassment). Late last year, Twitter reminded everyone that it’s against the company’s guidelines to use Twitter for surveillance purposes, claiming a “commitment to social justice is core to our mission.”

Additional reporting by Kurt Wagner.

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)

(b) (7)(C), (b) (6) FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C))

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

(b) (7)

V/R

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND

BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,

in his official capacity as Secretary of

Homeland Security; KEVIN K.

MCALLENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

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in his official capacity as Special Agent In

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and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official

capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 8:03 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

For inclusion in your book.

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

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Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

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Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/R
Patrick

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CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>

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[Redacted]

Reporter
POLITICO

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
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Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Sir,

If OCC and OPR can cover during intel that would be great.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Executive Assistant to the Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of the Commissioner

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R

Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

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abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 6:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Ok, I will take a look at them shortly.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 7:29:53 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Sir

Going back through email traffic from yesterday, I realized you were not included on this message.

(b) (5)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:21:34 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (7)(C), (b) (6); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Certainly, Patrick. Friday would likely work better, if that's an option, as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will be out next week. I can even raise it at Intel tomorrow if that would be helpful. In the meantime, the following summary may be of benefit for the group:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Patrick,

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'

V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
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and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,

Defendants.

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 9:58 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

FYSA

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss. Thanks as always.

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:47 PM

To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Team,

Would appreciate OCC and OPR providing a brief to the Commissioner on the below suit.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will work to schedule. Friday or Monday.

V/R
Patrick

Patrick Flanagan

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM

To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 8:14 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 9:12 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:21:34 AM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FALK, SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey

CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC

BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY, in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K. MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
[Redacted]

Reporter

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
[Redacted] (c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (OPR)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:14 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (OPR)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Attachments: AltTwitterSty040617.pdf

Fysa

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:39:35 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Can you be on standby for a briefing / meeting tomorrow?

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:21:34 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FALK,
SCOTT K (OCC); HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FUNN, ERICK K
(b) (7)(C), (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM

To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

COUREY, MARC
BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(7)(C)

Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

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V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
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capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,

Defendants.

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Thank you sir.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 6:24 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Importance: High

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP OPR opened a case associated with the matter. Our case agent, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was investigating the case in conjunction with (b) (7)(E)

As part of the investigation, a summons was served on Twitter. An email exchange between Twitter's legal firm, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ensued.

Twitter objected to the summons and fought CBP's authority pursuant to Title 19 USC 1509 (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/19/1509>) and Twitter's counsel filed suit against CBP in Federal Court, Ninth District, San Francisco, CA.

We've been in contact with OCC and it's our understanding they (OCC) are coordinating with OPA.

OPR's POC will be Erick Funn, Executive Director, Investigative Operations Division.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:27 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc:
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts
Importance: High

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

What do you know about the below (if anything)?

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND

SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY, in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K. MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

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...

6. The Defendants are now threatening the anonymity of the person(s) speaking through the @ALT_USCIS account. Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered to Twitter an administrative summons (the “CBP Summons”) demanding that Twitter provide them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s) responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.

7. *First*, the sole statutory authority CBP invoked in issuing the summons—19 U.S.C. § 1509—authorizes the agency to compel production of only a narrow class of records relating to the importation of merchandise. But CBP’s investigation of the @ALT_USCIS account plainly has nothing whatsoever to do with the importation of merchandise into the United States. Section 1509 thus provides CBP no power to compel Twitter to reveal information pertaining to the identity of the individual(s) behind the @ALT_USCIS account.

8. *Second*, permitting CBP to pierce the pseudonym of the @ALT_USCIS account would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other “alternative agency” accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies. The Supreme Court has long recognized the extraordinary value of the kind of speech emanating from these accounts—pure political speech criticizing government policies and highlighting government waste and mismanagement. And the Court has likewise recognized that anonymity is often essential to fostering such political speech where, as here, the speaker could face retaliation or retribution if his or her real identity were linked to the speech. In this context, the CBP Summons must be declared unlawful and enjoined absent an evidentiary showing by Defendants that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users’ identity is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important free speech rights of Twitter and its users. Defendants have not even attempted to meet that burden.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) w)
c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:17 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Thank you Bennett!

From: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 5:29 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (5)

Bennett Courey
CBP Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
** Attorney Work Product / Attorney-Client Privileged **

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 4:10 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This just in. We are responding that 'CBP cannot comment on pending litigation.'
V/r,

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection,
Defendants.

This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”),
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully
abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more
persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
[Redacted]

Reporter

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
[Redacted] (c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:09 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I see it now. Why would we do this?

“Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered to Twitter an administrative summons (the “CBP Summons”) demanding that Twitter provide them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s) responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.”

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:05 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (7)(E)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:04 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

This doesn't even make sense why CBP is named. The document says the account in question is @alt_USCIS.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:03 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

This just in, of course we can't comment...
Do you want to share with Front Office or shall I?

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defendants.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter
POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(w)
(c)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:06 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

I see. (b) (7)(E) I mean ultimately the lawyers will work it out. I was just wondering why they aren't just naming DHS and USCIS.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:05 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

(b) (7)(E)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:04 PM
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

This doesn't even make sense why CBP is named. The document says the account in question is @alt_USCIS.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:03 PM
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

This just in, of course we can't comment...
Do you want to share with Front Office or shall I?

TWITTER, INC.,
Plaintiff,
v.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
in his official capacity as Secretary of
Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
in his official capacity as Special Agent In
Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and

Border Protection,
Defendants.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:57 PM
To: CBP Media Relations (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Twitter sues DHS over exposing anti-Trump "alt" accounts

Hi all

Can you offer a comment on the attached?

Thanks

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (w)
(c)

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Attorneys for Plaintiff
TWITTER, INC.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

TWITTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
 SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND
 BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY,
 in his official capacity as Secretary of
 Homeland Security; KEVIN K.
 MCALEENAN, in his official capacity as
 Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and
 Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO,
 in his official capacity as Special Agent In
 Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
 and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official
 capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and
 Border Protection,

Defendants.

Case No. _____

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Twitter, Inc. (“Twitter”), by and through its attorneys, hereby alleges:

INTRODUCTION

1. This is an action to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”), and the individual Defendants from unlawfully abusing a limited-purpose investigatory tool to try to unmask the real identity of one or more persons who have been using Twitter’s social media platform, and specifically a Twitter account

1 named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
2 Administration. The rights of free speech afforded Twitter's users and Twitter itself under the
3 First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution include a right to disseminate such anonymous or
4 pseudonymous political speech. In these circumstances, Defendants may not compel Twitter to
5 disclose information regarding the real identities of these users without first demonstrating that
6 some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users' identity is the least
7 restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not
8 motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation
9 outweigh the important First Amendment rights of Twitter and its users. But Defendants have
10 not come close to making any of those showings. And even if Defendants could otherwise
11 demonstrate an appropriate basis for impairing the First Amendment interests of Twitter and its
12 users, they certainly may not do so using the particular investigatory tool employed here—which
13 Congress authorized solely to ensure compliance with federal laws concerning imported
14 merchandise—because it is apparent that whatever investigation Defendants are conducting here
15 does not pertain to imported merchandise.

16 2. In the days and weeks following the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump, a
17 new and innovative class of American speakers emerged on Twitter's ubiquitous online
18 platform: speakers who purport to be current or former employees of federal agencies, or others
19 with special insights about the agencies, who provide views and commentary that is often
20 vigorously opposed, resistant, or "alternative" to the official actions and policies of the new
21 Administration. Typically, these so-called "alternative agency" accounts are named and self-
22 described by their users in a manner that both (a) identifies the particular federal agency that the
23 user seeks primarily to criticize and with which the user purports to have significant knowledge,
24 and (b) proclaims that the user is not an official voice or spokesperson for the agency. Examples
25 of these accounts include @alt_labor, which purports to provide informed but unofficial
26 commentary on the U.S. Department Labor, and @blm_alt, which does the same for the federal
27 Bureau of Land Management. Dozens of such accounts have sprung up, and many of them are
28 actively used to disseminate criticism of the Administration and its policies. Many of these

1 accounts have attracted large audiences of other Twitter users (“followers”), often numbering in
2 the tens of thousands or more.

3 3. Like many Twitter users, those who speak through these “alternative agency”
4 accounts do so pseudonymously, often going to considerable lengths to avoid disclosing their
5 real identities. The motivations these users have for preserving their anonymity presumably
6 include a desire to speak freely and without the fear of negative consequences that may flow
7 from being identified as the source of controversial views and commentary concerning the
8 Administration and its agencies. Such fears are likely to be especially great for users of
9 “alternative agency” accounts who are currently employed by the very agency that is a principal
10 target of the commentary, in light of the retaliation, harassment, or even loss of livelihood that
11 might occur if their real identities became known to their superiors.

12 4. One such “alternative agency” account is @ALT_USCIS. Like other accounts of
13 this sort, @ALT_USCIS claims to be run by one or more current government employees—in this
14 case, employees of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”), a unit
15 within the Defendant DHS. And as with other such accounts, the person or persons who
16 established and speak through @ALT_USCIS have identified themselves only by means of this
17 pseudonymous account name. To the best of Twitter’s knowledge, they have not disclosed their
18 real identities in any of their public communications through this account.

19 5. In the just over two months since it was created, @ALT_USCIS has frequently
20 criticized the immigration policies of the new Administration, highlighted what the user views as
21 a history of waste and mismanagement within USCIS and DHS, and publicized facts that the
22 account’s users portray as casting doubt on Administration policies.

23 6. The Defendants are now threatening the anonymity of the person(s) speaking
24 through the @ALT_USCIS account. Specifically, on March 14, 2017, they issued and delivered
25 to Twitter an administrative summons (the “CBP Summons”) demanding that Twitter provide
26 them records that would unmask, or likely lead to unmasking, the identity of the person(s)
27 responsible for the @ALT_USCIS account. The summons was issued by a Special Agent in
28

Charge within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, another unit of DHS. The CBP Summons is unlawful and must be enjoined for two reasons.

7. *First*, the sole statutory authority CBP invoked in issuing the summons—19 U.S.C. § 1509—authorizes the agency to compel production of only a narrow class of records relating to the importation of merchandise. But CBP’s investigation of the @ALT_USCIS account plainly has nothing whatsoever to do with the importation of merchandise into the United States. Section 1509 thus provides CBP no power to compel Twitter to reveal information pertaining to the identity of the individual(s) behind the @ALT_USCIS account.

8. *Second*, permitting CBP to pierce the pseudonym of the @ALT_USCIS account would have a grave chilling effect on the speech of that account in particular and on the many other “alternative agency” accounts that have been created to voice dissent to government policies. The Supreme Court has long recognized the extraordinary value of the kind of speech emanating from these accounts—pure political speech criticizing government policies and highlighting government waste and mismanagement. And the Court has likewise recognized that anonymity is often essential to fostering such political speech where, as here, the speaker could face retaliation or retribution if his or her real identity were linked to the speech. In this context, the CBP Summons must be declared unlawful and enjoined absent an evidentiary showing by Defendants that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, that unmasking the users’ identity is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, that the demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, and that the interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important free speech rights of Twitter and its users. Defendants have not even attempted to meet that burden.

9. For these and other reasons discussed below, Twitter respectfully requests that this Court declare the summons unlawful and enjoin its enforcement.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because this action arises under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and other Federal statutes.

12. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) and (e)(1). A substantial part of the events giving rise to this claim occurred in this District, and each Defendant is an officer or agency of the United States sued in his or its official capacity.

13. Twitter is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 1355 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Twitter operates a global platform for self-expression and communication, with the mission of giving everyone the power to create and share ideas and information instantly. Twitter’s more than 300 million active monthly users use the platform to connect with others, express ideas, and discover new information. Hundreds of millions of short messages (known as “Tweets”) are posted on Twitter every day. Twitter provides these services at no charge to its users.

15. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection is an agency within DHS. It is responsible for managing and controlling the border of the United States, including with respect to import customs, immigration, border security, and agricultural protection.

16. John F. Kelly is the Secretary of DHS. He is sued in his official capacity.

17. Kevin K. McAleenan is the Acting Commissioner of CBP. He is sued in his official capacity.

18. Stephen P. Caruso is a special agent in charge within CBP. He is sued in his official capacity.

19. Adam Hoffman is a special agent within the Office of Professional Responsibility of CBP. He is sued in his official capacity.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Emergence And Popularity Of “Alternative Agency” Accounts On The Twitter Platform

20. President Donald J. Trump was inaugurated on January 20, 2017. That day the official Twitter account of the National Park Service retweeted an image comparing the crowd size at President Trump’s inauguration to the apparently larger crowd size at President Obama’s 2009 inauguration.

21. As the public began to remark on the agency’s retweet, the National Park Service abruptly shut down its own account and sent an internal email to agency employees explaining that “[a]ll bureaus and the department have been directed by [the] incoming administration to shut down Twitter platforms immediately until further notice.” And President Trump called the acting director of the National Park Service to complain about the agency retweeting an unflattering comparison of his inaugural crowd size. The day after the inauguration, the Park Service reactivated its official account and Tweeted an apology for “the mistaken [retweets] from our account yesterday.”¹

22. Four days after the inauguration, on January 24, 2017, the official Twitter account for Badlands National Park began to Tweet a series of statements about climate change from the @BadlandsNPS account.



¹ Lisa Rein, *Interior Department Reactivates Twitter Accounts After Shutdown Following Inauguration*, WASH. POST (Jan. 21, 2017), https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/01/20/interior-department-banned-from-twitter-after-retweet-of-smaller-than-usual-trump-inauguration-crowd/?utm_term=.4e6d99996772.

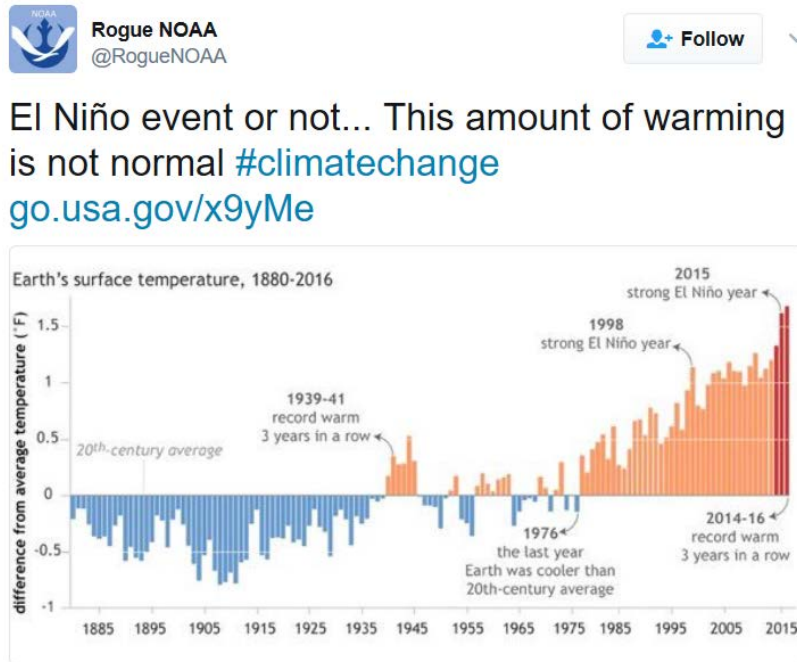
1 23. Press reports described the @BadlandsNPS account as having gone “rogue,” and
2 the National Park Service explained that a former employee who still had access to the
3 @BadlandsNPS account had been responsible for the Tweets. The Park Service quickly
4 removed the unauthorized Tweets and blocked the former employee’s access.

5 24. Shortly thereafter, a new wave of Twitter accounts began to appear on the
6 Twitter platform: self-identified as expressing “alternative” ideas, views, and information about
7 a particular federal agency. Although seemingly inspired by the National Park Service’s
8 inauguration day Tweet or by the short-lived takeover of the @BadlandsNPS account, these new
9 alternative agency accounts were not “official” accounts of any government agency. Instead,
10 they operated under names such as @blm_alt, @alt_labor, and @RogueEPastaff. Within
11 weeks, dozens of such accounts had been created, many attracting tens of thousands of followers
12 or more. In some cases, multiple alternative agency accounts appeared for a single agency.

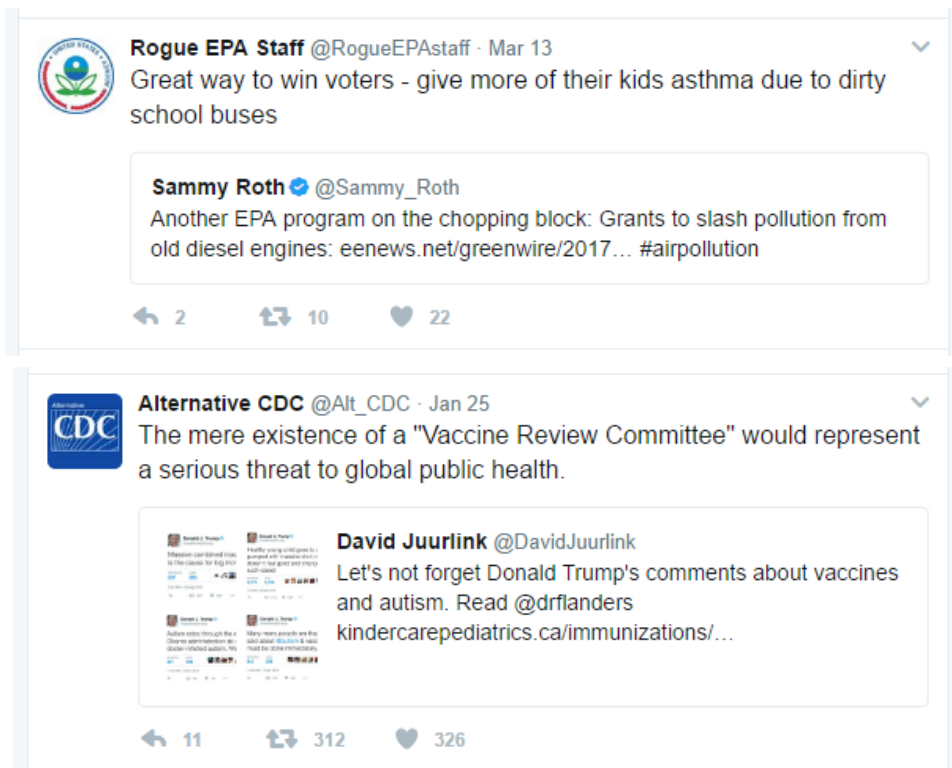
13 25. While some of these alternative agency accounts appear to be run by former
14 federal employees or activists with no connection to the government, many of the accounts
15 claim, through their user-created account descriptions or the content of their Tweets, to be
16 administered by individuals who are currently employed by the federal agency after which the
17 account is named.

18 26. These self-designated alternative agency accounts have tended to challenge views
19 of the Administration and its policies, often (but not always) focusing on the policies of the
20 particular agency for which the account was named. The styles of expression emanating from
21 these accounts vary greatly.
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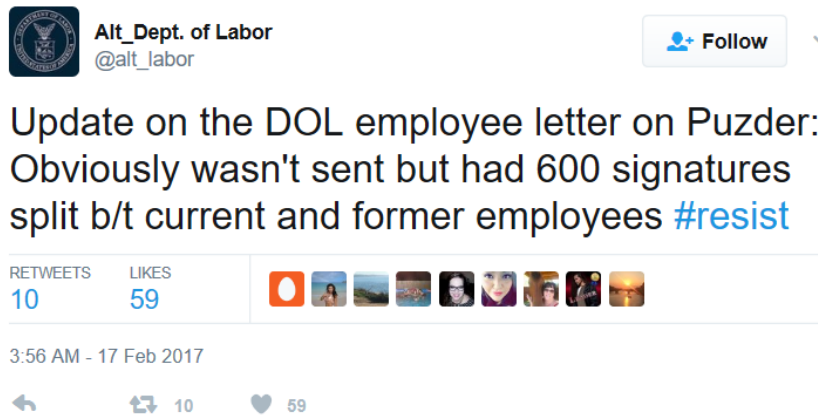
27. Some accounts appear to equate the simple act of broadcasting facts as an expression of dissent.



28. The accounts often have expressed disagreement with specific policies of the official agency.



29. One of the many Tweets from the @alt_labor account publicized a letter signed by 600 current and former Labor Department employees opposing the confirmation of the President's nominee for Labor Secretary, Andrew Puzder.



30. Like many online platforms, Twitter's platform offers users the choice between speaking in a self-identifying manner (for example, by selecting a user name that matches or is similar to the user's real name) or pseudonymously (through an account that has a user name and user description that do not disclose the speaker's real identity).

31. Pseudonymity of the speaker(s) is a defining feature of the alternative agency accounts that have recently emerged on the Twitter platform. While the persons who establish and use these accounts sometimes provide highly general descriptions of themselves (for example, by stating in the account's biography that the user or users work or previously worked for a particular agency), they typically refrain from revealing their real names. The users appear to view and depend on preservation of their anonymity as crucial to their ability to express information and ideas that are contrary to the policies and objectives of the Administration and its agencies. Preserving anonymity appears to be especially important for users of these alternative agency accounts who are current federal employees, given the risk that such users could face retaliation, sanctions, or other negative repercussions from their federal employer if they were identified as the source of criticism of their agency.²

² Alleen Brown, *Rogue Twitter Accounts Fight To Preserve The Voice Of Government Science*, THE INTERCEPT (Mar. 11, 2017), <https://theintercept.com/2017/03/11/rogue-twitter-accounts-fight-to-preserve-the-voice-of-government-science> (reporting that several "alternative agency" accounts are administered by current agency employees and that those employees wish to

The @ALT USCIS Twitter Account

32. This case concerns one particular alternative agency account that, like many others, was created in late January 2017: @ALT_USCIS.

33. As of the time Twitter received the CBP Summons, the public, user-provided description of the @ALT_USCIS account described its user or users as “[o]fficial inside resistance.” As of then and now, the account description prominently declares that the account is “[n]ot [expressing] the views of DHS or USCIS.” The account’s profile image plays off USCIS’s official logo (displayed side-by-side below), further indicating a correspondence or relationship to the agency, albeit one that is unofficial, ideologically or politically averse, and/or “rogue.”³ Tweets from this account use hashtags such as “#altgov,” expressly self-identifying as part of the broader alternative agency movement.



34. On several occasions, Tweets from the @ALT_USCIS account have claimed that the person speaking through the account is a current federal employee of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), an entity that reportedly has 19,000 employees and contractors. But beyond purporting to identify his or her employer, the person(s) using the account have chosen to remain pseudonymous.

35. In two months of existence, the @ALT_USCIS account has attracted over 32,000 followers and has issued thousands of Tweets.

preserve their anonymity “out of fear of workplace retaliation and pressure to shut down their accounts”).

³ The accountholder reworked the account’s description and profile image at some point after Twitter received the CBP Summons. The profile image displayed above is as it was when the summons was received.

36. The @ALT_USCIS account has expressed dissent in a range of different ways. One of the account's first Tweets asserted a fact about illegal immigration in the United States that the author apparently believed cast doubt on the Administration's immigration policy.

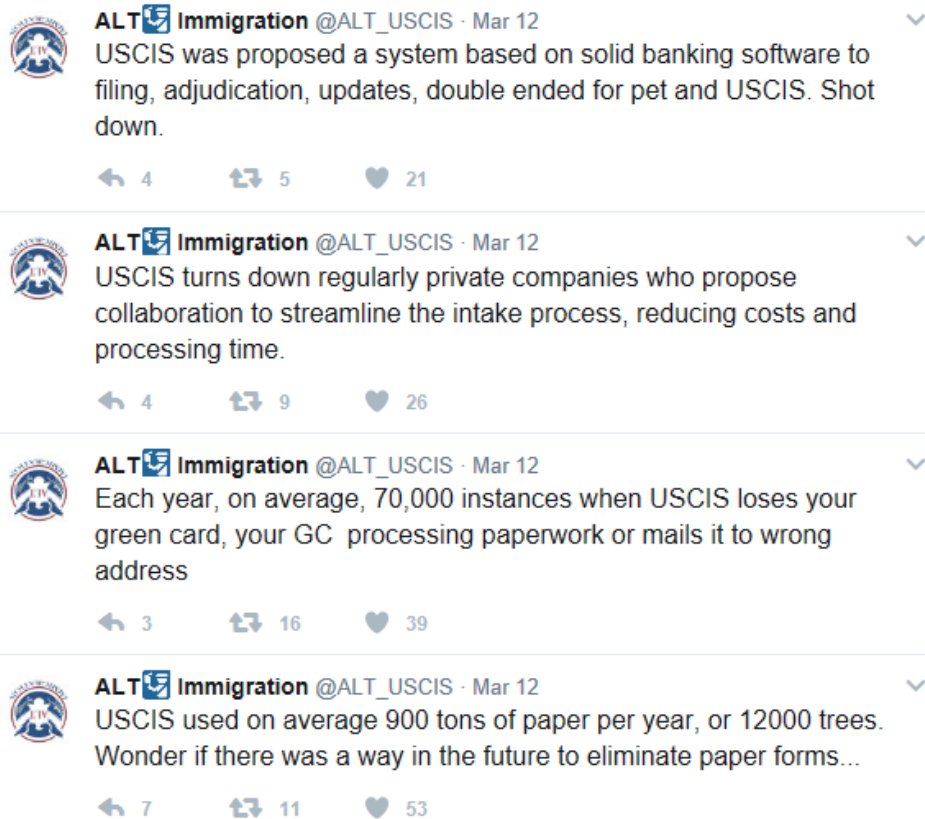


37. The @ALT_USCIS account has often criticized immigration policies with which the speaker apparently disagrees. The account was created on nearly the same day that the President issued his original immigration Executive Order. Tweets from the account have repeatedly criticized the Order—often referring to it as the “#MuslimBan.” Other Tweets have taken aim at the President's proposal to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. For example, on March 11, 2017, the account used news that a fence-jumper had trespassed onto the White House grounds to argue that the Administration's proposed border fence will be ineffective.



38. Tweets from the @ALT_USCIS account have also purported to shine a light on historical and recent mismanagement at USCIS. For example, on March 12—two days before issuance of the CBP Summons challenged in this suit—a series of Tweets from the account

1 decried what the author described as waste, inefficiency, and poor management in the agency's
 2 attempts to set up a new automated system for processing immigration applications.



22 39. The account has regularly leveled criticism at U.S. Customs and Border
 23 Protection—the agency that issued the summons challenged by this lawsuit.



34 40. The account has also frequently tweeted disagreement with the current
 35 Administration's policies on subjects other than immigration—expressing opposition to efforts in

1 Congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act and urging Democrats to resist confirmation of
2 Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch, among many other issues.

3 41. Occasionally, the account has highlighted USCIS or DHS policies that the speaker
4 appears to support. For example, the day DHS Secretary Kelly announced that the Department
5 would continue to exempt from removal individuals covered by the prior Administration's
6 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy (DACA), the account issued the following Tweet.



14
15 U.S. Customs And Border Protection Orders Twitter To Produce
Records That Would Strip The @ALT USCIS Account Of Anonymity

16 42. On March 14, 2017, Defendant Adam Hoffman, an agent within U.S. Customs
17 and Border Protection, transmitted to Twitter by fax a summons, ordering Twitter to produce
18 certain records pertaining to the @ALT_USCIS account. The CBP Summons invoked as
19 authority 19 U.S.C. § 1509. It was signed by Defendant Stephen P. Caruso, a CBP Special
20 Agent in Charge based in Miramar, Florida. A true and accurate copy of the CBP Summons, in
21 the form it was received by Twitter, is attached as Exhibit A.

22 43. The CBP Summons states that Twitter is “required” to “produce[] for inspection”
23 “[a]ll records regarding the [T]witter account @ALT_USCIS to include, User names, account
24 login, phone numbers, mailing addresses, and I.P. addresses.” The purpose of this request
25 appears to be, and the effect of Twitter’s complying with it likely would be, to enable or help to
26 enable Defendants to pierce the anonymity of the person or persons who established and use the
27 @ALT_USCIS account.
28

1 44. The CBP Summons warned Twitter that “[f]ailure to comply with this summons
2 will render you liable to proceedings in a U.S. District Court to enforce compliance with this
3 summons as well as other sanctions.”

4 45. The CBP Summons ordered Twitter to produce the records to a CBP office in
5 Washington D.C. by 11:45 A.M. on March 13, 2017—the day *before* the CBP Summons was
6 faxed to Twitter.

7 46. The CBP Summons states generically that “production of the indicated records is
8 required in connection with an investigation or inquiry to ascertain the correctness of entries, to
9 determine the liability for duties, taxes, fines, penalties, or forfeitures, and/or to ensure
10 compliance with the laws or regulations administered by CBP and ICE.” Beyond that boilerplate
11 language, the CBP Summons provides no justification for issuance of a summons targeting the
12 @ALT_USCIS account.

13 47. The CBP Summons further “requested”—but did not order or otherwise compel—
14 Twitter “not to disclose the existence of this summons for an indefinite period of time.”

15 48. Notwithstanding the request on the face of the CBP Summons that Twitter not
16 disclose the existence of the CBP Summons to anyone, a “Summons Notice” included in the
17 CBP Summons describes a procedure whereby the subject of the summons (i.e., the person
18 whose “business transactions or affairs” are purportedly being investigated) supposedly could
19 “object to the examination” of the requested records by “advis[ing] the person summoned [i.e.
20 Twitter], in writing, not to comply with the summons” and “send[ing] a copy of that notice by
21 registered or certified mail to the CBP Officer ... who issued the summons.” To be effective,
22 any such objection would have to be sent “not later than the” deadline set by the CBP Summons
23 for compliance—which, again, had already passed by the time the CBP Summons was served on
24 Twitter. Neither the CBP Summons itself, nor the statute that supposedly authorizes issuance of
25 the summons (*i.e.*, 19 U.S.C. § 1509), nor the regulations implementing that statute describe any
26 procedure for Twitter to object to compliance with the summons.

27 49. On March 28, 2017, counsel for Twitter contacted Defendant Hoffman to raise
28 concerns regarding the request not to provide notice to the user and the legal basis for seeking

1 information about the identified account using a summons issued under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.
2 Defendant Hoffman advised counsel for Twitter that CBP did not want the user notified and that
3 he would discuss notice with his supervisors. With regard to the legal basis for the summons,
4 Defendant Hoffman stated vaguely that he is conducting an investigation. But he did not identify
5 any law or laws that he believed had been broken or point to any evidence substantiating any
6 such belief—such as particular Tweets that he believes were unlawful. Defendant Hoffman took
7 the position that the summons was an appropriate investigative tool, but he did not provide any
8 specifics as to how a summons issued under 19 U.S.C. § 1509 could be an appropriate means for
9 CBP’s Office of Professional Responsibility to be conducting this particular investigation. In
10 fact, to the limited extent he did explain the nature of the investigation, it seemed to confirm that
11 the investigation had nothing to do with obtaining records to assess whether appropriate duties
12 and taxes had been paid on imported merchandise.

13 50. Twitter advised Defendant Hoffman that, unless he or his agency obtained a court
14 order under the federal Stored Communications Act, 18 U.S.C. § 2705, directing Twitter not to
15 disclose the CBP Summons to the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s), Twitter would, in
16 accordance with its standard practices, notify the accountholder(s) of the existence and content of
17 the CBP Summons. On March 31, 2017, Defendant Hoffman sent Twitter an email confirming
18 that no such court order would be obtained. On April 2, 2017, Twitter stated in a response to
19 Defendant Hoffman that it intended to notify the accountholder(s) the next day about the CBP
20 Summons.

21 51. On April 4, 2017, Twitter notified the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) about the
22 existence and contents of the CBP Summons. At approximately the same time, Twitter also
23 informed Defendant Hoffman of its intention to challenge the CBP Summons in court if it was
24 not withdrawn within 48 hours. Later that day, counsel for Twitter sent Defendant Hoffman an
25 email elaborating the bases for Twitter’s legal objections to the CBP Summons—namely that the
26 summons falls outside the statutory parameters of 19 U.S.C. § 1509 and infringes on the First
27 Amendment rights of Twitter’s users and Twitter itself—and reiterating Twitter’s intention to
28 sue absent withdrawal of the summons.

52. As of today's date, Defendants have not notified Twitter of any intent to withdraw the CBP Summons.

COUNT I
(19 U.S.C. § 1509; Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202;
APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706)

THE SUMMONS EXCEEDS THE SCOPE
OF CBP'S AUTHORITY UNDER 19 U.S.C. § 1509

53. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-52 as if set forth fully herein.

54. The summons is unlawful because it demands production of records that CBP is not authorized to obtain under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.

55. The summons exceeds the scope of CBP's authority under 19 U.S.C. § 1509 for two reasons. *First*, 19 U.S.C. § 1509 authorizes CBP to obtain documents only for investigations and inquiries relating to the importation of merchandise. *Second*, even if CBP issued the summons for a proper purpose, the summons seeks production of records that are not of the narrowly limited type that CBP is authorized to obtain under 19 U.S.C. § 1509. These two reasons are explained more fully below.

56. *First*, 19 U.S.C. § 1509 confers authority on the Secretary (or a delegate at or above the rank of district director or special agent in charge) to compel disclosure of records only in connection with "any investigation or inquiry conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the correctness of any entry, for determining the liability of any person for duty, fees and taxes due or duties, fees and taxes which may be due the United States, for determining liability for fines and penalties, or for insuring compliance with the laws of the United States administered by the United States Customs Service." 19 U.S.C. § 1509(a). The first three items on the list clearly relate narrowly to imports, and the meaning of the fourth term is "cabin[ed]" by the first three. *See Yates v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 1074, 1085 (2015) (applying "the principle of *noscitur a sociis*—a word is known by the company it keeps—to 'avoid ascribing to one word a meaning so broad that it is inconsistent with its accompanying words, thus giving unintended breadth to the Acts of Congress.'" (quoting *Gustafson v. Alloyd Co.*, 513 U.S. 561, 575 (1995))).

57. Defendants could not plausibly establish that they issued the CBP Summons—which demands “[a]ll records regarding the [T]witter account @ALT_USCIS to include User names, account login, phone numbers, mailing addresses, and I.P. addresses”—in any investigation or inquiry relating to the import of merchandise.

58. *Second*, § 1509 does not authorize the Defendants to compel production of the account-related records that the summons demands. The Secretary or his delegate can compel the production of only records that fall within a narrow category defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1509(d)(1)(A). *See* 15 U.S.C. § 1509(a)(2)(D) (“[T]he Secretary ... may ... summon ... any ... person he may deem proper ... to produce records, *as defined in subsection (d)(1)(A).*”).

59. Subsection 1509(d)(1)(A) limits the “records” whose production may be permissibly compelled through a summons to those (1) that are “required to be kept under section 1508 of this title” and (2) “regarding which there is probable cause to believe that they pertain to merchandise the importation of which into the United States is prohibited.” The records that the CBP Summons demands Twitter to disclose meet neither of these criteria.

60. Section 1508 requires importers to maintain certain records relating to their activity of importing merchandise. *See United States v. Frowein*, 727 F.2d 227, 233 (2d Cir. 1984) (“Section 1508 ... imposes recordkeeping requirements on those who import or cause goods to be imported.”). Specifically, the entities that must maintain records under section 1508 are limited to the following: any “owner, importer, consignee, importer of record, entry filer, or other party who—(A) imports merchandise into the customs territory of the United States, files a drawback claim, or transports or stores merchandise carried or held under bond, or (B) knowingly causes the importation or transportation or storage of merchandise carried or held under bond into or from the customs territory of the United States,” 19 U.S.C. § 1508(a)(1); *or* any “agent of any party described in paragraph (1),” *id.* § 1508(a)(2); *or* any “person whose activities require the filing of a declaration of entry, or both,” *id.* § 1508(a)(3). The records Section 1508 requires these entities to maintain are limited to records that both “pertain to any such activity, or to the information contained in the records required by this chapter in

1 connection with any such activity” and “are normally kept in the ordinary course of business.” 19
 2 U.S.C. § 1508(a)(3).

3 61. Subsection 1509(d)(1)(A)(ii) likewise limits the scope of records whose
 4 production CBP may compel pursuant to a summons to records relating to the importation of
 5 merchandise—specifically, records “pertain[ing] to *merchandise the importation of which into*
 6 *the United States is prohibited.*”

7 62. The CBP Summons plainly does not request records relating to the importation of
 8 merchandise. It requests that Twitter produce information that pertains to the identity of the
 9 person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account. And it is utterly implausible that
 10 Defendants’ interest in the person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account stems
 11 from their importation of merchandise into the United States.

12 63. The CBP Summons also violates the Stored Communications Act (“SCA”),
 13 18 U.S.C. § 2701 *et seq.*, which “protects individuals’ privacy and proprietary interests,”
 14 “reflect[ing] Congress’s judgment that users have a legitimate interest in the confidentiality of
 15 communications in electronic storage at a communications facility.” *Theofel v. Farey-Jones*, 359
 16 F.3d 1066, 1072 (9th Cir. 2003). The SCA establishes legal processes that government agencies
 17 must follow in order to obtain certain types of information from a service provider such as
 18 Twitter, which have not been followed here. The basic subscriber information the CBP
 19 Summons seeks—such as the user’s name and address—can be obtained “us[ing] an
 20 administrative subpoena authorized by a Federal or State statute.” 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(2). But
 21 the CBP Summons is not a valid administrative subpoena because, among other defects, it
 22 exceeds the scope of CBP’s authority under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.

23 64. For the foregoing reasons, the Court should enjoin Defendants from taking any
 24 further action to enforce the CBP Summons and declare it to be an unlawful exercise of
 25 Defendants’ authority, in contravention of 15 U.S.C. § 1509 and the SCA. Such relief is
 26 warranted under, among other laws, the APA because issuance, service, and enforcement of the
 27 subpoena is “not in accordance with law” and “in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or
 28 limitations.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A), (C).

COUNT II

(U.S. Const. amend. I; Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202;
APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706)

**THE FIRST AMENDMENT BARS THE CBP SUMMONS ABSENT SATISFACTION
OF THE STRINGENT STANDARD FOR UNMASKING ANONYMOUS SPEAKERS**

65. Plaintiff herein incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-64 as if set forth fully herein.

66. Twitter provides a platform for speech for hundreds of millions of users. Its users Tweet about a broad range of topics, from a favorite sports team to the birth of a child to the latest executive order. Many of Twitter’s users choose to express themselves on the platform pseudonymously.

67. The CBP Summons seeks to force Twitter to disclose information that would identify, or likely lead to the identification of, a person (or group of persons) who has chosen to criticize the government pseudonymously and whose speech is potentially valuable since the person—as a self-described public employee—may be in the best position to “know what ails the agenc[y] for which [he or she] work[s].” *Dahlia v. Rodriguez*, 735 F.3d 1060, 1066-1067 (9th Cir. 2013) (quoting *Waters v. Churchill*, 511 U.S. 661, 674 (1994)).

68. Compelled disclosure of the identities of Twitter users who have engaged in pseudonymous speech would chill their exercise of the constitutionally protected right to speak anonymously. Moreover, independent of its users’ rights, Twitter’s actions in providing a platform for the dissemination of its users’ speech—including its decision to permit the publication of pseudonymous speech—is fully protected by the First Amendment. *See, e.g., Marcus v. Search Warrants*, 367 U.S. 717, 731-732 (1961); *cf., e.g., Arkansas Educ. Television Comm’n v. Forbes*, 523 U.S. 666, 674 (1998). When rights of free speech—especially anonymous free speech—are at stake, courts generally permit an organization or business to assert those rights on behalf of its members or customers. *See, e.g., Virginia v. American Booksellers Ass’n, Inc.*, 484 U.S. 383, 392-393 (1988) (permitting booksellers to assert First Amendment rights of buyers of adult-oriented books); *Publius v. Boyer-Vine*, 2017 WL 772146,

at *5 n.5 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 27, 2017) (collecting cases holding that entities such as websites can assert the First Amendment rights of their anonymous users).

69. The decision to speak anonymously or pseudonymously is protected by the First Amendment. As the Supreme Court has explained, “an author’s decision to remain anonymous, like other decisions concerning omissions or additions to the content of a publication, is an aspect of the freedom of speech protected by the First Amendment.” *McIntyre v. Ohio Elections Comm’n*, 514 U.S. 334, 342 (1995). “Anonymity is a shield from the tyranny of the majority. It thus exemplifies the purpose behind the Bill of Rights, and of the First Amendment in particular: to protect unpopular individuals from retaliation—and their ideas from suppression—at the hand of an intolerant society.” *Id.* at 357.

70. A time-honored tradition of pseudonymous free speech on matters of public moment runs deep in the political life of America. “Undoubtedly the most famous pieces of American political advocacy are *The Federalist Papers*, penned by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay, but published under the pseudonym ‘Publius.’” *In re Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d 1168, 1172-73 (9th Cir. 2011) (citing *McIntyre*, 514 U.S. at 344 n.6).

71. The decision to maintain anonymity “may be motivated by fear of economic or official retaliation, by concern about social ostracism, or merely by a desire to preserve as much of one’s privacy as possible.” *Watchtower Bible and Tract Soc’y of New York, Inc. v. Village of Stratton*, 122 S. Ct. 2080, 2089-90 (2002) (internal citation omitted). In the present case, there is reason for concern that the CBP Summons itself may reflect the very sort of official retaliation that can result from speech that criticizes government officials and agencies. Because of the potential for retaliation and ostracism, “[t]here can be no doubt that [requiring identification of pseudonymous authors] would tend to restrict freedom to distribute information and thereby freedom of expression.” *Talley v. California*, 362 U.S. 60, 64-65 (1960); *see also* (*WIN*) *Washington Initiatives Now v. Rippie*, 213 F.3d 1132, 1139 (9th Cir. 2000) (“Depriving individuals of ... anonymity is ... ‘a broad intrusion, discouraging truthful, accurate speech by those unwilling to [disclose their identities] and applying regardless of the character or strength of an individual’s interest in anonymity.’”) (quoting *American Constitutional Law Found., Inc. v.*

1 *Meyer*, 120 F.3d 1092, 1103 (10th Cir. 1997)); *see also Am. Civil Liberties Union of Nevada v.*
 2 *Heller*, 378 F.3d 979, 988 (9th Cir. 2004).

3 72. These First Amendment interests are at their zenith when, as here, the speech at
 4 issue touches on matters of public political life. Political expression “occupies the core of the
 5 protection afforded by the First Amendment” and must be afforded the highest level of First
 6 Amendment protection. *McIntyre*, 514 U.S. at 346; *see also Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214,
 7 218 (1966) (“[T]here is practically universal agreement that a major purpose of that Amendment
 8 was to protect the free discussion of governmental affairs.”); *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*,
 9 376 U.S. 254, 270 (1964) (a case should be considered “against the background of a profound
 10 national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust,
 11 and wide-open, and that it may well include vehement, caustic, and sometimes unpleasantly
 12 sharp attacks on government and public officials.”).

13 73. These protections for anonymous and pseudonymous political speech are as
 14 robust on the Internet as any other mode of speech. The Supreme Court has unequivocally held
 15 that speech on the Internet is entitled to the highest form of First Amendment protection. *See*
 16 *Reno v. ACLU*, 521 U.S. 844, 870 (1997). As the Supreme Court aptly recognized, through the
 17 Internet and interactive services such as Twitter, “any person with a phone line can become a
 18 town crier with a voice that resonates farther than it could from any soapbox. Through the use of
 19 Web pages, mail exploders, and newsgroups, the same individual can become a pamphleteer.”
 20 *Id.*; *see also In re Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d at 1173 (“Although the Internet is the
 21 latest platform for anonymous speech, online speech stands on the same footing as other
 22 speech.”). “As with other forms of expression, the ability to speak anonymously on the Internet
 23 promotes the robust exchange of ideas and allows individuals to express themselves freely
 24 without ‘fear of economic or official retaliation ... [or] concern about social ostracism.’” *In re*
 25 *Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d at 1173 (quoting *McIntyre*, 514 U.S. at 341-342).

26 74. Compelling Twitter to disclose information that would identify or lead to the
 27 identification of the person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account would chill
 28 the expression of particularly valuable political speech—namely speech by current or former

public employees, or others with special insight into operations of our government. The Constitution does not permit a government agency to suppress dissent voiced by current or former employees in their private capacity—especially when such efforts exceed the agency’s statutory authority. “[C]itizens do not surrender their First Amendment rights by accepting public employment.” *Lane v. Franks*, 134 S. Ct. 2369, 2374 (2014). Indeed, “[t]here is a significant First Amendment interest in encouraging public employees, who have special access to facts relevant to debates on issues of public concern, to speak freely and make that information available.” *Johnson v. Multnomah Cty., Or.*, 48 F.3d 420, 424 (9th Cir. 1995). “[S]peech by public employees on subject matter related to their employment holds special value precisely because those employees gain knowledge of matters of public concern through their employment.” *Franks*, 134 S. Ct. at 2378-2381. “It may often be the case that, unless public employees are willing to blow the whistle, government corruption and abuse would persist undetected and undeterred.” *Dahlia*, 735 F.3d at 1066-1067. “The interest at stake is as much the public’s interest in receiving informed opinion as it is the employee’s own right to disseminate it.” *San Diego v. Roe*, 543 U.S. 77, 82 (2004).

75. In light of the compelling First Amendment interests at stake, Defendants must satisfy “stringent standards” before using a subpoena or other compulsory legal process to attempt to unmask the identity of the person(s) who established and use the @ALT_USCIS account. *Mason Awtry v. Glassdoor, Inc.*, 2016 WL 1275566, at *1 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 1, 2016); see *In re Anonymous Online Speakers*, 661 F.3d at 1778 (“[T]he nature of the speech should be a driving force in choosing a standard by which to balance the rights of anonymous speakers” against the interests of those seeking disclosure, with political speech warranting “imposition of a heightened standard”). In particular, Defendants must demonstrate that (1) “there is a real evidentiary basis for believing” that some criminal or civil offense has been committed, *Highfields Capital Mgmt., L.P. v. Doe*, 385 F. Supp. 2d 969, 975-976 (N.D. Cal. 2005); (2) revealing the identity of the speaker(s) is “necessary”—that is, that it is the least restrictive means for investigating that offense, *Glassdoor, Inc.*, 2016 WL 1275566, at *16; *Art of Living Foundation v. Does 1-10*, 2011 WL 5444622, *10 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 9, 2011); (3) Defendants’

1 demand for this information is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech; and (4) the
 2 interests of pursuing that investigation outweigh the important First Amendment rights of Twitter
 3 and its users, *Highfields*, 385 F. Supp. 2d at 975-976. *See also Doe No. 1 v. Cahill*, 884 A.2d
 4 451 (Del. 2005) (preventing disclosure of identity of anonymous online speaker); *Dendrite*
 5 *Intern., Inc. v. Doe No. 3*, 775 A.2d 756 (N.J. Super. 2001) (same). The heightened showing
 6 required for such compulsory legal process is not only supported by substantial judicial
 7 precedent, but also is consistent with the special procedures erected in other contexts to protect
 8 First Amendment rights. *E.g., Makaeff v. Trump Univ., LLC*, 736 F.3d 1180, 1182-1183 (9th
 9 Cir. 2013) (California’s anti-SLAPP statute “establish[es] a summary-judgment-like procedure
 10 available at an early stage of [a] litigation that poses a potential chilling effect on speech-related
 11 activities” (internal quotation omitted)); 28 C.F.R. § 50.10(c)(1) (requiring subordinates in the
 12 Department of Justice to obtain the authorization of the Attorney General to issue a subpoena to
 13 a member of the news media, or to use a subpoena to obtain from a third party communications
 14 records or business records of a member of the news media).

15 76. Defendants have satisfied none of these requirements. To meet the first
 16 requirement, Defendants must “adduce *competent evidence*” that “address[es] *all* of the
 17 inferences of fact that [Defendants] would need to prove in order to [substantiate] at least one of
 18 the” offenses that Defendants believe has been committed. *Highfields Capital Mgmt., L.P.*, 385
 19 F. Supp. at 975. Defendants have fallen far short of this standard, given that they have neither
 20 specified any offense they are purportedly investigating nor presented *any* evidence in support of
 21 any element of any such offense.

22 77. Defendants have likewise failed to demonstrate that unmasking the identity of the
 23 @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) is the least restrictive way to investigate any offense or offenses
 24 that they believe were committed. To establish that the CBP Summons is “necessary,”
 25 Defendants must explain why other investigatory tools they have deployed have fallen short,
 26 leaving Defendants with no choice but to pierce @ALT_USCIS’s pseudonymity. *E.g.*,
 27 *Glassdoor, Inc.*, 2016 WL 1275566, at *16; *Art of Living Foundation*, 2011 WL 5444622, at *10.
 28 Defendants have not come close to making that showing.

78. Defendants’ failure to establish that some offense within the law enforcement purview of CBP was actually committed and that the CBP Summons is necessary to investigate that offense likewise confirms that Defendants have failed to demonstrate that the summons is not motivated by a desire to suppress free speech, or that Defendants’ need to unmask the identity of the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) outweighs the harm that doing so would cause to the First Amendment rights of Twitter and its users.

79. For the foregoing reasons, the Court should enjoin Defendants from taking any further action to enforce the CBP Summons and—absent the requisite showing—declare it to be a violation of the rights of Twitter and its users under the First Amendment. Such relief is warranted under, among other laws, the APA, because issuance, service, and enforcement of the CBP Summons is “contrary to constitutional right.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(B).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

a. Declare that the CBP Summons is unlawful and unenforceable because Defendants issued it for reasons not authorized by 19 U.S.C. § 1509 and because it demands production of documents that Defendants are not authorized to demand or obtain under 19 U.S.C. § 1509, and further declare that the CBP Summons violates the Administrative Procedure Act as not in accordance with law, 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A), and “in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or limitations,” *id.* § 706(2)(C).

b. Declare that the CBP Summons is unlawful and unenforceable because it violates the First Amendment rights of both Twitter and its users by seeking to unmask the identity of one or more anonymous Twitter users voicing criticism of the government on matters of public concern without Defendants having satisfied the stringent standards for piercing a speaker’s anonymity, and further declare that the CBP Summons violates the Administrative Procedure Act as “contrary to constitutional right,” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(B);

c. Issue an order vacating and nullifying the CBP Summons, enjoining Defendants or their agents from enforcing the CBP Summons, and declaring that Twitter has no obligation to comply with the CBP Summons;

- 1 d. Award Plaintiff its costs and reasonable attorney's fees as appropriate; and
2 e. Grant such other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

3
4 Dated: April 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

5 /s/ Mark D. Flanagan

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26
27 *Counsel for Plaintiff Twitter, Inc.*
28

Exhibit A

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

CD 2110-035

Date:

Control Number:

TO	Name:	<i>Trust & Safety - Legal Policy</i>
	Organization:	<i>Twitter Inc</i>
	Fax Number:	[REDACTED]
	Number of Pages (including cover):	<i>4</i>
FROM	Sender:	<i>SA Adam Hoffman</i>
	Originating Location:	<i>DHS Customs and Border Protection</i>
	Return FAX Number:	<i>1-202-344-1258</i>
	Voice Number:	<i>1-202-344-3194</i>
REMARKS	<i>Please complete the Acknowledgment of Receipt and return to Fax # 1-202-344-1258</i>	

Important: This document may contain confidential and sensitive U.S. Government information. Please deliver it immediately only to the intended recipient(s) listed above. The Bureau of Customs and Border Protection has not approved the documents review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient(s).

To (Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code) Twitter, Inc. c/o Trust & Safety - Legal Policy 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103	DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY SUMMONS NOTICE to Appear and/or Produce Records 19 U.S.C. § 1509
<p>Attached is a copy of a summons served by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), both agencies within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to examine records or to request testimony relating to records of your business transactions or affairs which have been made or kept by the person named in Block 1 of the summons.</p> <p>If you object to the examination of these records, you may stay (prevent) examination of the records until a summons enforcement proceeding is commenced in court. Compliance with the summons will be stayed if, not later than the day before the date indicated in Block 2 of the summons, you advise the person summoned (the person named in Block 1), in writing, not to comply with the summons, and you send a copy of that notice by registered or certified mail to the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent who issued the summons at the address shown in Block 6 of the summons.</p> <p>CBP or ICE may begin an action to enforce the summons in the appropriate United States District Court. In such cases, you will be notified and you will have the right to intervene and present your objections before the court. The court will decide whether the person summoned should be required to comply with the summons.</p> <p>If the court issues an order to comply with the summons and the person summoned fails to comply, the court may punish such failure as a contempt of court. Other sanctions may be provided by law.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent before whom the summoned person is required to appear. The CBP Officer's or ICE Special Agent's name and telephone number are given in Block 2 of the summons.</p>	

1. To (Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code) Twitter, Inc. c/o Trust & Safety - Legal Policy 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103	DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY SUMMONS to Appear and/or Produce Records 19 U.S.C. § 1509
Summons Number 2017012	Case Number: 201704511

By the service of this subpoena upon you, **YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED TO:**

- (A) ☐ **APPEAR** before the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officer or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Special Agent named in Block 2 at the place, date, and time indicated to testify and give information.
- (B) ☒ **PRODUCE** the records (including statements, declarations, and other documents) indicated in Block 3 before the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent named in Block 2 at the place, date, and time indicated.


Your testimony and/or production of the indicated records is required in connection with an investigation or inquiry to ascertain the correctness of entries, to determine the liability for duties, taxes, fines, penalties, or forfeitures, and/or to ensure compliance with the laws or regulations administered by CBP and ICE.

Failure to comply with this summons will render you liable to proceedings in a U.S. District Court to enforce compliance with this summons as well as other sanctions.

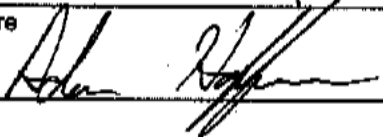
2. (A) CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent before whom you are required to appear Name Adam Hoffman Title Special Agent Address 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Room 8.3 Washington D.C. 20229 Telephone Number 1-202-344-3194	(B) Date 03/13/2017 (C) Time 11:45 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.
3. Records required to be produced for inspection All records regarding the twitter account @ALT_USCIS to include, User names, account login, phone numbers, mailing addresses, and I.P addresses.	

You are requested not to disclose the existence of this summons for an indefinite period of time. Any such disclosure will impede this investigation and thereby interfere with the enforcement of federal law.

Issued under authority of section 509, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by Public law 95-410 (19 U.S.C. § 1509); 44 F.R. 2217; Homeland Security Act of 2002

4. Name of person authorized to serve this summons or any other CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent Special Agent Adam Hoffman	5. Date of issue 03/14/2017 By <u>Stephen P. Caruso</u> (Signature)
	6. Name, title, address, and telephone number of person issuing this summons Name Stephen P. Caruso Title Special Agent in Charge Address 11606 City Hall Promenade Suite 400, Miramar, FL 33025 Telephone Number (954) 843-5068
	If you have any questions regarding this summons, contact the CBP Officer or ICE Special Agent identified in Block 2.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT

A. CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS			
I certify that I served the summons on the front of this form as follows:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I delivered a copy of the summons to the person to whom it was directed, as follows:	Address or Location	Date	
		Time	
		<input type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (For corporations, partnerships, and unincorporated associations which may be sued under a common name) I delivered a copy of the summons to an officer, managing or general agent, or agent authorized to accept service of process as follows:	Address or Location	Date	
		03/13/2017	
	Twitter, Inc. c/o Trust & Safety - Legal Policy 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103	Time	
		11:45 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.	
	Name of person to whom the summons was delivered		
	Faxing to [REDACTED] (attn: Trust & Safety - Legal Policy)		
Signature 			
Title Special Agent		Date 03/13/2017	

B. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT		
I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the summons on the front of this form.		
Signature		
Title	Date	Time <input type="checkbox"/> a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> p.m.

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

TWITTER, INC.

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
(see attachment)

DEFENDANTS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION; JOHN F. KELLY, in his official capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security; KEVIN K. MCALLENAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARUSO, in his official capacity as Special Agent In Charge, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and ADAM HOFFMAN, in his official capacity as Special Agent, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF
THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED
Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
☒ 2 U.S. Government Defendant
☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- | | PTF | DEF | | PTF | DEF |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment Of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC § 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC § 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer w/Disabilities-Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer w/Disabilities-Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty Other: <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee-Conditions of Confinement			

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify) ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation-Transfer ☐ 8 Multidistrict Litigation-Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202; 5 U.S.C. § 706

Brief description of cause:

Summons exceeds scope of authority under 19 U.S.C. § 1509 and violates the First Amendment

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S),

IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☒ SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND ☐ SAN JOSE ☐ EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE: 04/06/2017

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s/ Mark D. Flanagan

CBP FOIA000254

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Save As...

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CIVIL COVER SHEET

Attachment

Part I (c) Attorneys for Plaintiffs (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

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