See attached.

Best Regards,

Assistant Special Agent in Charge
Washington Office
Cellular
Miami Lab

U.S. Customs & Border Protection
Office of Professional Responsibility

Washington, D.C.
MAGA mother fucker. Here we come, we gonna be great again!
15000 more redneck bruh hunger games about to start.

MAGA mother fucker. Here we come. we gonna be great again!

TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP
TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP
TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP
TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP
MAGA
this is me January 21st looking for carlos

15000 more redneck bruh hunger games about to start

MAGA mother fucker. Here we come. We gonna be great again!
Subject: Re: TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP

TRUMP is gonna make us great again! everyone gets a new lifted F250, you get an F250, you get an F250, you get an F250.
Subject: Re: TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP

BPA CBPO

Did you see Killarys face on tv just now? do you think she knows the army of TRUMP and GOD is bout to be unleashed?

Fuck i wanna process and deport HUSSEIN OBAMAER!
Subject: Re: TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP

Date: 

From: 

To: 

40 thousand rednecks strong. America dont know we are about to go after brown wetback take their shit and ship the rats out in containers full of shit
Cleared in CASS. Do you think Brandon Judd will be secretary of state now?
Subject: Re: TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP TRUMP

Date: 

From: 

To: 

Judd will leave the union and get on that private contractor train building the wall and get rich. sucking up to trump and rudy giuliani was no accident
we in the wetback killing business and business will be boom'n. I wanna go to their houses, deport them then go back flat screen tv, you know they all have big ass tv's for the soccer shit.
fuck u you know OFOs will be going back at night after to get ( evidence)
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)
The writer or writers of the ALT Immigration Twitter account spent the day today reviewing the trove of documents that he or she started to publish this morning, documents purported to be from U.S. Border Patrol agents as they celebrated the U.S. Presidential Election results last November 8. A first batch was published on the Twitter account and this website published an article.

The account holders noticed something and discontinued the document dump this afternoon, at first without explanation. In a private communication, an explanation was sent to this evening. “Although some emails we reviewed appeared to be legitimate with correct sourcing, we have doubts to the authenticity of much of the rest of the material.” That statement is on the record.

Some of the emails may have been—or may not have been—t rest of the material.” That statement is on the record.

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(b) (7)(E)
(b) (7)(E)
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FYSA

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:37 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents

(b) (5)

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

Senior Attorney (Enforcement & Operations)/EPC
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Washington, D.C. 20229

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

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:35 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents

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

Can you give me a call when you get a second. (b) (5)

Best Regards,

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

Assistant Special Agent In Charge

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

Washington Office
Miami Office
Cellular
From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:20 PM
To: JOINT INTAKE <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)>
Subject: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents <(b) (5)>

Senior Attorney (Enforcement & Operations)/EPC
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Washington, D.C. 20229

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From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:36 PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: RE: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents (b)(5)  

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) 
should be calling you shortly.  
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) 

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:30 PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: RE: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents (b)(5)  

(b)(5)  
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  

(b)(5)  
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  

Senior Attorney (Enforcement & Operations)/EPC  
Office of Chief Counsel  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Washington, D.C. 20229  
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  

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From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:56 PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: RE: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents (b)(5)  
Hey: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Can you give me a call when you get a second (b)(5)  

Best Regards,
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
Washington Office
Miami Office
Cellular
Miami Lab

U.S. Customs & Border Protection
Office of Professional Responsibility

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:20 PM
To: JOIN INTAKE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents (b) (5)

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:36 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents

FYSA

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Senior Attorney (Enforcement & Operations)/EPC
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Washington, D.C. 20229

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

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Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:56 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents

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

Can you give me a call when you get a second. (b) (5)

Best Regards,

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

Assistant Special Agent in Charge
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:20 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: @alt_USCIS twitter feed releasing CBP documents

Senior Attorney (Enforcement & Operations)/EPC
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Washington, D.C. 20229

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A review of my files shows that we received the screen shots on 03/03 that show the emails were possibly bogus. However, I was asked to see if we could determine if there were any CBP employees named within the twitter feeds for @ALT_USCIS. I was on leave on the 13th through the 20th and returned on the 21st.

Hi

I have some questions, are you available to talk. On a deadline
The complaint is attached. Please let me know whether you’d like me to forward to LA or SF.

Thank you.

Attorney (Ethics, Labor and Employment)
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Washington, D.C. 20229

This communication, along with any attachments, may contain information that is legally privileged, confidential, or exempt from disclosure, and is not for distribution, dissemination, use, forwarding, or copying by anyone other than the intended recipient. Please consult the sender by telephone or return email before disclosing any information included in this email. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your computer.

Thank you for you call just now regarding the CBP Summons addressed to Twitter. Here is a copy of the complaint that we filed on behalf of Twitter earlier this afternoon in federal court in San Francisco.

Regards,

WilmerHale
Washington, DC 20006 USA
This email message and any attachments are being sent by Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, are confidential, and may be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately—by replying to this message or by sending an email to postmaster@wilmerhale.com—and destroy all copies of this message and any attachments. Thank you.

For more information about WilmerHale, please visit us at http://www.wilmerhale.com.
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
named @ALT_USCIS, to express public criticism of the Department and the current
Administration. The rights of free speech afforded Twitter’s users and Twitter itself under the
First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution include a right to disseminate such anonymous or
pseudonymous political speech. In these circumstances, Defendants may not compel Twitter to
disclose information regarding the real identities of these users without first demonstrating 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 First Amendment rights of Twitter and its users. But Defendants have
not come close to making any of those showings. And even if Defendants could otherwise
demonstrate an appropriate basis for impairing the First Amendment interests of Twitter and its
users, they certainly may not do so using the particular investigatory tool employed here—which
Congress authorized solely to ensure compliance with federal laws concerning imported
merchandise—because it is apparent that whatever investigation Defendants are conducting here
does not pertain to imported merchandise.

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

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

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

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

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.

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.
11. This Court is authorized to award the requested declaratory and injunctive relief under the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201-2202 and the APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706.

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.

PARTIES

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.”

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.

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

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

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

26. These self-designated alternative agency accounts have tended to challenge views of the Administration and its policies, often (but not always) focusing on the policies of the particular agency for which the account was named. The styles of expression emanating from these accounts vary greatly.
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.

![Tweet from @alt_labor](https://example.com/tweet.png)

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.” 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.

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

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

40. The account has also frequently tweeted disagreement with the current Administration’s policies on subjects other than immigration—expressing opposition to efforts in
Congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act and urging Democrats to resist confirmation of
Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch, among many other issues.

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

![Tweet](https://example.com/tweet)

BREAKING: DACA will not be touched this year. New email within USCIS. DACA unchanged and no immediate plans to make changes. #daca

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

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

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

46. The CBP Summons states generically that “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.” Beyond that boilerplate language, the CBP Summons provides no justification for issuance of a summons targeting the @ALT_USCIS account.

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

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

49. On March 28, 2017, counsel for Twitter contacted Defendant Hoffman to raise concerns regarding the request not to provide notice to the user and the legal basis for seeking
information about the identified account using a summons issued under 19 U.S.C. § 1509.

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

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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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.


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

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

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

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

77. Defendants have likewise failed to demonstrate that unmasking the identity of the @ALT_USCIS accountholder(s) is the least restrictive way to investigate any offense or offenses that they believe were committed. To establish that the CBP Summons is “necessary,” Defendants must explain why other investigatory tools they have deployed have fallen short, leaving Defendants with no choice but to pierce @ALT_USCIS’s pseudonymity. E.g., Glassdoor, Inc, 2016 WL 1275566, at *16; Art of Living Foundation, 2011 WL 5444622, at *10. 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;
d. Award Plaintiff its costs and reasonable attorney’s fees as appropriate; and

e. Grant such other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: April 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark D. Flanagan
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Facsimile: (650) 858-6100

Counsel for Plaintiff Twitter, Inc.
Exhibit A
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TO</th>
<th>FROM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name: Trust &amp; Safety - Legal Policy</td>
<td>Sender: SA Adam Hoffman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization: Twitter Inc</td>
<td>Originating Location: DHS Customs and Border Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fax Number:</td>
<td>Return FAX Number: 1-202-344-1258</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Pages (including cover): 4</td>
<td>Voice Number: 1-202-344-3194</td>
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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, Suits 900
San Francisco, CA 94103

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SUMMONS NOTICE

to Appear and/or Produce Records
19 U.S.C. § 1509

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY</th>
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<tr>
<td>SUMMONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>to Appear and/or Produce Records</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 U.S.C. § 1509</td>
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Summons Number: 2017012

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adam Hoffman</td>
<td>03/13/2017</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Agent</td>
<td>1300 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Room 6.3 Washington D.C. 20229</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Telephone Number | 1-202-344-3194 |

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.


### 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

[Signature]

### 6. Name, title, address, and telephone number of person issuing this summons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stephen P. Caruso</td>
<td>Special Agent in Charge</td>
<td>11606 City Hall Promenade, Suite 400, Miramar, FL 33025</td>
<td>(954) 643-5068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

DHS Form 3115 (6/09)
**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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address or Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twitter, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c/o Trust &amp; Safety - Legal Policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1355 Market Street, Suite 900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco, CA 94103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of person to whom the summons was delivered:

Faxing to [Redacted] (attn: Trust & Safety - Legal Policy)

Signature:

[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:

[Signature]

Title

Date

Time  \(\square \) a.m.  \(\square \) p.m.
# Civil Cover Sheet

**I. (a) PLAINTIFFS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TWITTER, INC.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff**

| San Francisco, CA |

**(c) Attorneys (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; REYNIE MCCRELLAN, in his official capacity as Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; STEPHEN P. CARDOSO, 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 |

| Washington, D.C. |

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION**

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plaintiff</th>
<th>Defendant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Government</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(U.S. Government Not a Party)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IV. NATURE OF SUIT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTRACT</th>
<th>Torts</th>
<th>PERSONAL INJURY</th>
<th>PERSONAL INJURY</th>
<th>PENALTY</th>
<th>BANKRUPTCY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110 Insurance</td>
<td>310 Airplane</td>
<td>365 Personal Injury—Product Liability</td>
<td>625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120 Marine</td>
<td>315 Airplane Product Liability</td>
<td>367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>130 Miller Act</td>
<td>320 Assault, Libel &amp; Slander</td>
<td>368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability</td>
<td>622 Appeal 28 USC § 158</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>140 Negotiable Instrument</td>
<td>330 Federal Employers’ Liability</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>150 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran’s Benefits</td>
<td>340 Marine Product Liability</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>151 Medicare Act</td>
<td>350 Motor Vehicle</td>
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<tr>
<td>152 Recovery of Defeated Subtitle Loan (Excludes Veterans)</td>
<td>355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran’s Benefits</td>
<td>360 Other Personal Injury</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160 Stockholders’ Suits</td>
<td>365 Personal Injury—Medical Malpractice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>190 Other Contract</td>
<td>385 Property Damage</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>195 Contract Product Liability</td>
<td>380 Property Damage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>196 Franchise</td>
<td>382 Personal Injury—Medical Malpractice</td>
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<tr>
<td>310 Land Condemnation</td>
<td>440 Other Civil Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>220 Foreclosure</td>
<td>441 Voting</td>
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<tr>
<td>230 Real Estate &amp; Ejectment</td>
<td>442 Employment</td>
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<tr>
<td>240 Torts to Land</td>
<td>443 Housing’s Accommodations</td>
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<tr>
<td>245 Tort Product Liability</td>
<td>444 Arra w/Disabilities Employment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>290 All Other Real Property</td>
<td>446 Arra w/Disabilities—Employment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>448 Education</td>
<td>Habeas Corpus:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>463 Alien Detainee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>510 Motions to Vacate Sentence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>530 General</td>
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<td></td>
<td>533 Death Penalty</td>
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<td>540 Mandamus &amp; Other</td>
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<td></td>
<td>555 Prison Condition</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>560 Civil Detainee—Conditions of Confinement</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**V. ORIGIN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Proceeding</th>
<th>Removed from State Court</th>
<th>Remanded from Appellate Court</th>
<th>Reinstated or Reopened</th>
<th>Transferred from Another District (specify)</th>
<th>Multidistrict Litigation—Transfer</th>
<th>Multidistrict Litigation—Direct File</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

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

| 28 USC § 2201-2202 | 28 USC § 1331 |

Brief description of cause:

Summons exceeds scope of authority under 19 USC § 1509 and violates the First Amendment

**VIII. 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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**IF ANY (See instructions):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND</th>
<th>SAN JOSE</th>
<th>EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**DATE:**

| 04/06/2017 |

**SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD:**

| /s/ Mark D. Flanagan |

**DOCKET NUMBER:**

| CBP F01A000428 |
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)
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HALE AND DORR LLP
1875 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
seth.waxman@wilmerhale.com
Telephone: (202) 663-6800

Patrick J. Carome (pro hac vice pending)
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1875 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
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
The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Wyden:

This is in response to your April 7, 2017 correspondence regarding the summons U.S. Customs and
Border Protection (CBP) issued to Twitter, Inc. on March 14, 2017. My staff reached out to your
office on April 7, 2017, to provide information regarding the summons, and I had the opportunity to
speak with your Trade Counsel. 

The investigation which prompted the issuance of the summons was initiated by CBP’s Office of
Professional Responsibility’s (OPR) Cyber Investigations group, in conjunction with CBP’s Special
Agent in Charge, Miami, FL, and with assistance from the Department of Homeland Security’s
(DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) Cyber. It was focused on potential internal misconduct
which is OPR’s mandate. On April 7, 2017, DHS-OIG assumed full investigative jurisdiction over
this investigation. On Friday, April 7, 2017, CBP withdrew the summons and as a result, Twitter
voluntarily dismissed all claims, resolving the litigation.

Thank you again for your interest in this important matter. We stand ready to brief and discuss this
issue further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Kevin K. McAleenan
Acting Commissioner

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
April 7, 2017

The Honorable John F. Kelly  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Kelly:

We are writing to request clarification about U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s (CBP’s) internal protocols for ordering that private companies divulge their customers’ names, addresses, account holder details, or any other personally identifiable information.

Recent news reports allege that a Special Agent in Charge at CBP ordered Twitter to reveal the identity of a Twitter user who operates a parody account called @ALT_USCIS. That Twitter user frequently criticizes the government’s policies, specifically those policies in place at DHS and CBP. In order to better understand how and why CBP requests such information, please answer the following questions:

1. Under what statutory authority may CBP pursue agency investigations of private companies, their customers, or individuals? If DHS believes such CBP investigations may rely on multiple provisions of law, please list all that apply.

2. How many requests has CBP made of private companies for their customers’ personally identifiable information or any other information that might otherwise lead CBP to the identity of any of those companies’ customers?

3. Is there any official established policy at DHS or CBP that provides guidance to officials within CBP on when and whether such requests should be made? If so, please provide a reference to that specific policy and if not, please indicate how such decisions are made.

4. Prior to requesting that private companies divulge their customers’ personally identifiable information or other details about their customers, does CBP pursue any other courses of action to attempt to complete their investigation without making such a request? If so, please detail what courses of action CBP typically takes prior to making such a request.

5. Is there any circumstance in which CBP would consider non-criminal speech a sole factor in whether to request that a private company divulge any of their customers’ personally identifiable information or any other information that might otherwise lead CBP to the identity of any of those customers?
6. Are there instances outside of an official criminal or civil investigation in which CBP would request that a private company provide a customer’s personally identifiable information or any other information that might otherwise lead CBP to the identity of that customer? If so, please provide examples of such instances.

7. Do DHS and CBP believe that an appropriate court order should be sought prior to requesting that a private company unmask the identity of one of their customers?

CBP must ensure that any properly authorized investigation does not disregard the rights to free speech enshrined in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Greater clarification as to how DHS and CBP approach such investigations will help the public understand your Department’s level of commitment to those fundamental principles. We look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Cory Gardner
U.S. Senator

Mike Lee
U.S. Senator
FYSA- she also sent me this when we were discussing the document...
Not sure if you had this, but wanted you on the same page
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)
From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 2:58 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: "alt" case
Attachments: CBP Internal Corruption.docx

See attached.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 8:17 PM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: "alt" case

I looped in the 2 chief counsel attorneys (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). I inquired if they communicated with twitter after their meeting with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:50:57 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: "alt" case

All

Prepare the briefing document tonight but do not conduct any further investigative activity. The OIG is assuming this case for investigation.

Erick
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)
Thank you Sir.

Here is a starting point for you both. It looks like the deadline is the 9am intel briefing.

Erick

<BEGIN>
Subject: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

Importance: High

Thank you for your help in advance.
FW: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance
From: Deputy Director - Field Operations (Acting) | Headquarters - Washington, D.C.
U.S. Customs and Border Protection | Office of Professional Responsibility | Investigative Operations Division
Cellular: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | Electronic Mail: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

To: Deputy Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Subject: RE: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

Thanks for the call—please take a look at this draft and let me know if it looks accurate/appropriate. Thanks!

From: [OPR] (OPR)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 12:41 AM
To: [b (6), (b) (7)(C)]
Subject: FW: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

This document, and any attachment(s), may contain information which is law enforcement sensitive, attorney-client privileged, attorney work-product, or U.S. Government information. It is not for release, review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient. Please consult with the CBP Office of Chief Counsel before disclosing any information contained in this message or any attachment(s).
Here’s my rough draft: I know it needs to be trimmed down quite a bit, but I wanted to ensure you were aware of as many details as possible.

I will continue first thing in the AM (which is already today); I’ll be taking the first train in.

Here is a starting point for you both. It looks like the deadline is the 9am intel briefing.

Erick
Subject: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance
Importance: High

Thank you for your help in advance.

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 12:09 AM
Subject: RE: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

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

Here is a starting point for you both. It looks like the deadline is the 9am intel briefing.

Erick

<BEGIN>
Subject: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

Importance: High

Thank you for your help in advance.
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From:
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:46 AM
To: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Subject: RE: Letter to the Honorable Ron Wyden
Attachments:
Response to Ranking Member Ron Wyden - April 2017 (DRAFT OCC OPR 041017).docx

Thanks this morning to come up with another approach—please see attached and let me know if you guys have any final concerns before I send to OCA. (b) (6), (b) (7)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Deputy Associate Chief Counsel (Enforcement and Operations)
Office of Chief Counsel
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Desk: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Unclassified Email: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
JWICS: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This document, and any attachment(s), may contain information which is law enforcement sensitive, attorney-client privileged, attorney work-product, or U.S. Government information. It is not for release, review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient. Please consult with the CBP Office of Chief Counsel before disclosing any information contained in this message or any attachment(s).

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:58 AM
Subject: Letter to the Honorable Ron Wyden
Importance: High

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

A few edits from the version I sent last night.

Erick

(b) (5)

1

CBP FOIA000451
(b) (5)
AC / DAC

(b) (5)

Erick

From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:39 AM
To: KARISCH, RODOLFO; FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Subject: RE: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance
Attachments: OPR response letter to Sen Ron Wyden.docx; Response to Ranking Member Ron Wyden - April 2017 (0 edits 041017).docx

AC / DAC

Just received (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) version for review and approval.

Confirmed (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (OCA) will finalize the letter.

Deputy Director - Field Operations (Acting) | Headquarters - Washington, D.C.
U.S. Customs and Border Protection | Office of Professional Responsibility | Investigative Operations Division
Cellular (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | Electronic Mail (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:47 AM
Subject: RE: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

Thanks for the call—please take a look at this draft and let me know if it looks accurate/appropriate. Thanks.
This document, and any attachment(s), may contain information which is law enforcement sensitive, attorney-client privileged, attorney work-product, or U.S. Government information. It is not for release, review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient. Please consult with the CBP Office of Chief Counsel before disclosing any information contained in this message or any attachment(s).
Thanks—I will take a look now.

This document, and any attachment[s], may contain information which is law enforcement sensitive, attorney-client privileged, attorney work-product, or U.S. Government information. It is not for release, review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient. Please consult with the CBP Office of Chief Counsel before disclosing any information contained in this message or any attachment[s].

Here’s my rough draft: I know it needs to be trimmed down quite a bit, but I wanted to ensure you were aware of as many details as possible.

I will continue first thing in the AM (which is already today); I’ll be taking the first train in.
From: FUNN, ERICK K (OPR)
Sent: Sunday, April 09, 2017 9:09 PM
Subject: RE: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance

Here is a starting point for you both. It looks like the deadline is the 9am intel briefing.
From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ALK, SCOTT K (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HIGHSMITH, ANNMARIE (OCC) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KARISCH, RODOLFO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance
Importance: High
Thank you for your help in advance.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Here’s my rough draft. I know it needs to be trimmed down quite a bit, but I wanted to ensure you were aware of as many details as possible.

I will continue first thing in the AM (which is already today); I’ll be taking the first train in.
Here is a starting point for you both. It looks like the deadline is the 9am intel briefing.
Thank you for your help in advance.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (5)
Ok I will take a look now to see if I have any input...

This document, and any attachment(s), may contain information which is law enforcement sensitive, attorney-client privileged, attorney work-product, or U.S. Government information. It is not for release, review, retransmission, dissemination or use by anyone other than the intended recipient. Please consult with the CBP Office of Chief Counsel before disclosing any information contained in this message or any attachment(s).

Here’s my rough draft: I know it needs to be trimmed down quite a bit, but I wanted to ensure you were aware of as many details as possible.

I will continue first thing in the AM (which is already today); I’ll be taking the first train in.
Here is a starting point for you both. It looks like the deadline is the 9am intel briefing.

Erick

<BEGIN>
From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, April 9, 2017 4:30 PM
To: COUREY, MARC BENNETT (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) FUNN, ERICK K (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FLANAGAN, PATRICK S

Subject: C1 letter to Senator Wyden, Request Assistance
Importance: High

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Thank you for your help in advance.

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