

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0550

March 23, 2022

Mr. Parag Agrawal
Chief Executive Officer
1355 Market Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Record and Document Preservation Requirements

Dear Mr. Agrawal,

I write to request your organization immediately initiate document preservation for all materials relating to questions, inquiry, conversation, strategy, and response to the media reporting of the Hunter Biden laptop and/or its contents that first appeared in the New York Post on October 14, 2020.¹

Material preservation is essential for Congress to conduct a comprehensive fact-finding investigation into actions by technology companies, media organization and political allies to suppress information and prevent public awareness of matters involving the Biden Family.

At 5 am October 14, 2020, the New York Post detailed the following:

Hunter Biden introduced his father, then-Vice President Joe Biden, to a top executive at a Ukrainian energy firm less than a year before the elder Biden pressured government officials in Ukraine into firing a prosecutor who was investigating the company, according to emails obtained by The Post.

The never-before-revealed meeting is mentioned in a message of appreciation that Vadym Pozharskyi, an adviser to the board of Burisma, allegedly sent Hunter Biden on April 17, 2015, about a year after Hunter joined the Burisma board at a reported salary of up to \$50,000 a month.

“Dear Hunter, thank you for inviting me to DC and giving an opportunity to meet your father and spent [sic] some time together. It’s realty [sic] an honor and pleasure,” the email reads.

¹ Morris, Emma-Jo and Gabrielle Fonrouge. New York Post, October 14, 2020, <https://nypost.com/2020/10/14/email-reveals-how-hunter-biden-introduced-ukrainian-biz-man-to-dad/>

An earlier email from May 2014 also shows Pozharskyi, reportedly Burisma's No. 3 exec, asking Hunter for "advice on how you could use your influence" on the company's behalf.

The blockbuster correspondence — which flies in the face of Joe Biden's claim that he's "never spoken to my son about his overseas business dealings" — is contained in a massive trove of data recovered from a laptop computer.

That same day, the Post detailed action by Twitter:

The Post's primary Twitter account was locked as of 2:20 p.m. Wednesday because its articles about the messages obtained from Biden's laptop broke the social network's rules against "distribution of hacked material," according to an email The Post received from Twitter.

Twitter also blocked users from sharing the link to The Post article indicating that Hunter Biden introduced Joe Biden to the Ukrainian businessman, calling the link "potentially harmful."

"In line with our Hacked Materials Policy, as well as our approach to blocking URLs, we are taking action to block any links to or images of the material in question on Twitter," a Twitter spokesperson told The Post in a statement.

The company said it took the step because of the lack of authoritative reporting on where the materials included in The Post's story originated.

To this day, there is no evidence of "hacking" in the New York Post's reporting. Further, the contents of the Post's reporting were confirmed by the New York Times on March 17, 2022.²

A full and complete fact-finding investigation must examine Twitter's numerous actions that impacted public disclosure and free speech. First, Twitter demanded that six tweets linking to Post stories be deleted. When the Post refused, Mr. Dorsey said: "We required them to delete the tweet and then they could tweet it again. They didn't take that action, so we corrected it for them." This led to the New York Post being denied access to its Twitter account.

Furthermore, when Mr. Dorsey testified before the House Energy and Commerce Committee in March of 2021, he stated it was a "total mistake" to prevent users from sharing the Post's Hunter Biden stories: "It was literally just a process error. This was not against them in any particular way." In no way can Twitter's action be fairly seen as "not against them in any particular way."

Please understand that this preservation request should be construed as an instruction to preserve all documents, communications, and other information, including electronic information and metadata, that is or may be potentially responsive to this congressional inquiry. This includes electronic messages about the determined topic that are sent using official and personal accounts

² Garger, Kenneth. "Hunter Biden's infamous laptop confirmed in New York Times report," March 17, 2022. <https://nypost.com/2022/03/17/hunter-bidens-infamous-laptop-confirmed-in-new-york-times-report/>

or devices, including records created using text messages, phone-based message applications, or encryption software. For purposes of this request, “preserve” includes to take reasonable steps to prevent the partial or full destruction, alteration, testing, deletion, shredding, incineration, wiping, relocation, migration, theft, mutation, or negligent or reckless handling that could render the information incomplete or inaccessible. This includes preserving all compilations of documents that have already been gathered in response to other government or litigation requests, even if copies of individual documents or materials may still exist elsewhere in the organization.

Please notify relevant current and former employees, officials, contractors, subcontractors, and consultants who may have access to relevant information to preserve and retain this information.

Thank you for your cooperation in this critical oversight matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darrell Issa', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darrell Issa
Member of Congress