

# Exhibit 253

AFL Lawsuit Uncovers More Damning CDC Documents  
Revealing Twitter’s Partner Support Portal” for  
COVID-19 related censorship and the U.S. Government’s  
Advancement of “Social Inoculation”  
Against the “Infodemic”

<https://aflegal.org/afl-lawsuit-uncovers-more-damning-cdc-documents-revealing-twitters-partner-support-portal-for-covid-19-related-censorship-and-the-u-s-governments-advancement-of/>



# AFL Lawsuit Uncovers More Damning CDC Documents Revealing Twitter's "Partner Support Portal" for COVID-19 Related Censorship and the U.S. Government's Advancement of "Social Inoculation" Against the "Infodemic"

December 6, 2022



**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Today, America First Legal (AFL) released the **fourth set** of shocking documents obtained from litigation against the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) revealing further concrete evidence of collusion between the CDC and social media companies to censor free speech and silence the public square under the government's label of "misinformation."



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employees and other “stakeholders” to submit posts that it would remove or flag as “misinformation” on its platform. Documents obtained by AFL show Twitter enrolling one government employee, through their personal Twitter account, into this Portal. We know from other **publicly related documents**, that Facebook has copied this approach for election-related censorship.

This production also reveals that the U.S. government was actively working to “socially inoculate” –or brainwashing–the public against anything that threatened its narrative. It did so by using aligned Big Tech corporations to monitor and manipulate users for the purposes of censoring unapproved information and pushing government propaganda. For example, Facebook sent written materials to the CDC in which it bragged about censoring more than *sixteen million* “pieces of content” containing opinions or information the U.S. government wanted suppressed.

Finally, the documents reveal the CDC was “collaborating with UNICEF, WHO and IFCN member and leading civil society organization Mafindo” to mitigate “disinformation.” Mafindo is a **Facebook third-party fact-checking partner** based in Indonesia that is funded by **Google**.

**What is clear is that the United States government, Big Tech platforms, and international organizations were fully entangled in an intricate campaign to violate the First Amendment, to silence the American people, and to censor dissenting views.**

AFL’s **first release** of documents revealed the explicit collusion between the CDC and Big Tech to censor what the Biden Administration deemed “misinformation” and push covert COVID-19 propaganda. AFL’s **second release** built the evidentiary record showing that CDC specifically sent Facebook and Twitter-specific posts to take down, throttle, censor, or flag. AFL’s **third release** revealed that the CDC’s mask guidance policies for school children were driven by political polling by liberal dark money group The Kaiser Family Foundation rather than science.

**Read through as we highlight the most damning findings from this fourth production of government documents:**

**GOOGLE HOSTS “TRUSTED MEDIA SUMMIT” FEATURING CDC EMPLOYEES:**



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her to the APAC "Trusted Media Summit." (pg. 404)

**From:** Irene Jay Liu [REDACTED] (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2021 2:04 AM  
**To:** Wilhelm, Elisabeth (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) [REDACTED] (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Re: Invitation to speak: APAC Trusted Media Summit 2020

Hi Elisabeth,

How are you? We are back preparing for the APAC Trusted Media Summit and I wanted to check in and see if there were any updates to the program you were recruiting for last year? Or something related to lessons learned?

We'd love to have you back to speak on the program and learnings, or if you have suggestions about who you think would be a great speaker (or panel), we'd love your advice!

Many thanks!  
Irene

- CDC's Vaccine Confidence Strategist then emailed the event planner for Google's APAC Trusted Media Summit, noting her excitement over being invited to what she referred to as "the coolest misinformation fighting speakeasy." (pg. 404)

On Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 9:25 PM Wilhelm, Elisabeth (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) [REDACTED] (b)(6) wrote:  
Yes please!

Thanks everyone!

I feel like I got entry into the coolest misinformation fighting speakeasy. :D

- She was then invited to the summit to give a keynote addressing how the CDC was working with WHO and other international organizations to address a so-called "infodemic" and using "social inoculation" to mitigate it. (pg. 425)



COVID-19, misinformation, immunization attitudes and acceptance of a future SARS-COV-2 vaccine. We will be using human-centered design approaches to co-develop a social inoculation intervention designed to increase self-efficacy in identifying, addressing

and mitigating the infodemic."

## **TWITTER'S "PARTNER SUPPORT PORTAL" FOR ONLINE CENSORSHIP:**

- On May 10, 2021, Todd O'Boyle at Twitter recommended Carol Crawford at CDC to enroll in Twitter's Partner Support Portal, which he described as "the best way to get a spreadsheet like this reviewed." (pg. 183)
- He also indicated that Tweets sent by Carol had either already been "actioned" and if they had not, he would ask the "team to review."



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cc: Sam Hixley (b)(6); Christopher Lewitzke (b)(6); Jennifer Shopkorn; ADAMS/ADCOM FED (b)(6); Sokler, Lynn (DC/OD/DAL) (b)(6); Subject: Re: COVID-19 Information

Hi Carol -

Thanks for sharing this - agree these are important trends to note; a quick scan shows that at least some of these have been previously reviewed and actioned. I will now ask the team to review the others.

Carol, remind me: did you have a chance to enroll in our Partner Support Portal? In the future, that's the best way to get a spreadsheet like this reviewed.

Best,

TO

- On May 11, 2021, the CDC official enrolled her personal Twitter account into Twitter's Partner Support Portal, which allowed "a special, expedited reporting flow in the Twitter Help Center." (pg. 182)



Subject: **AMERICA  
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Your account works fine. I'll proceed with processing your enrollment.

On Tue, May 11, 2021 at 8:50 AM Crawford, Carol Y. (CDC/OD/OADC) <(b)(6)> wrote:

Does it need to be the CDC account or my personal? If CDC, I'm going to have someone on staff enroll instead of me.

If personal is OK, it is: @ (b)(6)

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**From:** Todd O'Boyle <(b)(6)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 8:51 PM  
**To:** Crawford, Carol Y. (CDC/OD/OADC) <(b)(6)>  
**Cc:** Sam Huxley <(b)(6)>; Christopher Lewitzke <(b)(6)>; Jennifer Shopkorn (CENSUS/ADCOM FED (CDC/OD/OADC) <(b)(6)>); Sokler, Lynn  
**Subject:** Re: COVID Misinformation

Hi Carol -

I'd be glad to enroll you in our Partner Support Portal, which allows you a special, expedited reporting flow in the Twitter Help Center. It worked very well with Census colleagues last year.

You need a Twitter account (and to be logged into that account) to access the Partner Support Portal. What account (or accounts) would you like me to enroll?

Best,

TO

## FACEBOOK/META FINDINGS:

- Included in this release of documents is a Facebook slide deck that appears to show Facebook acting as an editor and content moderator, boasting its extensive



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COVID-19 [including] Claims that COVID-19 is no more dangerous ... than the common flu or cold." (pg. 46)

## We Remove

Claims about the **existence or severity of COVID-19**. Acknowledging the existence and understanding the severity of COVID-19 is foundational to keeping people safe and aware of the dangers of this public health emergency. We remove claims that deny the existence of the disease or undermine the severity of COVID-19. This includes:

- Claims that COVID-19 is no more dangerous to people than the common flu or cold.
- Facebook uses incredibly vague and nebulous standards to judge information (pg. 50).

## False Claims about Covid Vaccines

- Claims about the availability or existence of COVID-19 vaccines
- Claims about the safety or serious side effects of COVID-19 vaccines
- Claims about the efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines
- Claims about how the COVID-19 vaccine was developed or its ingredients
- Claims involving conspiracy theories about a COVID-19 vaccine or vaccination program
- In its "Widely Debunked Vaccine Hoaxes" section, Facebook even claims that "natural immunity is safer than vaccine acquired immunity" despite 1) widespread





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## Widely Debunked Vaccine Hoaxes

For the duration of the COVID public health emergency, we remove content that repeats other false health information, primarily about vaccines, that are widely debunked by leading health organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The goal of this policy is to combat misinformation about vaccinations and diseases, which if believed could result in reduced vaccinations and harm public health and safety.

- Vaccines cause autism
  - Vaccines cause Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
  - Vaccines cause the disease against which they are meant to protect, or cause the person to be more likely to get the disease
  - Vaccines or their ingredients are deadly, toxic, poisonous, harmful, or dangerous
  - Natural immunity is safer than vaccine acquired immunity
  - It is dangerous to get several vaccines in a short period of time, even if that timing is medically recommended
  - Vaccines are not effective to prevent the disease against which they purport to protect
  - Acquiring measles cannot cause death (requires additional information and/or context)
  - Vitamin C is as effective as vaccines in preventing diseases for which vaccines exist.
- Finally, Facebook boasts of removing over 16 Million posts on Facebook and Instagram, including over 2 million between February and May 19, 2021. (pg. 53):

Since the pandemic began, we've removed more than **16 million pieces of content** on Facebook and Instagram for violating our COVID-19 and vaccine policies.

This includes **more 2 million** pieces of content removed since February alone, when we expanded our COVID and vaccine misinformation policies.

**Statement from Gene Hamilton, America First Legal Vice-President and General Counsel:**



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*between the federal government and Big Tech is yet another layer of connections, conspiracy, and collaboration between power centers that seek to suppress information from the American people. We are proud to play a leading role in fighting for the rights of all Americans and revealing this vital information to the American people,"* said Gene Hamilton.

Read the full production [here](#).

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To schedule an engagement with America First Legal, please email [info@athospr.com](mailto:info@athospr.com).

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