

United States Senate

October 14, 2020

Jack Dorsey
CEO, Twitter, Inc.
1355 Market St. #900
San Francisco, CA, 94103

Dear Mr. Dorsey:

This morning, the *New York Post*—the newspaper with the fourth highest daily circulation in the United States—published an article reporting that “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.” Like many reports on political scandals published in major new outlets, the *Post*’s report is based on leaked e-mail correspondence. And if these emails are authentic, they would demonstrate definitively that now-candidate Biden lied when he said in 2016 that he had “never spoken to [his] son about his overseas business dealings.”

Twitter has apparently decided to preemptively censor this report. Twitter is not only prohibiting users from sharing this story on their own accounts, it is prohibiting the *New York Post* itself from posting its own content. Twitter well-knows its incredible ability to influence public dialogue by promoting some stories while suppressing others, and it has plainly decided that the American people should not be seeing or discussing this particular story, which could significantly influence voters’ views of candidate Biden.

But Twitter’s censorship of this story is quite hypocritical, given its willingness to allow users to share less-well-sourced reporting critical of other candidates for public office. Accordingly, this can only be seen as an obvious and transparent attempt by Twitter to influence the upcoming Presidential election.

Please provide the following information immediately to the Subcommittee on The Constitution:

1. Who made the decision to prevent users from sharing this story? On what basis did they make that decision?
2. When was the *New York Post* made aware of Twitter’s decision and what process was afforded to it to contest the censorship?
3. Has Twitter prevented the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, or any other major news outlet from posting its own reporting? If so, when?
4. If Twitter did not prevent *Buzzfeed* from sharing its reporting on the Steele dossier or the *New York Times* reporting on President Trump’s tax returns, please explain a politically neutral principle for why the reporting is treated differently?

5. Has Twitter ever restricted a story published by a major news outlet about Donald J. Trump during his four years as President of the United States?
6. Have Twitter or any of its employees involved in the decision to censor this reporting been in contact in any capacity with the Biden-Harris campaign or any of its representatives regarding this reporting or the allegations contained therein?

Regards,



Ted Cruz
Chairman, Constitution Subcommittee
Senate Judiciary Committee