

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4338**

January 20, 2023

John Stankey  
Chief Executive Officer  
AT&T  
208 S. Akard Street  
Dallas, TX 75202

William Morrow  
Chief Executive Officer  
DIRECTV  
2230 E. Imperial Hwy  
El Segundo, CA 90245

Jon Winkelried  
Chief Executive Officer  
TPG Capital  
301 Commerce Street  
Ste 3300  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Messrs. Stankey, Morrow, and Winkelried:

It has recently been revealed that Congressional Democrats and the White House coordinated closely with private companies to de-platform, de-monetize, or otherwise limit the reach of viewpoints they oppose and classify them as “misinformation.” As members of the House Republican Conference, we are deeply concerned about this un-democratic assault on free speech.

The actions of AT&T and DIRECTV are of particular concern. On February 22, 2021, Democratic members of the Energy and Commerce Committee wrote to AT&T and DIRECTV encouraging the censorship of conservative television networks One America News Network (OANN), Fox News, and NEWSMAX. Given the jurisdiction of the Energy and Commerce Committee over your companies' business interests, it is reasonable to assume you took this letter seriously and complied with these demands. Indeed, less than one year later, on January 14, 2022, AT&T and DIRECTV notified OANN that you would no longer carry its programming, a separation that became final on April 5, 2022.

It is our understanding that DIRECTV - still majority-owned by AT&T and minority-owned and managed by TPG Capital - is moving to de-platform NEWSMAX by denying it cable fees on a fair and equitable basis. It is our understanding that DIRECTV carries 11 liberal news and information channels including Vice Media. The same individuals who sit on DIRECTV's board of directors also sit on Vice Media's board of directors. Coincidentally, based on Kagan estimates, Vice Media appears to receive higher fees than NEWSMAX is requesting despite having a fraction of the audience.

Taken together, these two actions lead us to believe that DIRECTV, one of the nation's largest Multichannel Video Programming Distributors, is actively working to limit conservative viewpoints on its system. This is extremely concerning for Members of Congress because it suppresses political discourse and hampers our ability to connect with our constituents. If Newsmax is removed from DIRECTV, in less than a year House Republicans will have lost two of the three cable news channels that reach conservative voters on a platform that primarily serves conservative-leaning areas of the country.

Congress intends to conduct extensive oversight on the extent to which House Democrats and officials in federal offices colluded with private companies to limit, restrict, and circumvent First Amendment rights. These investigations will not be limited to social media companies.

As a preliminary step, we are asking you to respond to our concerns outlined in this letter. With this response, we are asking you provide to us the ratings for each of the networks noted above, with comparison data, including set-top box data, on all the other networks that are carried by DIRECTV, and the corresponding fees paid by your company to these networks.

Sincerely,



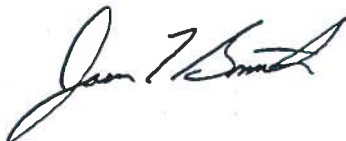
Wesley P. Hunt  
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress



James Comer  
Member of Congress



Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress



Ken Buck  
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.  
Member of Congress



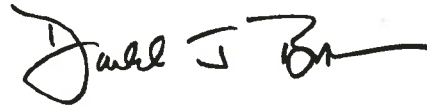
Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



Brian Babin  
Member of Congress



Alex X. Mooney  
Member of Congress



Don Bacon  
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs  
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz  
Member of Congress



Brian Mast  
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud  
Member of Congress



Tim Burchett  
Member of Congress



Dan Meuser  
Member of Congress



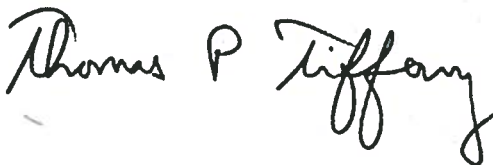
W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz  
Member of Congress



Jeff Van Drew  
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress



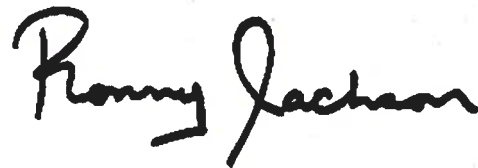
Byron Donalds  
Member of Congress



Jake Ellzey  
Member of Congress



Bob Good  
Member of Congress



Ronny L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace  
Member of Congress



Lisa McClain  
Member of Congress



Troy E. Nehls  
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress



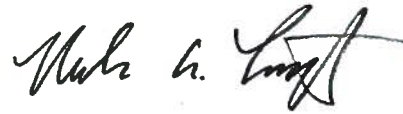
Maria Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress



Mike Flood  
Member of Congress



Monica De La Cruz  
Member of Congress



Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress



Michael Lawler  
Member of Congress



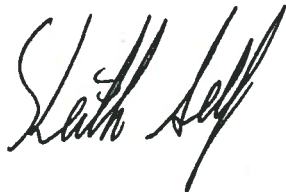
Anna Paulina Luna  
Member of Congress



Rich McCormick, MD, MBA  
Member of Congress



Max Miller  
Member of Congress



Keith Self  
Member of Congress