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## New evidence proves Biden administration pressured Facebook and Twitter to censor Americans

Author in federal lawsuit submits communications between Biden officials and Big Tech showing coordination to remove messages and social media profiles

SAN FRANCISCO (Oct. 21, 2022) — Yesterday, author and data analyst Justin Hart filed new evidence in his federal lawsuit against Facebook, Twitter, and U.S. President Joe Biden. The evidence documents collusion between social media companies and the federal government to silence Americans online on the Internet — a public forum the Supreme Court has determined is the most important place for the exchange of ideas. Hart sued the social media giants and Biden administration in August 2021 for violating his First Amendment right to free speech for working together to monitor, flag, suspend, and delete social media posts it deems "misinformation."

Hart is represented by attorneys from the Liberty Justice Center, a national public-interest law firm that fights to protect fundamental constitutional rights. Since filing the federal lawsuit, Liberty Justice Center, other nonprofit law firms, and state attorneys general have uncovered communications and documents proving collusion between Big Tech and Biden administration officials at every level. Hart's attorneys have submitted this evidence gained through public records requests with an amended complaint.

"New evidence confirms what we have long known: our federal government is working directly with Big Tech to silence Americans," said **Daniel Suhr, managing attorney at the Liberty Justice Center**. "The government is directing private companies to violate Americans' free speech rights. Censorship may have started with what they call 'COVID misinformation,' but it opens the door for any administration to define any message they don't like as 'misinformation.' This is unconscionable and illegal."

Justin Hart is the author of *Gone Viral: How COVID Drove the World Insane* and founder of RationalGround.com. Over the last two years, his Facebook and Twitter accounts were suspended multiple times for sharing data and scientific research about COVID. At the time Hart's statements and valid public health messages were censored, the facts were deemed "misinformation" by the Biden administration and Big Tech. However, much of what he shared about the detrimental effects of masking, lockdowns, and school closures are now widely accepted as true.

"The depth of the collusion between Big Government and Big Tech is alarming and reveals a sinister plot to undermine the rights of Americans by fully removing certain ideas and people from public discourse," said **Justin Hart**, **author and plaintiff**. "The government does not have a monopoly on truth. By directing

and pressuring social media companies to censor Americans, our government is silencing critical discussions and, most importantly, violating our most sacred rights."

New evidence proves that prior to Justin Hart's deplatforming in July 2021, the federal government and Big Tech coordinated regularly:

- Facebook offered the federal government, and it accepted, \$15 million in free COVID-19 public health advertising to promote its public health message on the Internet.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Biden administration officials
  coordinated its COVID "misinformation" response with Facebook and Twitter by holding regular
  "be-on-the-lookout" meetings and by providing examples of the types of messages that
  contradicted the government's message and it wanted censored.
- Facebook used proprietary tools to monitor social media posts that contradicted the federal government's COVID-19 narrative and reported such posts to the federal government.
- Facebook adjusted its policies and algorithms to align with misinformation policies set by the federal government.

The lawsuit, *Hart v. Facebook*, was filed Aug. 31, 2021, and is being heard in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division. Case filings are available here: <a href="https://libertyjusticecenter.org/media/social-media-censorship">https://libertyjusticecenter.org/media/social-media-censorship</a>

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**The Liberty Justice Center** is a nonprofit, public-interest litigation center that fights to protect fundamental constitutional rights. The Liberty Justice Center is best known for its 2018 U.S. Supreme Court victory in *Janus v. AFSCME*. Learn more about the Liberty Justice Center at **Liberty JusticeCenter.org**.