



The Twitter Files Thread, In A Way More Readable Format

we fixed the difficult-to-read text screenshots and embedded all the tweets in order—read it from start to finish here

Brandon Gorrell
Dec 2 126 9 ...

Elon Musk ✓
@elonmusk ...

Here we go!! 🎆 🎆

Matt Taibbi ✓ @mtaibbi · 3h
 1. Thread: THE TWITTER FILES
[Show this thread](#)


3:44 PM · Dec 2, 2022

48.2K Retweets 4,625 Quote Tweets 192.4K Likes

Tonight, [Matt Taibbi](#) broke a potentially huge political corruption story by publishing a detailed account of the censoring of the NY Post’s Hunter Biden laptop article. But he didn’t place it at the New York Times, Washington Post, or any other media outlet. He tweeted it.

If you’ve been following the story, this isn’t that surprising: Elon’s [made it clear](#) he wants Twitter to become the “most accurate source of information in the world.” And, true to his word, he broke a big story on the platform today.

MJ @morganisawizard
 me refreshing @mtaibbi’s feed every 5 seconds
 my finger:



12:28 AM · Dec 3, 2022
 578 Likes 18 Retweets

We’re all for that mission. But tonight, the experience of reading Taibbi’s scoop was suboptimal and headache-y. It seemed to take forever for him to update the thread with the next tweet, and on mobile, you had to open the horizontally-aligned text

screenshots, zoom in, then scroll back and forth to read the content.

Here's the thread in its entirety, with its text screenshots enlarged (we ran them through an image-to-text translator, copied the text into a vertically-aligned Notes window, and screenshotted them) so that it's easier to read. Enjoy.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

1. Thread: THE TWITTER FILES

11:34 PM · Dec 2, 2022

122,810 Likes 44,523 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

2. What you're about to read is the first installment in a series, based upon thousands of internal documents obtained by sources at Twitter.

11:39 PM · Dec 2, 2022

51,108 Likes 7,977 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

3. The "Twitter Files" tell an incredible story from inside one of the world's largest and most influential social media platforms. It is a Frankensteinian tale of a human-built mechanism grown out the control of its designer.

11:41 PM · Dec 2, 2022

48,844 Likes 7,390 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

4. Twitter in its conception was a brilliant tool for enabling instant mass communication, making a true real-time global conversation possible for the first time.

11:43 PM · Dec 2, 2022

41,270 Likes 5,808 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

5. In an early conception, Twitter more than lived up to its mission statement, giving people "the power to create and share ideas and information instantly, without barriers."

11:45 PM · Dec 2, 2022

40,131 Likes 5,676 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

6. As time progressed, however, the company was slowly forced to add those barriers. Some of the first tools for controlling speech were designed to combat the likes of spam and financial fraudsters.

11:46 PM · Dec 2, 2022

42,451 Likes 6,125 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

7. Slowly, over time, Twitter staff and executives began to find more and more uses for these tools. Outsiders began petitioning the company to manipulate speech as well: first a little, then more often, then constantly.

11:47 PM · Dec 2, 2022

49,559 Likes 8,347 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

8. By 2020, requests from connected actors to delete tweets were routine. One executive would write to another: "More to review from the Biden team." The reply would come back: "Handled."

On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 5:39 PM @twitter.com> wrote:

More to review from the Biden team:

<https://twitter.com/jared87983561/status/1320159679700373504>
<https://twitter.com/let3481/status/1320154175481626624>
https://twitter.com/JSJX_2/status/1320152593742614529
<https://twitter.com/ozwenya/status/1320151083692388352>
<https://twitter.com/GuySquiggs/status/1320149308625145856>

Thanks all.

On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 8:28 PM @twitter.com> wrote:

handled these.

11:52 PM · Dec 2, 2022

66,459 Likes 19,148 Retweets

Screenshot text:

On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 5:39 PM
[redacted]@twitter.com> wrote:

More to review from the Biden team:

<https://twitter.com/jared87983561/status/1320159679700373504> <https://twitter.com/let3481/status/1320154175481626624>
https://twitter.com/JSJX_2/status/1320152593742614529 <https://twitter.com/ozwenya/status/1320151083692388352> <https://twitter.com/GuySquiggs/status/1320149308625145856>

Thanks all.

On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 8:28 PM
[redacted]@twitter.com> wrote:

handled these.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

9. Celebrities and unknowns alike could be removed or reviewed at the behest of a political party:

On Sun, Oct 25, 2020 at 9:58 AM [redacted]@twitter.com> wrote:

I grabbed the first one under SI... defer to Safety on the high profile second one

On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 6:54 PM [redacted]@twitter.com> wrote:

An additional report from DNC.
https://twitter.com/stephen_liuhuan/status/1320153232006676484
<https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/1320171179504644098>

11:56 PM · Dec 2, 2022

52,935 Likes 12,432 Retweets

Screenshot text:

**On Sun, Oct 25, 2020 at 9:58 AM
 [redacted]@twitter.com> wrote:**

I grabbed the first one under SI... defer to Safety on the high profile second one

**On Sat, Oct 24, 2020 at 6:54 PM
 [redacted]@twitter.com> wrote:**


An additional report from DNC.
https://twitter.com/stephen_liuhuan/status/1320153232006676484
<https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/1320171179504644098>

 **Matt Taibbi**
 @mtaibbi

10. Both parties had access to these tools. For instance, in 2020, requests from both the Trump White House and the Biden campaign were received and honored. However:

11:58 PM · Dec 2, 2022

41,990 Likes 7,497 Retweets

 **Matt Taibbi**
 @mtaibbi


11. This system wasn't balanced. It was based on contacts. Because Twitter was and is overwhelmingly staffed by people of one political orientation, there were more channels, more ways to complain, open to the left (well, Democrats) than the right.
opensecrets.org/orgs/twitter/s...

Contributions by Party of Recipient

Cycle	Total	Democrats	% to Dems	Republicans	% to Repubs
2022	\$185,267	\$165,969	99.73%	\$451	0.27%
2020	\$968,749	\$909,431	98.47%	\$14,137	1.53%
2018	\$309,394	\$295,722	96.38%	\$11,100	3.62%

12:02 AM · Dec 3, 2022

51,597 Likes 12,492 Retweets


 **Matt Taibbi**

 @mtaibbi

12. The resulting slant in content moderation decisions is visible in the documents you're about to read. However, it's also the assessment of multiple current and former high-level executives.

12:04 AM · Dec 3, 2022


42,511 Likes 7,229 Retweets

 Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

Okay, there was more throat-clearing about the process, but screw it, let's jump forward

12:05 AM · Dec 3, 2022

36,997 Likes 4,659 Retweets


 Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

16. The Twitter Files, Part One: How and Why Twitter Blocked the Hunter Biden Laptop Story

12:06 AM · Dec 3, 2022

42,504 Likes 9,277 Retweets

[Don't worry, he did go from 12. to 16. here — we didn't miss any of the thread]

 Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

17. On October 14, 2020, the New York Post published BIDEN SECRET EMAILS, an expose based on the contents of Hunter Biden's abandoned laptop:




nypost.com

Smoking-gun email reveals how Hunter Biden introduced Ukrainian businessman to VP dad

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 ...

12:07 AM · Dec 3, 2022

45,390 Likes 11,836 Retweets

 Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

18. Twitter took extraordinary steps to suppress the story, removing links and posting warnings that it may be "unsafe." They even blocked its transmission via direct message, a tool hitherto reserved for extreme cases, e.g. child pornography.

12:08 AM · Dec 3, 2022

49,213 Likes 12,272 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

19. White House spokeswoman Kayleigh McEnany was locked out of her account for tweeting about the story, prompting a furious letter from Trump campaign staffer Mike Hahn, who seethed: "At least pretend to care for the next 20 days."

From: Mike Hahn <mhahn@donaldtrump.com>
Date: Wed, Oct 14, 2020 at 7:19 PM
Subject: URGENT: Kayleigh McEnany
To: cstrom@twitter.com <cstrom@twitter.com>, Lauren Devoll <ldevoll@twitter.com>, Twitter Government & Politics <gov@twitter.com>

Kayleigh McEnany (@KayleighMcEnany) has been locked out from her account for simply talking about the New York Post story.

All she did was cite the story and firsthand reporting that has been reported by other outlets and not disputed by the Biden campaign.

I need an answer immediately on when/how she will be unlocked.

I also don't appreciate how nobody on this team called me regarding the news that you'll be censoring news articles.

Like I said, at least pretend to care for the next 20 days.

12:09 AM · Dec 3, 2022

52,747 Likes 12,327 Retweets

Screenshot text:

From: Mike Hahn <mhahn@donaldtrump.com>

Date: Wed, Oct 14, 2020 at 7:19 PM

Subject: URGENT: Kayleigh McEnany

To: cstrom@twitter.com <cstrom@twitter.com>, Lauren Devoll <ldevoll@twitter.com>, Twitter Government & Politics <gov@twitter.com>

Kayleigh McEnany (@Kayleigh McEnany) has been locked out from her account for simply talking about the New York Post story.

All she did was cite the story and firsthand reporting that has been reported by other outlets and not disputed by the Biden campaign.

I need an answer immediately on when/how she will be unlocked.

I also don't appreciate how nobody on this team called me regarding the news that you'll be censoring news articles. Like I said, at least pretend to care for the next 20 days.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

20. This led public policy executive Caroline Strom to send out a polite WTF query. Several employees noted that there was tension between the comms/policy teams, who had little/less control over moderation, and the safety/trust teams:

On Thu, Oct 15, 2020 at 7:24 AM Caroline Strom <cstrom@twitter.com> wrote:

Hi team! Are you able to take a closer look here?

Thank you!

12:12 AM · Dec 3, 2022

35,074 Likes 6,624 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

21. Strom's note returned the answer that the laptop story had been removed for violation of the company's "hacked materials" policy: <https://t.co/EdTa2xbXn1>

Hi Caroline,

Thanks for reaching out to us.

Per checking, the user was bounced by Site Integrity for violating our Hacked Materials policy. Adding them here for further insights and guidance.

Thanks,

Elaine Ong Sotto | @elaineongsotto
Ops Analyst, Global Escalations Team

12:13 AM · Dec 3, 2022

36,186 Likes 7,366 Retweets

Screenshot text:

Hi Caroline,

Thanks for reaching out to us.

Per checking, the user was bounced by Site Integrity for violating our Hacked Materials policy. Adding them here for further insights and guidance.

Thanks,

Elaine Ong Sotto | @elaineongsotto
Ops Analyst, Global Escalations Team



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

22. Although several sources recalled hearing about a "general" warning from federal law enforcement that summer about possible foreign hacks, there's no evidence - that I've seen - of any government involvement in the laptop story. In fact, that might have been the problem...

12:18 AM · Dec 3, 2022

36,299 Likes 6,523 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

23. The decision was made at the highest levels of the company, but without the knowledge of CEO Jack Dorsey, with former head of legal, policy and trust Vijaya Gadde playing a key role.

12:19 AM · Dec 3, 2022

42,139 Likes 9,042 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

24. "They just freelanced it," is how one former employee characterized the decision. "Hacking was the excuse, but within a few hours, pretty much everyone realized that wasn't going to hold. But no one had the guts to reverse it."

12:19 AM · Dec 3, 2022

41,122 Likes 8,278 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

25. You can see the confusion in the following lengthy exchange, which ends up including Gadde and former Trust and safety chief Yoel Roth. Comms official Trenton Kennedy writes, "I'm struggling to understand the policy basis for marking this as unsafe":

2020-10-14 NYPost Hunter Biden Laptop Article - PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL
our teams continue to investigate the origins of the material included in the reporting.

Trenton Kennedy
I'm struggling to understand the policy basis for marking this as unsafe, and I think the best explainability argument for this externally would be that we're waiting to understand if this story is the result of hacked materials. We'll face hard questions on this if we don't have some kind of solid reasoning for marking the link unsafe.

Trenton Kennedy
cc: @yoel@twitter.com @rsommers@twitter.com @iplunkett@twitter.com @krosborough@twitter.com

Katie Rosborough
Will we also mark similar stories as unsafe?

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-emails-senate-homeland-security-committee-investigating-hard-drive-laptop>

12:21 AM · Dec 3, 2022

37,983 Likes 8,377 Retweets

Screenshot text:

2020-10-14 NYPost Hunter Biden Laptop Article - PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

our teams continue to investigate the origins of the material included in the reporting.

Trenton Kennedy

I'm struggling to understand the policy basis for marking this as unsafe, and I think the best explainability argument for this externally would be that we're waiting to understand if this story is the result of hacked materials. We'll face hard questions on this if we don't have some kind of solid reasoning for marking the link unsafe.

Trenton Kennedy

cc: @yoel@twitter.com @rsommers@twitter.com @iplunkett@twitter.com @krosborough@twitter.com

Katie Rosborough

Will we also mark similar stories as unsafe?

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-emails-senate-homeland-security-committee-investigating-hard-drive-laptop>



Screenshot text:

Yoel Roth

The policy basis is hacked materials - though, as discussed, this is an emerging situation where the facts remain unclear. Given the SEVERE risks here and lessons of 2016, we're erring on the side of including a warning and preventing this content from being amplified.

Vijaya Gadde

What is the warning that will come up?

Yoel Roth

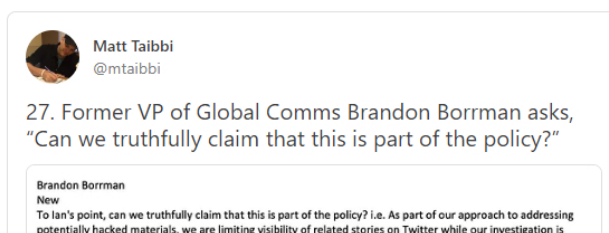
New

When you click the link, you'll see the generic unsafe URL message (references spam, malware, and violations of the Twitter Rules) - not ideal, but it's the only thing we have

Ian Plunkett

New

Whatever we do in the comms (this will become a bias claim for Jack pre-hearing immediately), let's make it clear we're proactively but cautiously interpreting this through the lens of our hacked materials policy and allowing the link with a warning and significant reduction of spread.



ongoing.

12:26 AM · Dec 3, 2022

33,386 Likes 6,490 Retweets

Screenshot text:

Brandon Borrman

New

To Ian's point, can we truthfully claim that this is part of the policy? i.e. As part of our approach to addressing potentially hacked materials, we are limiting visibility of related stories on Twitter while our investigation is ongoing.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

28. To which former Deputy General Counsel Jim Baker again seems to advise staying the non-course, because "caution is warranted":

Jim Baker

New

[PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL]

I support the conclusion that we need more facts to assess whether the materials were hacked. At this stage, however, it is reasonable for us to assume that they may have been and that caution is warranted. There are some facts that indicate that the materials may have been hacked, while there are others indicating that the computer was either abandoned and/or the owner consented to allow the repair shop to access it for at least some purposes. We simply need more information.

12:28 AM · Dec 3, 2022

31,623 Likes 6,304 Retweets

Screenshot text:

Jim Baker

New

[PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL]

I support the conclusion that we need more facts to assess whether the materials were hacked. At this stage, however, it is reasonable for us to assume that they may have been and that caution is warranted. There are some facts that indicate that the materials may have been hacked, while there are others indicating that the computer was either abandoned and/or the owner consented to allow the repair shop to access it for at least some purposes. We simply need more information.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

29. A fundamental problem with tech companies and content moderation: many people in charge of speech know/care little about speech, and have to be told the basics by outsiders. To wit:

12:30 AM · Dec 3, 2022

33,708 Likes 6,003 Retweets

31,595 Likes 6,293 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

30. In one humorous exchange on day 1, Democratic congressman Ro Khanna reaches out to Gadde to gently suggest she hop on the phone to talk about the "backlash re speech." Khanna was the only Democratic official I could find in the files who expressed concern.

On Wed, Oct 14, 2020 at 6:21 PM Ro Khanna <rokhanna1@gmail.com> wrote:

Generating huge backlash on hill re speech. Happy to chat if you're up for it.

Best, Ro

Sent from my iPhone

12:31 AM · Dec 3, 2022

31,595 Likes 6,293 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

Gadde replies quickly, immediately diving into the weeds of Twitter policy, unaware Khanna is more worried about the Bill of Rights:

Hi Congressman Khanna,
Thank you for reaching out and we appreciate the heads up. We put out a clarifying thread of Tweets earlier this evening to explain our policy around the posting of private information and linking directly to hacked materials. The press secretary's account was not permanently suspended - we requested that she delete the tweet containing material that is in violation of our rules and her account is restricted until she complies.

I'd be happy to jump on the phone if helpful. My team in DC (Jessica and Lauren) are copied here and also available to discuss.

Thanks,
Vijaya

12:32 AM · Dec 3, 2022

30,195 Likes 6,102 Retweets

Screenshot text:

Hi Congressman Khanna,

Thank you for reaching out and we appreciate the heads up. We put out a clarifying thread of Tweets earlier this evening to explain our policy around the posting of private information and linking directly to hacked materials. The press secretary's account was not permanently suspended - we requested that she delete the tweet containing material that is in violation of our rules and her account is restricted until she complies.

I'd be happy to jump on the phone if helpful. My team in DC (Jessica and Lauren) are copied here and also available to discuss.

Thanks,
Vijaya



Matt Taibbi

 @mtaibbi

32. Khanna tries to reroute the conversation to the First Amendment, mention of which is generally hard to find in the files:

Ro Khanna to Vijaya Gadde Ro Khanna [rokhanna1@gmail.com Hope you're well Vijaya! But this seems a violation of the 1st Amendment principles. If there is a hack of classified information or other information that could expose a serious war crime and the NYT was to publish it, I think the NYT should have that right. A journalist should not be held accountable for the illegal actions of the source unless they actively aided the hack. So to restrict the distribution of that material, especially regarding a Presidential candidate, seems not in the keeping of the principles of NYT v Sullivan. I say this as a total Biden partisan and convinced he didn't do anything wrong. But the story now has become more about censorship than relatively innocuous emails and it's become a bigger deal than it would have been.
It also is now leading to serious efforts to curtail section 230—many of which would have been a mistake.

I believe Twitter itself should curtail what it recommends or puts in trending news, and your policy against QAnon groups is all good. It's a hard balance.

But in the heat of a Presidential campaign, restricting dissemination of newspaper articles (even if NY Post is far right) seems like it will invite more backlash than it will do good.

Please keep this communication between just us and Jack and no need to cc the team or forward to them.

Just wanted to offer my two cents.

12:34 AM · Dec 3, 2022

36,048 Likes 7,829 Retweets

Screenshot text:

Ro Khanna to Vijaya Gadde Ro Khanna [rokhanna1@gmail.com

Hope you're well Vijaya! But this seems a violation of the 1st Amendment principles. If there is a hack of classified information or other information that could expose a serious war crime and the NYT was to publish it, I think the NYT should have that right. A journalist should not be held accountable for the illegal actions of the source unless they actively aided the hack. So to restrict the distribution of that material, especially regarding a Presidential candidate, seems not in the keeping of the principles of NYT v Sullivan. I say this as a total Biden partisan and convinced he didn't do anything wrong. But the story now has become more about censorship than relatively innocuous emails and it's become a bigger deal than it would have been.

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Just wanted to offer my two cents.

 Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

33. Within a day, head of Public Policy Lauren Culbertson receives a ghastly letter/report from Carl Szabo of the research firm NetChoice, which had already polled 12 members of congress – 9 Rs and 3 Democrats, from “the House Judiciary Committee to Rep. Judy Chu’s office.”

From: Carl M. Szabo <cszabo@netchoice.org>
Date: Thu, Oct 15, 2020 at 2:15 PM
Subject: Recap of Hill Convo About Biden & "Censorship"
To: Lauren Culbertson <lculbertson@twitter.com>
Cc: Steve DelBianco <sdelbianco@netchoice.org>, Robert Winterton <RWinterton@netchoice.org>, Chris Marchese <CMarchese@netchoice.org>

Lauren,

Yesterday, NetChoice's Chris Marchese met informally with 9 Republican and 3 Democratic House staffers to gather intel about FB and Twitter and the NY Post story. The staffers hail from the House Judiciary Committee to Rep. Judy Chu's office.

12:38 AM · Dec 3, 2022

12:30 AM · Dec 3, 2022

28,848 Likes 5,726 Retweets

Screenshot text:

From: Carl M. Szabo <cszabo@netchoice.org>

Date: Thu, Oct 15, 2020 at 2:15 PM

Subject: Recap of Hill Convos About Biden & "Censorship"

To: Lauren Culbertson <lculbertson@twitter.com>

Cc: Steve DelBianco <sdelbianco@netchoice.org>, Robert Winterton

<RWinterton@netchoice.org>, Chris Marchese <CMarchese@netchoice.org>

Lauren,

Yesterday, NetChoice's Chris Marchese met informally with 9 Republican and 3 Democratic House staffers to gather intel about FB and Twitter and the NY Post story. The staffers hail from the House Judiciary Committee to Rep. Judy Chu's office.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

34.NetChoice lets Twitter know a "blood bath" awaits in upcoming Hill hearings, with members saying it's a "tipping point," complaining tech has "grown so big that they can't even regulate themselves, so government may need to intervene."

High level take away - every Republican said "this is a tipping point. It's just too much." And both Democrats and the Republicans were angry.

12:42 AM · Dec 3, 2022

26,924 Likes 5,517 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

35.Szabo reports to Twitter that some Hill figures are characterizing the laptop story as "tech's Access Hollywood moment":

When asked just how bad this situation is, one staffer said: "it's tech's Access Hollywood moment and it has no Hillary to hide behind." Others were more blunt: "tech is screwed and rightfully so."

12:43 AM · Dec 3, 2022

27,279 Likes 5,482 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

36.Twitter files continued:
"THE FIRST AMENDMENT ISN'T ABSOLUTE"

Szabo's letter contains chilling passages relaying Democratic lawmakers' attitudes. They want "more" moderation, and as for the Bill of Rights, it's "not absolute"

The Democrats, meanwhile, complained that the companies are inept: They let conservatives muddy the water and make the Biden campaign look corrupt even though Biden is innocent. They linked this to Hillary Clinton's email scandal: she did nothing wrong but because the press wouldn't let the story go, it became a scandal far out of proportion. In their mind, social media is doing the same thing: it doesn't moderate enough harmful content so when it does, like it did yesterday, it becomes a story. If the companies moderated more, conservatives wouldn't even think to use social media for disinformation, misinformation, or otherwise.

The Democrats were in agreement: social media needs to moderate more because they're corrupting democracy and making all "truth" relative. When pushed on how the government might insist on that, consistent with the First Amendment, they demurred: "the First Amendment isn't absolute."

12:45 AM · Dec 3, 2022

41,417 Likes 13,198 Retweets

Screenshot text:

The Democrats, meanwhile, complained that the companies are inept: They let conservatives muddy the water and make the Biden campaign look corrupt even though Biden is innocent. They linked this to Hillary Clinton's email scandal: she did nothing wrong but because the press wouldn't let the story go, it became a scandal far out of proportion. In their mind, social media is doing the same thing: it doesn't moderate enough harmful content so when it does, like it did yesterday, it becomes a story. If the companies moderated more, conservatives wouldn't even think to use social media for disinformation, misinformation, or otherwise.

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Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

An amazing subplot of the Twitter/Hunter Biden laptop affair was how much was done without the knowledge of CEO Jack Dorsey, and how long it took for the situation to get "unfucked" (as one ex-employee put it) even after Dorsey jumped in.

12:55 AM · Dec 3, 2022

34,960 Likes 7,040 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

There are multiple instances in the files of Dorsey intervening to question suspensions and other moderation actions, for accounts across the political spectrum

1:10 AM · Dec 3, 2022

27,250 Likes 4,629 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

The problem with the "hacked materials" ruling, several sources said, was that this normally required an official/law enforcement finding of a hack. But such a finding never appears throughout what one executive describes as a "whirlwind" 24-hour, company-wide mess.

Hi Owls,
As you probably are aware, Twitter actioned Tweets yesterday relating to two NY Post articles that were tweeted out that allegedly included pictures and screenshots of emails from a laptop that allegedly belonged to Hunter Biden, Presidential candidate Joe Biden's son. Our teams made the determination that the materials fall under our Hacked Materials Policy, in addition to sharing personal information, so links were actioned. As you may know, this existing policy framework was launched in 2018 to mitigate real-time harm based on hack and leak scenarios coming out of the 2016 election.

Several high-profile accounts, including press outlets, were impacted by this decision and were actioned. Unfortunately, the language that was provided in the product may have created confusion (indicating the links were spam or unsafe.) Consequently, Twitter Safety explained the reasoning here in a thread.

This morning, the NY Post tweeted additional links to stories that contained pictures and screenshots of emails that we also actioned. The teams determined that a Trump campaign Tweet that previously was actioned for containing PPI would not be re-actioned when it was re-tweeted without the PPI blurred.

I know there are questions that you probably have and are also probably getting a lot of incoming from stakeholders - governmental, academic, civil society, etc. The last 24 hours certainly has been a whirlwind with lots of curves and unknowns and we fully expect that the issues surrounding this matter will continue to swirl in the coming days so thank you to everyone for your patience.

1:30 AM · Dec 3, 2022

19,309 Likes 4,377 Retweets

Screenshot text:

Hi Owls, As you probably are aware, Twitter actioned Tweets yesterday relating to two NY Post articles that were tweeted out that allegedly included pictures and screenshots of emails from a laptop that allegedly belonged to Hunter Biden, Presidential candidate Joe Biden's son. Our teams made the determination that the materials fall under our Hacked Materials Policy, in addition to sharing personal information, so links were actioned. As you may know, this existing policy framework was launched in 2018 to mitigate real-time harm based on hack and leak scenarios coming out of the 2016 election.

Several high-profile accounts, including press outlets, were impacted by this decision and were actioned. Unfortunately, the language that was provided in the product may have created confusion (indicating the links were spam or unsafe.) Consequently, Twitter Safety explained the reasoning here in a thread.

This morning, the NY Post tweeted additional links to stories that contained pictures and screenshots of emails that we also actioned. The teams determined that a Trump campaign Tweet that previously was actioned for containing PPI would not be re-actioned when it was re-tweeted without the PPI blurred.

I know there are questions that you probably have and are also probably getting a lot of incoming from stakeholders - governmental, academic, civil society, etc. The last 24 hours certainly has been a whirlwind with lots of curves and unknowns and we fully expect that the issues surrounding this matter will continue to swirl in the coming days so thank you to everyone for your patience.



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

It's been a whirlwind 96 hours for me, too. There is much

It's been a whirlwind 30 hours for me, too. There is much more to come, including answers to questions about issues like shadow-banning, boosting, follower counts, the fate of various individual accounts, and more. These issues are not limited to the political right.

1:35 AM · Dec 3, 2022

31,171 Likes 5,429 Retweets



Matt Taibbi
@mtaibbi

Good night, everyone. Thanks to all those who picked up the phone in the last few days.

1:37 AM · Dec 3, 2022

35,439 Likes 2,634 Retweets

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Bobby Lee Writes The Nature of your Reality Dec 2 Liked by Brandon Gorrell, Mike Solana

elon needs to teach Taibbi how to properly make a thread lol. nicely formatted Solana

17 Reply Collapse ...

1 reply by Mike Solana



Chris Coffman Writes Positive Space Dec 2 Liked by Brandon Gorrell, Mike Solana

Well done--this is so much easier to read than it was on Twitter. Somebody needs to tell Matt to use my mate Louie's ThreadX Tweeting app

11 Reply Collapse ...

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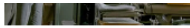
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MIKE SOLANA DEC 22, 2020 125 2

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