

2016

## BY EMAIL

Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Northern Virginia Region
9325 Discovery Blvd.
Manassas, Virginia 20109
@ic.fbi.gov

Re: Response to Grand-Jury Subpoena Directed at Open Whisper Systems

Dear Special Agent

This letter responds to the 2016 grand-jury subpoena directed at Open Whisper Systems ("OWS") that seeks "subscriber account information" for two phone numbers. The American Civil Liberties Union represents OWS for purposes of responding to the subpoena. Please direct future correspondence about this matter to undersigned counsel.

Only one of the two listed phone numbers is associated with a Signal account:

Open Whisper Systems has no record of an account associated with the second listed phone number, and therefore has no records to provide as to that number.

The only information responsive to the subpoena held by OWS is the time of account creation and the date of the last connection to Signal servers for account Consistent with the Electronic Communications Privacy Act ("ECPA"), 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(2), OWS is providing this information in response to the subpoena. See Attachment A.

Although OWS does not have, and therefore cannot produce, other categories of information listed in the subpoena, OWS notes that not all of those types of information can be appropriately requested with a subpoena. Under ECPA, the government can use a subpoena to compel disclosure of information from an electronic communications service provider only if that information falls within the categories listed at 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(2). For other types of information, the government must obtain a court order or search warrant. OWS objects to use of the grand-jury subpoena to request information beyond what is authorized in Section 2703(c)(2).

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION NATIONAL OFFICE 125 BROAD STREET. 18TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10004-2400 TV212.549.2500 WWW.ACLU.ORG

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS SUSAN N. HERMAN PRESIDENT

ANTHONY D. ROMERO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROBERT B. REMAR TREASURER OWS also has concerns about the scope of the nondisclosure order included with the subpoena. *See* Order, Case No. 2016 E.D. Va.). Undersigned counsel expects to communicate separately with the U.S. Attorney's Office about this issue.

Respectfully,

Brett Max Kaufman

American Civil Liberties Union

Foundation

125 Broad Street—18th Floor

New York, New York 10004

T: 212.549.2603

F: 212.549.2654 bkaufman@aclu.org

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION

cc:

Special Agent FBI Washington Field Office, @ic.fbi.gov

## Attachment A

Account	Information
	N/A
	Last connection date: Unix millis  Account created: Unix millis