

## CHAMBERS OF HON. BRENDA POPPLEWELL

DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 27th, 2024

The Honorable Jjc0308, Speaker Committee on the Judiciary United States House of Representatives

Dear Speaker, Chair, and Ranking Members;

This letter is made for the purpose of addressing the recent allegations of high crimes and misdemeanors waged against me in the House of Representatives.

On June 23, 2024, an impeachment-resolution against me was formally proposed by Representative Teasoups. See House Res. 2, 93rd Cong. (2024). The resolution alleges that I engaged in conduct violative of 18 U.S. Code § 873, id., at 2, which prohibits "demand[ing] or receiv[ing] any money or valuable thing [under threat of informing, or as a consideration for informing, against any violation of any law of the United States.]"

The evidence attached, however, tells a different story than the resolution. Indeed, the evidence does not show that I demanded or received "any money or valuable thing," 18 U.S. Code § 873, nor does any of the evidence show that I threatened to inform "against any violation of any law of the United States." Ibid. The 1-minute long video² attached in the resolution, id. at pg. 3, showing private text messages between myself and Joshdownload, includes the following line of conversation:

Brenda Popplewell: You realize Adam [Stratton] was gonna ban you for making that sexual comment yesterday. The only reason he didn't is because I retracted my report.

JoshDownload: please report it, I encourage it

Brenda Popplewell: I can easily resend the report, but you're at my mercy and I'm being kind

JoshDownload: resend the report

Brenda Popplewell: I can easily resend the report, but you're at my mercy and I'm being kind

<sup>1</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/19\_nb4DHPOyIpZSLbA1Y0FUo0eOYZw2\_F/view?usp=sharing] (last accessed June 27, 2024.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJdSE mmBEA] (last accessed June 27, 2024.)

Brenda Popplewell: We both know he [Adam Stratton] hates you[.] It wouldn't end well for you in any case, so please stop acting tough darling

JoshDownload: I don't lose sleep over the fact that me and adam don't get along? this isn't acting tough[.] report it, if you feel you're a victim, report it.

I encourage you to report it. now get the fuck out of my DMs with your petty threats, that don't mean shit.

Brenda Popplewell: Threats?

Brenda Popplewell: You should show some gratefulness that I didn't press charges for sexualizing a minor[...] You were at my mercy and I was being kind by not reporting you?

Joshdownload: I'm not at shit [o]f you, fuck off

Brenda Popplewell: So you're saying if I hadn't cancelled my report yesterday, you woudn't have been banned? Cause knowing Adam, you probs would have gotten a whole blacklist.

Joshdownload: Please try. Cool.

Brenda Popplewell: I can't with your energy today

On June 22, 2024, 1 day prior to the conversation above, Joshdownload had made an obscene and sexual comment about me in a nUSA-related groupchat. I reported the incident but was initially dismissed by the moderation team. However, once Group Manager for Government Administration AdamStratton noticed my report against Joshdownload, he escalated it to the rest of the group's managers. When I came to learn that AdamStratton likely had a bone to pick with Joshdownload, I withdrew the report:



The conversation between myself and Joshdownload was not a form of blackmail. On the contrary, it reflects an act of kindness done without any ulterior motive or goal. The mere fact that I informed Joshdownload that I had withdrawn my report against him and requested that he be more grateful for that does not infer an illegal act, it infers a human one. To expect appreciation in return for kindness is simply not tantamount to blackmail under 18 U.S. Code § 873.

Moreover, despite Joshdownload telling me multiple times to report him, I repeatedly informed him that I simply had no such intent. And if that isn't telling enough, in my private conversation with AdamStratton (shown in the picture above), which occurred 1 day *before* my conversation with Joshdownload, I even went as far as to say, "I don't want anything to happen to Josh," and affirmed once again that "I wanna withdraw my report[.]" This unequivocally proves that I had no ill intent.

JoshDownload was only recently community blacklisted and banned in nUSA for doxxing another member of the community. He has shown that he cannot be trusted—whether that be as a judge or as a neighbor. His behavior has not only implicated the privacy and safety of another individual, but also the central concern underlying the rule against doxxing—the concern that nUSA should become a toxic and unsafe community.

The evidence does not prove blackmail, it proves my intent to deal with JoshDownload's dangerous behavior privately and amicably before it went too far, without resorting to measures that could potentially harm or destroy wholesale Joshdownload's career and standing in nUSA. My statements were aimed at diffusing a tense situation and emphasizing the discretionary leniency I exercised; they were not in any way, shape or form, threats made in order to obtain "money" or "any valuable thing."

I urge Your Honor and the House of Representatives to vote to fail House Res. 2 as an ill-founded attempt to make me out to be something that I am not.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

BRENDA POPPLEWELL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE