



MARK BRNOVICH  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Rachelle Lumpp  
Deputy Public Information  
Officer

January 19, 2021

Bruce Feder  
[bf@federlawpa.com](mailto:bf@federlawpa.com)

**RE: PRR-2021-2200-214**

Dear Mr. Feder:

Thank you for contacting the Arizona Attorney General's Office ("AGO"). This letter serves as the response to your public records request submitted on November 28, 2020.

Original Request:

- (1) Communications to which General Brnovich and/or Zora Manjencich were a party about:
  - i. Backpage.com;
  - ii. James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John "Jed" Brunst, Andrew Padilla, JOye Vaught, Dan Hyer or Carl Ferrer; or
  - iii. The criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (2) Communications with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, or its representatives, employees, or agents, relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John "Jed" Brunst, Andrew Padilla, JOye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (3) Any involvement, participation or cooperation of General Brnovich of the OAG regarding or relating to any investigation or consideration of bringing charges or claims, criminal or civil, against Backpage.com (or its current or former affiliates) James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John "Jed" Brunst, Andrew Padilla, JOye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer including but not limited to any consideration of where claims or charges might be filed.
- (4) Any and all webpages on the [www.azag.gov](http://www.azag.gov) website (the "Website), and all social media posts on accounts controlled by General Brnovich or the OAG, including but not limited to Facebook (@GeneralBrnovich, @AZAGOutreach, etc.), Twitter (@ArizonaAG), @GeneralBrnovich, etc.) and Instagram (generalbrnovich, azag\_outreach, etc.) (collectively, "Social Media"), that include or

included references to “Backpage” or “backpage.com”, including all documents reflecting when each respective webpage or social media post appeared online;

- (5) Information concerning any steps considered or taken to either add or remove information relating to or references to “Backpage” or “Backpage.com” from the Website, whether by editing text on the Website, replacing text on the Website, adding or deleting pages from the Website, adding, deleting or editing documents on the Website, adding or deleting links to other Websites, or by other means;
- (6) Information concerning any steps considered or taken to remove information relating to or references to “Backpage” or “Backpage.com” from any Social Media, by adding or deleting posts, editing posts, adding or deleting links, adding or deleting likes or retweets, or by any other means;
- (7) Coding, programming, or otherwise configuring the Website so its internal “search” function returns no results or “hits” for the terms “Backpage” or “backpage.com” in text, pages, or documents on the Website;
- (8) Coding, programming, or otherwise configuring the Website, or the search engines that index it (e.g. Google, Bing, Yahoo, etc.) so those search engines return no results or “hits” for the terms “Backpage” or “backpage.com” in text, pages, or documents on the Website;
- (9) Consideration of and reasons for any actions taken as described in (4) – (8) above or evidencing when any such actions were taken;
- (10) Press releases mentioning “Backpage” or “backpage.com”;
- (11) The publication(s) entitled “Human Trafficking: Arizona’s not buying it,” including but not limited to all documents relating to the preparation of that publication and all revisions to the publication.
- (12) Communications with any federal law enforcement agencies, including but not limited to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, the United States Postal Inspection Service the Internal Revenue Services Criminal Investigation Division, or their representatives, employees, or agents, relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (13) Communications with Senator John McCain, Cindy McCain and/or the McCain Institute (mccaininstitute.org) or its representatives, employees, or agents, including but not limited to Mehan Latcovich, relating to backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).



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- (14) Communications with the Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network (“AATN” (aatnaz.org), or its programs known as “Trust Arizona, “TrustAZ” or “TRUST” (trustaz.org), “SAFE Action Project” (safeactionproject.org), Cease Arizona (ceasearizona.org) CSI (csiaz.org), or Just.Men.Arizona (justmenaz.org) or their representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to John Meza, relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (15) Communications with the National Association of Attorneys General or its representatives, employees, or agents, relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (16) Communications with the National center for Missing and Exploited Children (“NCME”) “missingkids.org) or its representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to Ernie Allen, John Shehan Staca Shehan, Sharon W. Cooper or James E Hardie relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (17) Communications with the Polaris Project (polarisproject.org) or its representatives, employees or agents, including but not limited to Bradley Myles, relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (18) Communication with the ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research or its representatives, employees, or agents, including but not limited to Dominique E. Roe-Sepowitz, relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear, John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District

Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).

- (19) Communications with Shared Hope International (sharedhope.org) or its representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to Linda Smith, Ernie Allen, Christine Raino, Sarah Bryer, Sarah Bendsten and Mark Porter relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (20) Communications with FAIR Girls (fairgirls.org) or its representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to Andrea Powell relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (21) Communications with Auburn Theological Seminary (auburnseminary.org) or its representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to Rev. Dr. Katharine Rhodes Henderson relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (22) Communications with B.H. Carroll Theological Institute (bhcarroll.edu) or its representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to Dr. Shannon Wolf relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (23) Communications with ChildSage.ai (childsage.ai) or its representatives, employees or agents including but not limited to Dr. Shannon Wolf relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (24) Communications with American Express (AMEX), Mastercard, and/or VISA or its representatives, employees or agents relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John “Jed” Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v.*



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*Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).

- (25) Communications with any law enforcement agencies, including but not limited to the California Attorney General's Office, the Texas Attorney General, the Texas Attorney General's Office or their representatives, employees or agents relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John "Jed" Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (26) Communications with any members of Congress or Congressional committees or its representatives, employees or agents relating to Backpage.com; James Larkin, Michael Lacey, Scott Spear John "Jed" Brunst, Andrew Padilla, Joye Vaught, Dan Hyer, or Carl Ferrer; or the criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).
- (27) The criminal actions in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona now known as *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00422), *United States v. Backpage.com, LLC, et al.* (Case No. 18-cr-00465) or *United States v Carl Ferrer* (Case No. 18-cr-00464).

Response:

Request (1): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed. Would you like copies of external newsletters that include the terms "backpage" or "backpage.com" or can we eliminate those from the response?

Request (2): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (3): The Arizona Attorney General's Office ("AGO") has nothing responsive to this request.

Request (4): We are conducting a search of the AGO's social media accounts and will provide a response to this request shortly.

Request (5): The AGO has nothing responsive to this request.

Request (6): The AGO has nothing responsive to this request.

Request (7): The AGO has nothing responsive to this request.

Request (8): The AGO has nothing responsive to this request.

Request (9): n/a

Request (10): This request is being processed.

Request (11): This request is being processed.

Request (12): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed

Request (13): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (14): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (15): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (16): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (17): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed

Request (18): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (19): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (20): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (21): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.



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Request (22): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (23): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (24): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (25): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (26): We are conducting a search of our records and will respond accordingly once any potentially responsive records have been reviewed.

Request (27): This is not a request for records; the AGO has nothing responsive.

Sincerely,

*Rachelle Lumpp*

Deputy Public Information Officer