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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

january6th.house.gov
(202) 225-7800

One Hundred Seventeenth Congress

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol

August 30, 2021

Mr. Gabriel Engel
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Rocket.Chat LLC
251 Little Falls Drive
Wilmington, DE 19808

Dear Mr. Engel:

Pursuant to House Resolution 503, the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol is examining the facts, circumstances, and causes of the attack and relating to the peaceful transfer of power, in order to identify and evaluate lessons learned and to recommend corrective laws, policies, procedures, rules, or regulations.

As Chairman, I request that you direct that Rocket.Chat LLC preserve records relating to certain individuals who hold or have held accounts with your company from April 1, 2020, to January 31, 2021.

The Select Committee seeks the preservation of these records as part of its examination of the violent attack on the Capitol and the broader context of efforts to delay or interfere with the peaceful transfer of power following the 2020 election. The Select Committee specifically requests that you preserve information you may possess about individuals whom the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and/or the District of Columbia has charged with crimes associated with the attack; individuals who were listed on permit applications or were otherwise involved in organizing, funding, or speaking at the January 5, 2021, or January 6, 2021, rallies in the District of Columbia relating to objecting to the certification of the electoral college votes; and individuals potentially involved with discussions of plans to challenge, delay, or interfere with the January 6, 2021, certification or otherwise attempt to overturn election results, in the days preceding and up through the attack.

The attached document lists the individuals whose records the Select Committee seeks to preserve. Inclusion of any individual name on the list should not be viewed as indicative of any wrongdoing by that person or others. The document identifies individuals who may have relevant information to aid the factfinding of the Select Committee. The list indicates where court filings in DOJ proceedings or other public accounts associated with these individuals have identified specific numbers, email addresses, or social media account names. Where there is no such information indicated, the Select Committee requests that you preserve records in your custody associated with the name of the listed individual. Lastly, the Select Committee requests that you maintain the confidentiality of this document and the personal identifying information included therein.

Mr. Engel

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The Select Committee requests that you preserve metadata, subscriber information, technical usage information, and content of communications for the listed individuals. With respect to each account held by your company, please preserve records from April 1, 2020, through January 31, 2021, specifically including (if applicable):

1. All records or other information regarding the identification of the account, including full name, physical address, telephone numbers, and other identifiers; records of session times and durations; the date on which the account was created; the length of service; the types of services utilized; the IP address used to register the account; log-in IP addresses associated with session times and dates; account status; alternative email addresses provided during registration; methods of connecting; log files; and means and source(s) of payment, including any credit or bank account number or online payment service.
2. Subscriber information, metadata, and call or message details associated with the account, including dates, times, senders, recipients, and other information regarding all voice calls, voicemail messages, text or SMS/MMS messages, data communications, tower locations and azimuth for the sectors assessed during the communication, and location of the phone associated with the account.
3. Content of communications, including all emails, voice messages, text or SMS/MMS messages, videos, photographs, direct messages, address books, contact lists, and other files or other data communications stored in or sent from the account; and any removal of profile or content information.
4. All records pertaining to your company's communications with the individual regarding the account, including contacts with support services and records of actions taken.

The Select Committee also requests that you do not disable, suspend, lock, cancel, or interrupt service to these subscribers or accounts solely due to this request. If you are not able or willing to respond to this request without alerting the subscribers or the accounts, please contact the Select Committee prior to proceeding.

As the Select Committee continues its work, we anticipate delivering to you document requests for more specific categories of information. Your immediate efforts to identify and preserve these documents is therefore essential.

If you have questions, please contact Select Committee investigative staff at 202-225-7800.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman