

June 14, 2018

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte, Chairman
The Honorable Jerry Nadler, Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden, Chairman
The Honorable Joe Barton, Vice Chairman
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen, Vice Chairman, and Ranking Members:

We, the undersigned, are creatives who make our living in the entertainment industries. Whether we work in film, television, publishing, music, or photography, we and our colleagues have all been affected by the rampant, illicit activity that occurs on the major internet platforms, including Google and Facebook.

There has been growing concern in Washington, in the press, and among Americans about the lack of responsibility exercised by the major internet platforms toward harmful and illegal activity taking place on their services.

For decades, online gatekeepers like Facebook and Google have turned a blind eye to the proliferation of widespread societal harms on their platforms. From sex trafficking to foreign influence over our elections, from privacy to piracy, it has become increasingly clear that more needs to be done to ensure platform responsibility.

In recent hearings in both the House and the Senate, Facebook's CEO, Mark Zuckerberg, characterized Silicon Valley's failure to take an appropriately broad view of its responsibility as a "big mistake." But whether the lack of responsibility was a "mistake" or something else, the failure of Facebook, Google, and others to take responsibility is rooted in decades-old government policies, including legal immunities and safe harbors, that treat these companies differently than other industries and actually *absolve* internet platforms of responsibility.

This must change. As long as these companies are allowed to continue to operate in a policy framework that prioritizes their growth and wealth over accountability, American creativity will be harmed along with many other important societal interests.

Google needs to join Mr. Zuckerberg in stepping forward and embracing a broader view of its responsibility. But the real problem is not any one company. The problem is endemic in a system that applies a different set of rules to the internet because it's "exceptional," and utterly fails to impose

ordinary norms of accountability on internet businesses that are built around monetizing the content of others.

We want to sincerely thank you and your colleagues for asking Facebook to testify – and Google should be next up to the microphone. We understand that Google has been invited to appear. This problem will continue to affect millions of Americans, both in their day-to-day lives and in their pocketbooks, until action is taken to correct it. It's long past time to hold Google, Facebook, and other internet platforms responsible for their actions and inactions that hurt consumers, creativity, and the American economy.

Sincerely,

George Bamber

Director: *Hit the Floor*

Assistant Director: *S.W.A.T.*

Peter Baxter

President and Co-Founder, Slamdance Film Festival

Susan Becker

Costume Designer: *Father of the Bride, Flatliners, True Romance*

Harold Becker

Director: *Malice, The Onion Field, Sea of Love*

Albert Berger

Bona Fide Productions

Producer: *Election, Little Miss Sunshine, Nebraska*

Claire Best

Claire Best & Associates

Jason Blum

Blumhouse

Bill Borden

Executive Producer: *High School Musical, Kung Fu Hustle*

Producer: *El Mariachi, End of Days, La Bamba*

Marty Bowen

Temple Hill Entertainment

Producer: *First Man; The Fault in Our Stars; Love, Simon; The Maze Runner Trilogy; Uncle Drew*

Chris Brancato

Co-Creator: *Narcos*

Allison Burnett

Writer, Director, Producer, Executive Producer: *Ask Me Anything*

Writer: *Autumn in New York*

Eric Cady

Senior Counsel, Independent Film & Television Alliance

Jon Cassar

Executive Producer: *24, Forsaken*

Director: *24, Forsaken, Fringe, Medici: The Magnificent, The Orville, Revolution*

Cotty Chubb

Producer: *The Dinner, Eve's Bayou, Pootie Tang*

Dylan Clark

Dylan Clark Productions

Producer: *Planet of the Apes* Trilogy

Jane Clark

Film McQueen

Producer: *Elena Undone*

Director, Editor, Producer, Writer: *Crazy Bitches, Meth Head*

Susan Cleary

Vice President & General Counsel, Independent Film & Television Alliance

Bruce Cohen

Producer: *American Beauty, Milk, Silver Linings Playbook*

Charlie Corwin

Founder, Corwin Media

Executive Producer: *Dual Survival, Half Nelson*

Producer: *The Squid and the Whale*

Cindy Cowan

Executive Producer: *Red Lights, Savior*

Producer: *Very Bad Things*

Martha De Laurentiis

Producer: *Hannibal, Red Dragon, U-571*

Donald De Line

Producer: *I Love You, Man; The Italian Job; Ready Player One*

Joshua Donen

Producer: *Gone Girl, The Quick and the Dead*

Executive Producer: *House of Cards, Mindhunter, Spartacus*

Clay Epstein

President, Film Mode Entertainment

Blye Faust

Rocklin | Faust
Producer: *Spotlight*

Adam Fields

Producer: *Brokedown Palace, Donnie Darko, The Wedding Ringer*

Wendy Finerman

Producer: *The Devil Wears Prada, Drumline, Forrest Gump, P.S. I Love You*

Cesar Fishman

Senior Vice President of Communications, CreativeFuture

Christopher Floyd

Chief Operating Officer, Amblin Partners

Lucas Foster

Producer: *Jumper, Man on Fire, Mr. and Mrs. Smith*

Kevin Goetz

Founder and CEO, Screen Engine/ASI

Neil Goetz

Executive Creative Director, The Engine Room
Co-Director of Development and Acquisitions, BBMG Entertainment

Norman Golightly

Executive Producer: *Ghost Rider, The Sorcerer's Apprentice*
Producer: *Lord of War*

Mark Gordon

Entertainment One
Executive Producer: *Quantico, Grey's Anatomy, Designated Survivor, Criminal Minds, Ray Donovan*
Producer: *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms, Murder on the Orient Express*

Michael Gracey

Director: *The Greatest Showman*

Bonnie Greenberg

Co-Producer/Music Supervisor: *The Hunting Ground*
Executive Music Producer: *RBG*
Music Supervisor: *How The Grinch Stole Christmas, My Best Friend's Wedding*

Jeffrey Greenstein

Co-President, Millennium Media, Inc.

James V. Hart

Writer: *August Rush, Bram Stoker's Dracula, Contact, Hook*
Founder, HartChart

Lisa Henson

CEO, The Jim Henson Company

Patricia Herskovic

Producer: *Deadly Blessing, Mother's Boys, Toy Soldiers*
Author: *Escape to Life*

Marshall Herskovitz

The Bedford Fall Company
Producer / Writer: *The Last Samurai*
Producer: *Blood Diamond, Legends of the Fall*
Executive Producer: *Thirtysomething, My So-Called Life*

David Hoberman

Mandeville Films
Producer: *Beauty and the Beast, The Fighter, The Muppets, The Proposal, Wonder*

Matthias Hoene

Director: *Cockneys vs Zombies, Enter the Warriors Gate*

Gale Anne Hurd

Valhalla Entertainment
Executive Producer: *Fear The Walking Dead, Lore, The Walking Dead*
Producer: *Aliens, The Terminator, Terminator 2: Judgment Day, Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*

Allison Jackson

Founder and CEO, The Allison Jackson Company

Dan Jinks

Producer: *American Beauty, Big Fish, Milk*

Brad Kembel

Executive Vice President, Distribution & Operations, Global Road Entertainment, LLC

Tim Kittleson

Director, UCLA Film & Television Archive (ret.)

Hawk Koch

Former President, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
Executive Producer: *Heaven Can Wait, Primal Fear, Source Code, Wayne's World*

Tony Krantz

Flame Ventures

Executive Producer: *24*

Producer: *Mulholland Drive*

Adam Krentzman

Executive Producer: *The Domestics, Elephant Tales, Oh My God*

Mark Leibowitz

President, Leibowitz Pictures

Adam Leipzig

Producer: *Plastic Ocean*

Co-Producer: *Titus*

Peter Lenkov

Executive Producer: *Hawaii Five-0, MacGyver, Magnum P.I., Salvation*

Harry Lennix

Actor: *The Blacklist, Man of Steel, The Matrix Reloaded, Matrix Revolutions*

Avi Lerner

Chairman and CEO, Millennium Media, Inc.

Todd Lieberman

Mandeville Films

Producer: *Beauty and the Beast, The Fighter, The Proposal, Wonder*

Michael London

Groundswell Productions

Executive Producer: *Confirmation, Milk*

Producer: *Sideways*

Laurence Mark

Producer: *Jerry Maguire; I, Robot; Dreamgirls; Julie & Julia; The Greatest Showman*

Craig Mazin

Writer: *The Hangover Part II, Identity Thief*

Nat McCormick

Executive Vice President of Sales & Distribution, The Exchange

Gev Miron

Co-Founder and Creative Director, MVH CreativeWorks

MJ Peckos

President, Dada Films

Executive Producer: *Burning Secret, Paper House*

Pamela Pickering

Berlin International Film Festival Delegate, Former Chairman of IFTA

Lou Pitt

CEO, The Pitt Group and Alton Road Productions

Producer: *The Exception, Hollywood Homicide*

David Poland

President, Outside Voice

Gavin Polone

Pariah

Executive Producer: *Curb Your Enthusiasm*

Producer: *Zombieland*

Dawn Prestwich

Executive Producer: *Carnivale, Flashforward, The Killing, The Riches, Z: The Beginning of Everything*

Jean Prewitt

CEO, Independent Film & Television Alliance

John Ptak

Owner, Arsenal Films

Samantha Ramirez-Herrera

Founder, Offtharecord Inc.

Linda Reisman

Producer: *Leave No Trace*

Executive Producer: *The Danish Girl*

JB Roberts

Partner, Thruline Entertainment

Lise Romanoff

Managing Director / CEO, Vision Films, Inc.

Karen Rosenfelt

Producer: *Max, Me Before You, The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1, The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2, The Twilight Saga: Eclipse, The Twilight Saga: New Moon*

Executive Producer: *Twilight*

Eric Roth

Executive Vice President of Business Affairs, New Regency Productions

Aaron Ryder

Co-President of Production & Acquisitions, FilmNation Entertainment

Producer: *Arrival, Transcendence*

Nina Sadowsky

Author: *The Burial Society, Just Fall*

Executive Producer: *The Wedding Planner*

Lloyd Segan

Partner, Piller / Segan

Meyer Shwarzstein

CEO, Brainstorm Media

Paul Alan Smith

Founder, Equitable Stewardship for Artists

Ellen Steloff

Executive Director and Founder, Rabbit Hole Screenings

Executive Producer: *Dream A Little Dream, Far From Home, A Gnome Named Norm, The Underachievers*

Michael Sucsy

Director: *Every Day, Grey Gardens, The Vow*

Andrew Tennenbaum

Producer: *Water for Elephants*

Co-Producer: *The Bourne Identity, The Bourne Legacy, The Bourne Supremacy, The Bourne Ultimatum, Jason Bourne*

Bob Tourtellotte

Film McQueen

Executive Producer: *Crazy Bitches, Meth Head*

Jeff Vespa

Vespa Pictures

Michèle Vice-Maslin

Sweetersongs & Mob Force Productions

Songwriter: *Blue Bloods, Downsizing, Guiding Light*

Ruth Vitale

CEO, CreativeFuture

Executive Producer: *American Crime, Don Juan DeMarco, Gummo*

Nick Wechsler

Nick Wechsler Productions

Producer: *Magic Mike, The Road*

Robert B. Weide

Director / Executive Producer: *Curb Your Enthusiasm, Mr. Sloane*

Producer / Writer: *Mother Night*

Writer: *The Giver*

Chris Weitz

Writer: *Cinderella, Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*

Director: *A Better Life, The Twilight Saga: New Moon*

Ron West

Partner, Thruline Entertainment

Brett Williams

Senior Vice President of Public Affairs, CreativeFuture

Frank Wuliger

Partner, The Gersh Agency

Janet Yang

Executive Producer: *The Joy Luck Club*

Producer: *The People vs. Larry Flynt*

Ron Yerxa

Bona Fide Productions

Producer: *Election, Little Miss Sunshine, Nebraska*

Jonathan Yunger

Co-President, Millennium Media, Inc.