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## COALITION FOR A SAFER WEB FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST APPLE FOR HOSTING TELEGRAM IN ITS APP STORE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. (January 17, 2021): The Coalition for a Safer Web (CSW) ([www.coalitionsw.org](http://www.coalitionsw.org)) filed a [lawsuit](#) today against Apple Inc. for enabling TELEGRAM to be downloaded in Apple's App Store despite Apple's knowledge that TELEGRAM is utilized to incite religious and racial violence in violation of Apple's App Store Review Guidelines.

The lawsuit seeking injunctive relief and damages was filed in the Northern District of California.

On July 24, 2020, CSW's President sent a [letter](#) to Apple's CEO, Tim Cook, requesting Apple to temporarily deplatform TELEGRAM from its App Store until TELEGRAM's management commences a verifiable content moderation program consistent with Apple's App Store Review Guidelines.

Mr. Cook publicly pledged in 2018 when awarded the Anti-Defamation-League's "Courage Against Hate Award that Apple and responsible social media platforms must stand by their values and remove content that promotes hate and white supremacy:

*"We only have one message for those who seek to push hate, division and violence: You have no place on our platforms."*

Despite repeated efforts by CSW to obtain a response from Apple headquarters, neither Mr. Cook nor any of his representatives responded to CSW's correspondence.

Following extensive research by CSW of TELEGRAM in early 2020 detailing TELEGRAM's role as a social media conveyor belt of hate, incitement, and extremism, CSW initiated a public call to action urging Congress and other social media watchdogs to place pressure

on TELEGRAM'S management to impose reasonable constraints on the application's use by white supremacist, anti-Semitic extremist groups, including Proud Boys, Boogaloo Bois, QAnon supporters, and extremist groups based in Russia and Europe inciting violence against Jews and black Americans.

As reported in today's [Washington Post](#) if Apple was prepared to unilaterally suspend the right wing Parler social media platform from its app store for content far less egregious than the extremist incitement on TELEGRAM, than surely similar pressure should be imposed by Apple against TELEGRAM's management.

CSW's President, Amb. Marc Ginsberg stated:

*Mr. Cook and Apple owe a duty to the American people to honor his pledge and Apple's policies and suspend TELEGRAM from its app store until TELEGRAM ceases its facilitation of terrorism, and extremist incitement against Jews, black Americans, and the safety and security of the American people."*

Keith Altman, Plaintiff's counsel stated:

to Apple's CEO, Tim Cook