



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

CONSUMER PROTECTION
SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM

IN THE INVESTIGATION OF: The Southern Poverty Law Center
AG CASE NO: L26-3-1037

TO: Southern Poverty Law Center, Inc.
ATTN: Business Filings Incorporated, Registered Agent
1200 South Pine Island Road
Plantation, Florida 33324
(Or Such Other Address as Service Can Be Made)

THIS INVESTIGATIVE SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM is issued pursuant to the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, Chapter 501, Part II, Florida Statutes, in the course and authority of an official investigation. Note Sections 501.204, 501.206, 496.415, and 496.416, Florida Statutes, attached.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to produce all documentary material and other tangible evidence as described herein, that is in your possession, custody, or control, or in the possession, custody, or control of your agents or employees, and to make it available for inspection and copying or reproduction before Assistant Attorney General Edward Carter and Financial Investigator Eric Magnuson on **May 25, 2026, at 9:00 AM** at the following location:

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
110 SE 6th Street, 10th Floor
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

ALTERNATIVELY, this subpoena may be complied with by delivering copies of all of the requested materials, before the date set forth above, to Financial Investigator Eric Magnuson at Eric.Magnuson@myfloridalegal.com. The production of material in response to this demand shall include the following:

SEE ATTACHED ADDENDUM

WITNESS, the Department of Legal Affairs at Tampa, Florida, this 4th day of May, 2026.

JAMES UTHMEIER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

/s/ Edward Carlton Carter

Fla. Bar No. 865389

Edward.carter@myfloridalegal.com

Office of the Attorney General

Consumer Protection Division

3705 E. Frontage Road, Suite 325

Tampa, FL 33607

(813) 287-7950 (telephone)

(813) 281-5515 (facsimile)

501.204 Unlawful acts and practices.—

(1) Unfair methods of competition, unconscionable acts or practices, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce are hereby declared unlawful.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that, in construing subsection (1), due consideration and great weight shall be given to the interpretations of the Federal Trade Commission and the federal courts relating to s. 5(a)(1) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. s. 45(a)(1) as of July 1, 2017.

501.206 Investigative powers of enforcing authority.—

(1) If, by his or her own inquiry or as a result of complaints, the enforcing authority has reason to believe that a person has engaged in, or is engaging in, an act or practice that violates this part, he or she may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses or matter, and collect evidence. Within 5 days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the service of a subpoena or at any time before the return date specified therein, whichever is longer, the party served may file in the circuit court in the county in which he or she resides or in which he or she transacts business and serve upon the enforcing authority a petition for an order modifying or setting aside the subpoena. The petitioner may raise any objection or privilege which would be available under this chapter or upon service of such subpoena in a civil action. The subpoena shall inform the party served of his or her rights under this subsection.

(2) If matter that the enforcing authority seeks to obtain by subpoena is located outside the state, the person subpoenaed may make it available to the enforcing authority or his or her representative to examine the matter at the place where it is located. The enforcing authority may designate representatives, including officials of the state in which the matter is located, to inspect the matter on his

or her behalf, and he or she may respond to similar requests from officials of other states.

(3) Upon failure of a person without lawful excuse to obey a subpoena and upon reasonable notice to all persons affected, the enforcing authority may apply to the circuit court for an order compelling compliance.

(4) The enforcing authority may request that an individual who refuses to comply with a subpoena on the ground that testimony or matter may incriminate him or her be ordered by the court to provide the testimony or matter. Except in a prosecution for perjury, an individual who complies with a court order to provide testimony or matter after asserting a privilege against self-incrimination to which he or she is entitled by law shall not have the testimony or matter so provided, or evidence derived therefrom, received against him or her in any criminal investigation or proceeding.

(5) Any person upon whom a subpoena is served pursuant to this section shall comply with the terms thereof unless otherwise provided by order of the court. Any person who fails to appear with the intent to avoid, evade, or prevent compliance in whole or in part with any investigation under this part or who removes from any place, conceals, withholds, mutilates, alters, or destroys, or by any other means falsifies any documentary material in the possession, custody, or control of any person subject to any such subpoena, or knowingly conceals any relevant information with the intent to avoid, evade, or prevent compliance shall be liable for a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs.

496.415 Prohibited acts. —

It is unlawful for any person in connection with the planning, conduct, or execution of any solicitation or charitable or sponsor sales promotion to:

(1) Operate in violation of, or fail to comply with, the requirements of ss. 496.401-496.424.

(2) Submit false, misleading, or inaccurate information in a document that is filed with the department, provided to the public, or offered in response to a request or investigation by the department, the Department of Legal Affairs, or the state attorney.

(3) Make misrepresentations or misleading statements to the effect that any other person or organization sponsors or endorses such solicitation, approves of its purpose, or is connected therewith, when that person or organization has not given written consent to the use of its name.

(4) Represent that the contribution is for or on behalf of a charitable organization or sponsor or to use any emblem, device, or printed matter belonging to or associated with a charitable organization or sponsor, without first being authorized in writing to do so by the charitable organization or sponsor.

(5) Use a name, symbol, emblem, device, service mark, or statement so closely related or similar to that used by another charitable organization or sponsor that the use thereof would mislead the public.

(6) Falsely state that he or she is a member of or represents a charitable organization or sponsor, or falsely state or represent that he or she is a member of or represents the United States Air Force, United States Army, United States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Space Force, National Guard, or a law enforcement or emergency service organization.

(7) Misrepresent or mislead anyone by any manner, means, practice, or device whatsoever to believe that the person or organization on whose behalf the solicitation or sale is being conducted is a charitable organization or sponsor, or that any of the proceeds of the solicitation or sale will be

used for charitable or sponsor purposes, if that is not the fact.

(8) Represent that a charitable organization or sponsor will receive a fixed or estimated percentage of the gross revenue from a solicitation campaign greater than that identified in filings with the department pursuant to ss. 496.401-496.424, or that a charitable organization or sponsor will receive an actual or estimated dollar amount or percentage per unit of goods or services purchased or used in the charitable or sponsor sales promotion that is greater than that agreed to by the commercial co-venturer and the charitable organization or sponsor.

(9) Use or exploit the fact of registration or the filing of any report with any governmental agency so as to lead any person to believe that such registration in any manner constitutes an endorsement or approval by the state. However, use of the statement required in s. 496.411(3) or s. 496.412(1)(c) is not a prohibited use or exploitation.

(10) Make misrepresentations or misleading statements to the effect that the donation of a contribution or the display of any sticker, emblem, or insignia offered to contributors will entitle such other person to any special treatment by emergency service employees or law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties.

(11) Solicit contributions from another person or organization while wearing the uniform of an emergency service employee or law enforcement officer, or while on duty as an emergency service employee or law enforcement officer, except where the solicitation is for an organization exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or except when soliciting contributions to benefit an emergency service employee or law enforcement officer who has been injured in

the line of duty or to benefit the family or dependents of an emergency service employee or law enforcement officer who has been killed in the line of duty.

(12) Solicit contributions on behalf of another person or organization using any statement that the failure to make a contribution shall result in a reduced level of law enforcement services being provided to the public or the person solicited.

(13) Employ in any solicitation any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud or to obtain a contribution by means of any deception, false pretense, misrepresentation, or false promise.

(14) Notify any other person by any means, as part of an advertising scheme or plan, that the other person has won a prize, received an award, or has been selected or is eligible to receive anything of value if the other person is required to purchase goods or services, pay any money to participate in, or submit to a promotion effort.

(15) Fail to provide complete and timely payment to a charitable organization or sponsor of the proceeds from a solicitation campaign or a charitable or sponsor sales promotion.

(16) Fail to apply contributions in a manner substantially consistent with the solicitation.

(17) Fail to identify his or her professional relationship to the person for whom the solicitation is being made.

(18) Fail to remit to a charitable organization or sponsor the disclosed guaranteed minimum percentage of gross receipts from contributions as required under s. 496.410(7)(c) or, if the solicitation involved the sale of goods, services, or tickets to a fundraising event, the percentage of the purchase price as agreed in the contract or agreement as required under this chapter.

(19) Commingle charitable contributions with noncharitable funds.

(20) Solicit or accept contributions or anything of value from a foreign source of concern.

(a) For a first violation of this subsection, this prohibited act is considered involuntary, and shall result in no punitive action from the department if the charitable organization satisfies all of the following requirements:

1. Provides the department with a solicitation or contribution form containing an attestation from such foreign source or country of concern in which the person, country, or entity falsely certifies that they are not a foreign country of concern as defined in s. 496.404(13) or a foreign source of concern as defined in s. 496.404(14);

2. Provides the department with a copy of a refund to the foreign source or country of concern within 30 days after notification by the department of the prohibited act; and

3. Provides the department with a plan of action to prevent the acceptance of contributions from a foreign country or source of concern in future solicitation activities by the charitable organization.

(b) A second or subsequent violation of this subsection is considered voluntary, and the charitable organization or sponsor is subject to the penalties specified in s. 496.419(5) at the discretion of the department.

496.416 Violation as deceptive or unfair trade practice. —

Any person who commits an act or practice that violates any provision of ss. 496.401-496.424 commits an unfair or deceptive act or practice or unfair method of competition in violation of chapter 501, part II, and is subject to the penalties and remedies provided for such violation

ADDENDUM

Definitions

- A. “Company” or “companies” means the addressee/recipients of this subpoena, their parents, branches, departments, divisions, affiliates, subsidiaries, retail outlets, stores, franchises, successors, or predecessors, whether wholly owned or not, including, without limitation, any organization or entity in which said addressees have a management or controlling interest, together with all present and former officers, directors, agents, employees, sales people, brokers, representatives or anyone else acting or purporting to act, on behalf of the above-identified persons or entities, or through which **The Southern Poverty Law Center** may have conducted business. The term “you” and “your” shall be synonymous with **The Southern Poverty Law Center**.
- B. “Document” or “documents” means all paper records and all electronically stored information, including the original and any non-identical copy (whether different from the original because of notations on such copy or otherwise, and including all draft versions of the original), of any written, recorded, or graphic matter, however produced or reproduced, including, but not limited to, all correspondence, communications (as defined below in Paragraph E), web pages, social media communications, photographs, contracts (including drafts, proposals, and any and all exhibits thereto), drafts, minutes and agendas, memoranda (including inter and intra-office memoranda, memoranda for file, pencil jottings, diary entries, desk calendar entries, reported recollections, and any other written form of notation of events or intentions), transcripts and recordings of conversations and telephone calls, transcripts of testimony, audio and video media files, books of account, ledgers, publications, professional journals, invoices, financial statements, purchase orders, receipts, canceled checks and all other paper or electronic documentary material of any nature whatsoever, together with any attachments thereto or enclosures therewith.
- C. The term “any” shall be construed as synonymous with “all” and shall be all inclusive.
- D. The connectives “and” and “or” shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively, whichever makes the request more inclusive.
- E. “Communication” or “communications” means any act, action, oral speech, written correspondence, contact, expression of words, thoughts, or ideas, or transmission or exchange of data or other information to another person, whether

orally, person to person, in a group, by telephone, letter, personal delivery, intercom, fax, e-mail, text message, social media, or any other process, electric, electronic or otherwise in any medium. All such Communications in writing shall include, without limitation, printed, typed, handwritten, or other readable documents.

- F. “Person” means any individual and all entities, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes natural persons, employees, contractors, agents, consultants, vendors, telemarketers, consumers, customers, officers, directors, successors, assigns, joint owners, associations, partnerships, companies, joint ventures, corporations, affiliates, trusts, trustees, escrow agents and estates, and all groups or associations of persons.
- G. “Related to” or “relating to” means in whole or in part constituting, containing, concerning, embodying, reflecting, discussing, describing, analyzing, identifying, stating, referring to, setting forth, dealing with, or in any way pertaining to.
- H. “Informant” means an individual or entity that is or was part of your “informant program” as that term was used by You and Your interim president and CEO, Bryan Fair, in Your April 28, 2026 press release.

Instructions

- I. This Subpoena does not seek to obtain the personally identifying information of any private entity or person whose relationship to SPLC is solely as a confidential or anonymous donor or member and whose identity as a donor or member has not been made public. SPLC may redact such personally identifying information in its response to this Subpoena.
- J. This Subpoena is for the production of all responsive documents and information in your possession, custody or control regardless of whether such documents or information is possessed directly by you or your directors, officers, agents, employees, representatives, subsidiaries, managing agents, affiliates, investigators, or by your attorneys or their agents, employees, representatives, or investigators.
- K. Unless otherwise specified, original documents must be produced, and the originals of electronic files must be produced in accordance with paragraph P herein. If your “original” is a photocopy, then the photocopy would be and should be produced as the original. Said copy shall be legible and bound or stapled in the same manner as the original.

- L. The documents to be produced pursuant to each request should be segregated and specifically identified to indicate clearly the particular numbered request to which they are responsive.
- M. If any responsive document or information cannot be produced in full, you are to produce it to the extent possible, indicating which document, or portion of that document, is being withheld, and the reason that document is being withheld.
- N. If a document once existed and has subsequently been lost, destroyed, or is otherwise missing, please provide sufficient information to identify the document and state the details concerning its loss or destruction.
- O. Documents not otherwise responsive to this Subpoena shall be produced if such documents mention, discuss, refer to, or explain the documents that are called for by this Subpoena, or if such documents are attached to documents called for by this Subpoena and constitute routing slips, transmittal memoranda, or letters, comments, evaluations, or similar materials.
- P. If you do not possess, control, or have custody of any documents responsive to any numbered request set forth below, state this fact by so specifying in your response to said request.
- Q. The use of the singular form of a word includes the plural and vice versa. In addition, the use of any tense of any verb includes all other tenses of the verb.
- R. ***Electronically Stored Information*** (ESI) is to be produced in the form in which it is ordinarily maintained. For example, native files would include email, spreadsheets and word processing files. Responsive documents that exist in electronic format shall be provided in native format (e.g., Microsoft Word files (.doc) or Outlook (.pst), emails, spreadsheets and word processing documents) with standard metadata intact, as outlined below. Prior to any production of responsive data from a structured database (e.g., Oracle, SAP, SQL, MySQL, QuickBooks, etc.), the producing party shall first provide the database dictionary and a list of all reports that can be generated from the structured database. The list of reports shall be provided in native Excel (.xls) format. The database format will be requested for production after both parties agree on the format. Please include sufficient identification of the applicable software program to permit access to, and use of, each document. All attachments must be linked to their electronic documents. Native files should be provided in directories which are identifiable as responsive to a specific document request. All documents produced in native form should be produced on CDROM, DVDROM, External USB, or other similar drive media of a type that can be read by any standard computer. Unless otherwise agreed to, standard metadata in electronically stored

information shall be preserved and produced, such as: Custodian, To, From, CC, BCC, Dates and Times (Sent, Received and Modified), Attachments, Links and Document types. A more complete list can be provided upon request. Questions regarding electronic production should be directed to the Assistant Attorney General whose name appears on this Subpoena. Arrangements will be made for the communication with the appropriate in-house technical expert.

S. If you claim the attorney-client privilege, work-product privilege, or any other privilege, for any document, provide a detailed privilege log that contains at least the following information for each document that you have withheld:

- 1) The name of each author, writer, sender or initiator of such document or thing, if any;
- 2) The name of each recipient, addressee or party for whom such document or thing was intended, if any;
- 3) The date of such document, if any, or an estimate thereof so indicated if no date appears on the document;
- 4) The general subject-matter as described on such document; if no such description appears, then such other description sufficient to identify said document; and,
- 5) The claimed grounds for withholding the document, including, but not limited to, the nature of any claimed privilege and grounds in support thereof.

T. TRADE SECRET PROTECTION. In the event you seek to assert trade secret protection under section 119.0715, Florida Statutes, or other applicable Florida law, for each document for which trade secret protection is claimed:

- 1) Provide prior to, or simultaneous with, production of the document at issue, a sworn affidavit from a person with knowledge as to the basis for the trade secret claim, which complies with the following requirements:
 - a. The affidavit should specify the bates range of the claimed trade secret documents at issue, generally describe the documents at issue, and provide evidence of the application of the trade secret exemption.
 - b. The affidavit should attach a certification (similar in form to a traditional privilege log) that identifies the following information for each separate claimed trade secret document: (i) the bates range of the document; (ii) a description of the document sufficient to determine the application of the trade secret exemption; and (iii) the specific element(s) or provision(s) of

section 688.002 that render the document at issue a trade secret exempted from public records.

2) Segregate and separately label the documents claimed as trade secrets as follows:

a. Documents produced electronically should be produced on separate CD or electronic media clearly labeled "Trade Secret" on the physical media as well in the title of the electronic folder or file;

b. Documents produced in hard copy should be separated and each clearly labeled "Trade Secret."

3) Any challenge to the application of the trade secret exemption shall be rebutted, if at all, only by you and not by the Office of the Attorney General, whose involvement shall be limited solely to providing notice to you of any challenge to your claim of trade secret protection. To the extent you seek to assert a trade secret exemption in connection with a public records request to the Office of the Attorney General, you shall be obligated to seek an appropriate protective order or otherwise establish the applicability of the trade secret claim and exemption. Failure to do so shall render the documents subject to production under any applicable public records requirements and not protected by a trade secret claim.

U. All document destruction or retention policies and practices and electronic file deletion or disk management policies and practices (including, but not limited to, reformatting practices) that could have the effect of altering or deleting information requested by this Subpoena should be suspended.

1) Because electronically stored information is an important and irreplaceable source of evidence, you must take appropriate steps to preserve all potentially relevant documents within your control or [practical ability to access], which includes, but is not limited to, preserving information from computer systems, removable or portable electronic media (like CDs/DVDs, USB drives), e-mail, text/instant messaging, "tweets" and other electronic correspondence at work and other locations, word processing documents, spreadsheets, databases, calendars, telephone logs, cell phones, voicemail, blogs, social media, internet usage files, website data, personal computers/laptops, personal data assistants (PDAs), servers, and archives/backup files, as well as other tangible documentation that will be relevant to the discovery of admissible evidence in this matter, so as to avoid any potential claims for spoliation of evidence. This request pertains not only to documents that are directly responsive to this Subpoena, but to all other documents that relate to the

subject of our investigation as well.

- 2) Preservation of electronic data in its native format is essential, as a paper printout of text contained in a computer file does not completely reflect all information contained within an electronic file. Additionally, due to its format, electronic evidence can be easily altered, deleted, corrupted or otherwise modified. Accordingly, you are required to take every reasonable step to preserve this information until the resolution of this matter. This includes, but is not limited to, the following obligations:
 - a. Discontinue all data destruction and overwriting/recycling processes of relevant data;
 - b. Preserve passwords, decryption procedures (and accompanying software), access codes, ID codes, etc.; and
 - c. Maintain all pertinent information and tools needed to access, review and reconstruct all requested or potentially relevant electronic data.
- 3) Your obligations under the law are ongoing and should be considered in force and effect until the resolution of this matter. Accordingly, with regard to electronic data and documents that are created subsequent to the date of this Subpoena, relevant evidence is not to be destroyed or overwritten and you should take whatever steps are necessary to avoid destruction of potentially-relevant evidence.

WHEREFORE YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO PRODUCE:

Unless otherwise noted, the time period applicable to the following requests is **January 1, 2014**, through the date upon which the response to this Subpoena is due or actually provided to the Office of the Attorney General, whichever occurs later in time.

Responsive documents that exist in electronic format shall be provided in native format (e.g., Microsoft Word files (.doc) or Outlook emails (.msg), and Microsoft Excel spreadsheets (.xls)).

Produce the following:

1. Documents disclosing to Florida donors or prospective Florida donors Your use or proposed use of Informants.
2. Exemplar documents used to market or advertise Your mission, fundraising objectives, and services to prospective Florida donors, including the date each Document was created and length of time the Document was used for Your marketing or advertising.
3. Documents identifying all names, aliases, or DBAs You used when soliciting charitable contributions, or which have been used by third parties when soliciting on Your behalf.
4. Documents sufficient to show any changes on Your website or in other Communications regarding Your solicitation of donations and the date any changes were made.
5. Documents sufficient to show changes on Your website or in other Communications relating to where or how proceeds of donations will be used or distributed.
6. Documents sufficient to show changes on Your website or in other Communications regarding Your use of Informants.
7. Documents sufficient to identify all websites You have used to solicit donations.
8. Documents sufficient to show the annual donations You received from donors in the State of Florida.
9. Documents sufficient to show Your annual disbursements of donated funds, directly or indirectly, to Informants.

10. Documents sufficient to show Your policies and procedures for requesting, approving, or paying funds related to Your Informant program.
11. Documents sufficient to reflect the percentage of Your annual budget allocated to Informant-related costs.
12. Documents sufficient to show any donation, payment, or other financial contribution paid to any group or individual appearing on Your “Extremist Files”,¹ or appearing on any similar list, map, or directory maintained by You, including, but not limited to, those identified on Your “hate map.”²
13. Internal Communications related to the disclosure or non-disclosure of the use of Informants.
14. Exemplars of all Communications with Florida donors related to Your use of donor funds.
15. Documents required to obtain and maintain Your 501(c)(3) status or other licenses or certifications as a non profit or charitable entity.
16. Documents sufficient to identify all Florida addresses used by the Company, including, but not limited to, addresses where the Company actually operated and addresses where the Company received correspondence.
17. Documents containing representations You made (or information you provided) to financial institutions, technology companies, banks, credit card processors, financial infrastructure companies, and other businesses regarding SPLC’s “Extremists Files”, “hate map”, the Change the Terms coalition, SPLC’s Intelligence Project, and the No Blood Money Campaign, including, but not limited to, all documents relating to any meeting, Communication, or conversation in which such representations were made.
18. A completed Certification Affidavit of Records of Regularly Conducted Business Activity (attached).

¹ <https://www.splcenter.org/resources/extremist-files/>

² <https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map/>

**CERTIFICATION AFFIDAVIT OF RECORDS OF
REGULARLY CONDUCTED BUSINESS ACTIVITY**

I, _____, the undersigned declarant, have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below and hereby declare, certify and state the following:

- 1) I am employed by _____ referred to herein as “the Business” (the term Business can include a business, agency, institution, association, profession, occupation, and calling of every kind, whether or not conducted for profit).
- 2) My title is _____.
- 3) I am familiar with the records of the Business. I have authority to certify the authenticity of the records produced by the Business and attached hereto.
- 4) The documents attached hereto are originals or true copies of records that:
 - a) Were made at or near the time of the occurrence of the matters set forth by, or from information transmitted by, a person with knowledge of those matters;
 - b) Were kept in the course of the regularly conducted activity of the Business; and,
 - c) Were made as a regular practice in the course of regularly conducted activity of the Business.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

Signature

STATE OF _____

COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing instrument was sworn to and subscribed before me by means of [] physical presence or [] online notarization this _____ day of _____ (month), 202__, by _____ (name of person making this certification affidavit) as _____ (title or type of authority) for _____ (name of business/agency/association party on behalf of whom instrument was executed).

(NOTARY SEAL)

NOTARY PUBLIC, (signature)

Personally Known _____ OR Produced Identification _____

Type of Identification Produced _____