

May 21, 2019

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your continued commitment to the many areas where we can Make America Great Again. Your leadership has helped renew Americans' attention on the need for border security and for trade and economic policies that put America's interests first.

Technology's intersection with national security is an area of great concern for tea party supporters across the country. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is currently engaged in a lawsuit against Qualcomm, an American company. The complaint was brought forth in the final hours of the Obama administration. The complainants in the 18-month-old case against Qualcomm misuse antitrust laws with the goal of undermining patent protections and intellectual property rights.

Then-Commissioner of the FTC Maureen Ohlhausen, a strong defender of the free market and property rights, correctly identified the suit as "lacking in economic and evidentiary support," and she warned that the suit against Qualcomm would have the long-term effect of harming our nation's strong system of intellectual property rights.

Many conservatives, including tea party supporters, were alarmed to learn that Huawei, the Chinese telecommunications firm, was one of the leading witnesses against Qualcomm during the trial in San Jose, California. Your executive order last week that empowers federal agencies to block US companies from purchasing foreign-made telecommunications equipment deemed a national security threat was a strong move to protect American interests. Huawei's equipment, of course, fits well in the description your administration provided. Americans applaud your leadership and firm stance here.

At this point, however, there is a mixed signal coming from Washington, DC. While your administration is making a clear case that Huawei is a national security threat, the FTC is, meanwhile, waging a suit against an American company, with key testimony coming from Huawei.

The FTC's suit against Qualcomm has high stakes, not only in the intellectual property sphere, but also in the area of technology and national security. As your America First agenda has shown, the United States must work to retain its premiere status in intellectual property, in technological advancements, and in trade. We simply cannot allow China to win in the global

fight for 5G dominance. The FTC suit against Qualcomm simultaneously impairs Qualcomm's ability to pursue new innovations in 5G, while also allowing China to dictate the telecommunications norms and standards. Huawei poses a credible threat to national security, and, as such, the company's testimony should not have been heard in the case against Qualcomm.

On behalf of the three million tea-party aligned Americans who are proud to support your America First agenda, I urge you to direct the FTC to drop this dangerous case against Qualcomm.

Most respectfully,  
Jenny Beth Martin