HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, DC 20515–0305

July 22, 2020

The Honorable Timothy Thomason Maricopa County Superior Court Central Court Building 201 West Jefferson Street Phoenix, Arizona 85003

RE: State of Arizona v. Google

Dear Judge Thomason,

Thank you for your time and for your service to our county and our state.

Recent news articles indicate that in *State of Arizona v Google* that Google has requested that the court order that records obtained by the Arizona Attorney General's Office during the Office's investigation of the company, regarding alleged invasions of user privacy and potential violations of the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, remain secret.¹

I offer no comment regarding the allegations made against Google's potential violations of the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act. However, multiple public news stories have detailed Google's troubling potential violations of Arizonans' and Americans' privacy. For example, in August 2018, an AP story detailed how Google falsely told consumers that "with location tracking off, the places you go are no longer stored."² The story concluded that Google misled consumers and continued to collect location data through other settings.

My colleagues in Congress and I have previously expressed concerns over Google's concerning invasions of privacy. All branches of our government exist to protect the fundamental liberties of our citizens – especially their privacy.

The public has a strong interest in transparency and learning the full extent to which Google and other tech companies may be spying and surreptitiously collecting information from Arizonans, including constituents whom I represent.

Any information that is not considered a trade secret or proprietary to Google should be made available for the public.

Sincerely,

ndv Bigg

Member of Congress

¹ Howard Fischer, *No searching here: Google wants documents Arizona AG obtained kept secret*, Tucson.com, accessed on July 21, 2020

² Ryan Nakashima, Google trucks your movements like it or not, Apnews.com, August 13, 2018