

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2025

Jeff Bezos
Chief Executive Officer
Amazon Headquarters
410 Terry Avenue
North Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Mr. Bezos,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including Amazon have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on December 12th, 2024 a company spokesperson confirmed your intention to donate \$1 million to the inaugural fund.¹

Big Tech companies have come under increased scrutiny from federal regulators for antitrust violations, violations of privacy, and harms to workers, consumers, and competition.² At the same time, lawmakers in both parties have voiced support for regulating tech platforms, in recognition that there is currently no comprehensive set of rules for the tech sector.³ We are concerned that your company and other Big Tech donors are using your massive contributions to the inaugural fund to cozy up to the incoming Trump administration in an effort to avoid scrutiny, limit regulation, and buy favor.

You have a clear and direct interest in obtaining favors from the incoming administration: your company and many other Big Tech donors are already the subject of ongoing federal investigations and regulatory actions. For example:

- Amazon, which donated \$1 million to Trump's inaugural fund, is the subject of multiple ongoing regulatory actions, including multiple Federal Trade Commission (FTC) suits related to anticonsumer and anticompetitive practices, a Department of Justice (DOJ)

¹ Associated Press, "Amazon to contribute \$1 million to Trump's inauguration fund. Meta is also donating," December 13, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/trump-meta-zuckerberg-inauguration-donation-c540bf7c638def11b8428e633965c718>.

² Reuters, "FTC can reopen Meta privacy case despite \$5 billion fine, court rules," Mike Scarcella, March 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/legal/transactional/ftc-can-reopen-meta-privacy-case-despite-5-bln-fine-court-rules-2024-03-13/>; U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, "Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies," press release, January 24, 2023, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-google-monopolizing-digital-advertising-technologies>.

³ Digital Consumer Protection Commission Act of 2023, S. 2597, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2597>; Open App Markets Act, S. 2710, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2710>; AMERICA Act, S. 1073, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1073>.

investigation into fraudulent schemes to obtain credit, and over 300 open National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) cases alleging unfair labor practices.⁴

- Apple CEO Tim Cook donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, while Apple is the subject of a DOJ antitrust suit, as well as over 20 open NLRB cases related to unfair labor practices.⁵
- Google, which donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, was found by a federal court to have an illegal monopoly over the online search market.⁶ Google has promised to appeal the ruling and the Trump administration’s DOJ will decide whether to contest the appeal. Google is also the subject of over 20 open NLRB cases related to unfair labor practices.⁷
- Meta, which donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, is the subject of an ongoing investigation by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) into the improper use of financial data and an FTC antitrust suit for monopolistic practices.⁸
- Microsoft has donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund and is the subject of multiple open investigations by the FTC for anticompetitive practices.⁹
- OpenAI CEO Sam Altman personally donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, while OpenAI is the subject of an open FTC investigation for consumer harm, and an SEC investigation for misleading investors.¹⁰
- Uber donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, along with an additional \$1 million from Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi. The company is the subject of an ongoing FTC investigation for predatory practices.¹¹

It is critical that federal regulators continue to evenhandedly apply competition, consumer protection, anti-discrimination laws and any other rule or law that applies to your company. But the industry’s efforts suggest that Big Tech companies are trying to curry favor and skirt the rules. This would be good for billionaire tech executives, but it is bad for America: if left unchecked, Big Tech monopolies will threaten consumers’ rights, run roughshod over workers, and squash competition while stifling innovation.

These donations raise questions about corruption and the influence of corporate money on the Trump administration, and Congress and the public deserve answers. Therefore, we ask that you provide responses to the following questions by January 31st, 2025:

1. When and under what circumstances did your company decide to make these contributions to the Trump inaugural fund?

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⁵ *Id.*

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⁸ *Id.*

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2. What is your rationale for these contributions?
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5. Did officials with the company have any communications about these donations with members of the Trump Transition team or other associates of President Trump? If so, please list all such communications, including the time of the conversation, the participants, and the nature of any communication.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2025

Tim Cook
Chief Executive Officer
Apple Inc.
1 Apple Park Way
Cupertino, CA 95014

Dear Mr. Cook,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including Apple have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on January 3rd, 2025 reporting confirmed your intention to personally donate \$1 million to the inaugural fund.¹

Big Tech companies have come under increased scrutiny from federal regulators for antitrust violations, violations of privacy, and harms to workers, consumers, and competition.² At the same time, lawmakers in both parties have voiced support for regulating tech platforms, in recognition that there is currently no comprehensive set of rules for the tech sector.³ We are concerned that your company and other Big Tech donors are using your massive contributions to the inaugural fund to cozy up to the incoming Trump administration in an effort to avoid scrutiny, limit regulation, and buy favor.

You have a clear and direct interest in obtaining favors from the incoming administration: your company and many other Big Tech donors are already the subject of ongoing federal investigations and regulatory actions. For example:

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² Reuters, "FTC can reopen Meta privacy case despite \$5 billion fine, court rules," Mike Scarcella, March 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/legal/transactional/ftc-can-reopen-meta-privacy-case-despite-5-bln-fine-court-rules-2024-03-13/>; U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, "Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies," press release, January 24, 2023, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-google-monopolizing-digital-advertising-technologies>.

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- OpenAI CEO Sam Altman personally donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, while OpenAI is the subject of an open FTC investigation for consumer harm, and an SEC investigation for misleading investors.¹⁰
- Uber donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, along with an additional \$1 million from Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi. The company is the subject of an ongoing FTC investigation for predatory practices.¹¹

It is critical that federal regulators continue to evenhandedly apply competition, consumer protection, anti-discrimination laws and any other rule or law that applies to your company. But the industry’s efforts suggest that Big Tech companies are trying to curry favor and skirt the rules. This would be good for billionaire tech executives, but it is bad for America: if left unchecked, Big Tech monopolies will threaten consumers’ rights, run roughshod over workers, and squash competition while stifling innovation.

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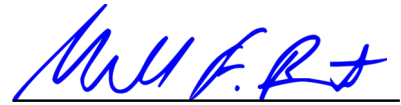
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We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2025

Sundar Pichai
Chief Executive Officer
Google Headquarters
1600 Amphitheater Parkway
Mountain View, CA 64043

Dear Mr. Pichai,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including Google have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on January 6th, 2025 a company spokesperson confirmed that your donation of \$1 million was made to the inaugural fund.¹

Big Tech companies have come under increased scrutiny from federal regulators for antitrust violations, violations of privacy, and harms to workers, consumers, and competition.² At the same time, lawmakers in both parties have voiced support for regulating tech platforms, in recognition that there is currently no comprehensive set of rules for the tech sector.³ We are concerned that your company and other Big Tech donors are using your massive contributions to the inaugural fund to cozy up to the incoming Trump administration in an effort to avoid scrutiny, limit regulation, and buy favor.

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² Reuters, "FTC can reopen Meta privacy case despite \$5 billion fine, court rules," Mike Scarcella, March 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/legal/transactional/ftc-can-reopen-meta-privacy-case-despite-5-bln-fine-court-rules-2024-03-13/>; U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, "Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies," press release, January 24, 2023, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-google-monopolizing-digital-advertising-technologies>.

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It is critical that federal regulators continue to evenhandedly apply competition, consumer protection, anti-discrimination laws and any other rule or law that applies to your company. But the industry’s efforts suggest that Big Tech companies are trying to curry favor and skirt the rules. This would be good for billionaire tech executives, but it is bad for America: if left unchecked, Big Tech monopolies will threaten consumers’ rights, run roughshod over workers, and squash competition while stifling innovation.

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We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2025

Mark Zuckerberg
Chief Executive Officer
Meta Headquarters
1 Hacker Way
Menlo Park, CA 64025

Dear Mr. Zuckerberg,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including Meta have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on December 11th, 2024 a company spokesperson confirmed that your donation of \$1 million was made to the inaugural fund.¹

Big Tech companies have come under increased scrutiny from federal regulators for antitrust violations, violations of privacy, and harms to workers, consumers, and competition.² At the same time, lawmakers in both parties have voiced support for regulating tech platforms, in recognition that there is currently no comprehensive set of rules for the tech sector.³ We are concerned that your company and other Big Tech donors are using your massive contributions to the inaugural fund to cozy up to the incoming Trump administration in an effort to avoid scrutiny, limit regulation, and buy favor.

You have a clear and direct interest in obtaining favors from the incoming administration: your company and many other Big Tech donors are already the subject of ongoing federal investigations and regulatory actions. For example:

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¹ The Wall Street Journal, "Mark Zuckerberg's Meta Donates \$1 Million to Trump's Inaugural Fund," Dana Mattioli and Rebecca Ballhaus, December 11, 2024, <https://www.wsj.com/tech/mark-zuckerbergs-meta-donates-1-million-to-trumps-inaugural-fund-32a999c1>.

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investigation into fraudulent schemes to obtain credit, and over 300 open National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) cases alleging unfair labor practices.⁴

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- OpenAI CEO Sam Altman personally donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, while OpenAI is the subject of an open FTC investigation for consumer harm, and an SEC investigation for misleading investors.¹⁰
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It is critical that federal regulators continue to evenhandedly apply competition, consumer protection, anti-discrimination laws and any other rule or law that applies to your company. But the industry’s efforts suggest that Big Tech companies are trying to curry favor and skirt the rules. This would be good for billionaire tech executives, but it is bad for America: if left unchecked, Big Tech monopolies will threaten consumers’ rights, run roughshod over workers, and squash competition while stifling innovation.

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We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2025

Satya Nadella
Chief Executive Officer
Microsoft Headquarters
1 Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052

Dear Mr. Nadella,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including Microsoft have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on January 9th, 2025 a company spokesperson confirmed that your donation of \$1 million was made to the inaugural fund.¹

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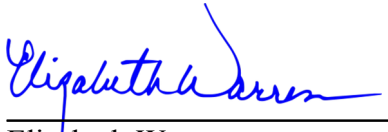
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January 17, 2025

Sam Altman
Chief Executive Officer
OpenAI Headquarters
3180 18th Street, Suite 100
San Francisco, CA 94110

Dear Mr. Altman,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including OpenAI have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on December 13th, 2024 reporting confirmed your intention to personally donate \$1 million to the inaugural fund.¹

Big Tech companies have come under increased scrutiny from federal regulators for antitrust violations, violations of privacy, and harms to workers, consumers, and competition.² At the same time, lawmakers in both parties have voiced support for regulating tech platforms, in recognition that there is currently no comprehensive set of rules for the tech sector.³ We are concerned that your company and other Big Tech donors are using your massive contributions to the inaugural fund to cozy up to the incoming Trump administration in an effort to avoid scrutiny, limit regulation, and buy favor.

You have a clear and direct interest in obtaining favors from the incoming administration: your company and many other Big Tech donors are already the subject of ongoing federal investigations and regulatory actions. For example:

- Amazon, which donated \$1 million to Trump's inaugural fund, is the subject of multiple ongoing regulatory actions, including multiple Federal Trade Commission (FTC) suits related to anticonsumer and anticompetitive practices, a Department of Justice (DOJ)

¹ Associated Press, "OpenAI's Altman will donate \$1 million to Trump's inaugural fund," Sarah Parvini, December 13, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/sam-altman-donald-trump-openai-3b7a87037f3718eb3edc73e94be8a61a>.

² Reuters, "FTC can reopen Meta privacy case despite \$5 billion fine, court rules," Mike Scarcella, March 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/legal/transactional/ftc-can-reopen-meta-privacy-case-despite-5-bln-fine-court-rules-2024-03-13/>; U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, "Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies," press release, January 24, 2023, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-google-monopolizing-digital-advertising-technologies>.

³ Digital Consumer Protection Commission Act of 2023, S. 2597, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2597>; Open App Markets Act, S. 2710, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2710>; AMERICA Act, S. 1073, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1073>.

investigation into fraudulent schemes to obtain credit, and over 300 open National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) cases alleging unfair labor practices.⁴

- Apple CEO Tim Cook donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, while Apple is the subject of a DOJ antitrust suit, as well as over 20 open NLRB cases related to unfair labor practices.⁵
- Google, which donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, was found by a federal court to have an illegal monopoly over the online search market.⁶ Google has promised to appeal the ruling and the Trump administration’s DOJ will decide whether to contest the appeal. Google is also the subject of over 20 open NLRB cases related to unfair labor practices.⁷
- Meta, which donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, is the subject of an ongoing investigation by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) into the improper use of financial data and an FTC antitrust suit for monopolistic practices.⁸
- Microsoft has donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund and is the subject of multiple open investigations by the FTC for anticompetitive practices.⁹
- OpenAI CEO Sam Altman personally donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, while OpenAI is the subject of an open FTC investigation for consumer harm, and an SEC investigation for misleading investors.¹⁰
- Uber donated \$1 million to Trump’s inaugural fund, along with an additional \$1 million from Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi. The company is the subject of an ongoing FTC investigation for predatory practices.¹¹

It is critical that federal regulators continue to evenhandedly apply competition, consumer protection, anti-discrimination laws and any other rule or law that applies to your company. But the industry’s efforts suggest that Big Tech companies are trying to curry favor and skirt the rules. This would be good for billionaire tech executives, but it is bad for America: if left unchecked, Big Tech monopolies will threaten consumers’ rights, run roughshod over workers, and squash competition while stifling innovation.

These donations raise questions about corruption and the influence of corporate money on the Trump administration, and Congress and the public deserve answers. Therefore, we ask that you provide responses to the following questions by January 31st, 2025:

1. When and under what circumstances did your company decide to make these contributions to the Trump inaugural fund?

⁴ Public Citizen, “Corporate Enforcement Tracker,” January 10, 2025, <https://www.citizen.org/article/corporate-enforcement-trump-tracker>.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Associated Press, “US regulators seek to break up Google, forcing Chrome sale as part of monopoly punishment,” Michael Liedtke, November 21, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/google-search-monopoly-penalty-justice-department-84e07fec51c5c59751d846118cb900a7>.

⁷ Public Citizen, “Corporate Enforcement Tracker,” January 10, 2025, <https://www.citizen.org/article/corporate-enforcement-trump-tracker>

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

2. What is your rationale for these contributions?
3. Which individuals within the company chose to make these donations?
4. Was the Board informed of these plans, and if so, did they provide affirmative consent to do so? Did your company inform shareholders of plans to make these donations?
5. Did officials with the company have any communications about these donations with members of the Trump Transition team or other associates of President Trump? If so, please list all such communications, including the time of the conversation, the participants, and the nature of any communication.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2025

Dara Khosrowshahi
Chief Executive Officer
Uber Technologies Inc.
1725 3rd Street
San Francisco, CA 94158

Dear Mr. Khosrowshahi,

In the two months since the election, Big Tech companies including Uber have made million-dollar gifts to President-elect Donald Trump's inaugural fund in what appears to be an effort to influence and sway the actions and policies of the incoming administration. Specifically, on December 17th, 2024 a company spokesperson confirmed that your corporate donation of \$1 million and your personal donation of \$1 million were made to the inaugural fund.¹

Big Tech companies have come under increased scrutiny from federal regulators for antitrust violations, violations of privacy, and harms to workers, consumers, and competition.² At the same time, lawmakers in both parties have voiced support for regulating tech platforms, in recognition that there is currently no comprehensive set of rules for the tech sector.³ We are concerned that your company and other Big Tech donors are using your massive contributions to the inaugural fund to cozy up to the incoming Trump administration in an effort to avoid scrutiny, limit regulation, and buy favor.

You have a clear and direct interest in obtaining favors from the incoming administration: your company and many other Big Tech donors are already the subject of ongoing federal investigations and regulatory actions. For example:

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¹ The Wall Street Journal, "Exclusive: Uber and Its CEO Khosrowshahi Each Give \$1 Million to Trump Inauguration," Preetika Rana, December 17, 2024, <https://www.wsj.com/livecoverage/stock-market-today-dow-sp500-nasdaq-live-12-17-2024/card/uber-and-its-ceo-khosrowshahi-each-give-1-million-to-trump-inauguration-ljEyNPvUB6xTr6iA2mpE>.

² Reuters, "FTC can reopen Meta privacy case despite \$5 billion fine, court rules," Mike Scarcella, March 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/legal/transactional/ftc-can-reopen-meta-privacy-case-despite-5-bln-fine-court-rules-2024-03-13/>; U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, "Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies," press release, January 24, 2023, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-google-monopolizing-digital-advertising-technologies>.

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⁶ Associated Press, “US regulators seek to break up Google, forcing Chrome sale as part of monopoly punishment,” Michael Liedtke, November 21, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/google-search-monopoly-penalty-justice-department-84e07fec51c5c59751d846118cb900a7>.

⁷ Public Citizen, “Corporate Enforcement Tracker,” January 10, 2025, <https://www.citizen.org/article/corporate-enforcement-trump-tracker>

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

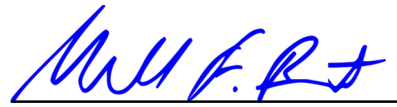
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We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator