



958 N Western Ave., Suite 765
Hollywood, CA 90029
jon@corbettrights.com

May 4th, 2021

To: Melissa deRosa
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224
Melissa.deRosa@exec.ny.gov
via USPS First Class Mail and e-mail

Cc: The Hon. Letitia James
Office of the Attorney General
The Capitol
Albany, NY 12224-0341
via USPS First Class Mail

Re: Demand to Cease & Desist Blocking Public Access to Government Official's Twitter Page

Dear Ms. deRosa:

My name is Jonathan Corbett, Esq., and this afternoon, you blocked me from your "@melissadderosa" Twitter account, presumably for posting content critical of the Governor.

Ms. deRosa, you are a government official, and your Twitter account is used for official business. As such, you are subject to the First Amendment, which prohibits you from throwing the public out of a public forum. In blocking me on Twitter, you have thus violated my First Amendment rights. It appears you have a regular practice of doing the same, as I was easily able to find several Twitter users complaining of the same behavior.

You should know that the right to participate in officials' Twitter discussions has been clearly established in this jurisdiction, because you have done the same thing that Donald Trump did to silence his critics. "We also concluded that when the President creates such a public forum [on Twitter], he violates the First Amendment when he excludes persons from the dialogue because they express views with which he disagrees." *Knight First Amendment Inst. at Columbia Univ. v. Trump*, 953 F.3d 216, 217 (2nd Cir. 2020). You should be ashamed that your behavior can be compared to that of Trump.

Regardless, you have 7 days to unblock me before I sue.

Respectfully,

/s/Jonathan Corbett

Jonathan Corbett, Esq.
958 N Western Ave. #765
Hollywood, CA 90029
E-mail: jon@corbettrights.com
Phone: (310) 684-3870
FAX: (310) 675-7080