

Joseph D. Morelle  
25<sup>th</sup> District, New York

**Washington Office**  
570 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-3615

**Rochester Office**  
3120 Federal Building  
100 State Street  
Rochester, NY 14614  
(585) 232-4850



**Committee on House Administration**  
*Ranking Member*

**Committee on Appropriations**  
*Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Development, and Related Agencies*

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 15, 2024

Mr. Evan Spiegel  
Chief Executive Officer  
Snap, Inc.  
3000 31st Street  
Santa Monica, California, 90405

Dear Mr. Spiegel,

I write today to express my grave concern and seek information regarding Snap's role in mitigating the epidemic of fatal drug poisonings.

As you may know, the illicit sale of counterfeit, fentanyl-laced pills marketed as legitimate are fueling an increase in overdose deaths among young people, many of whom are purchasing these deadly substances on applications such as Snapchat. Snapchat's user interface contains unique features, such as messages and pictures that are designed to disappear immediately as well as tools intended to easily hide content. These features allow for content that is difficult to monitor and can encourage illicit behavior.

With many of Snapchat's users aged between 13-24 years old, Snap's oversight of Snapchat is integral in preventing deadly consequences for our country's teens and young adults. It is no secret the market for illicit drugs has increased dramatically, with criminal drug traffickers turning to smartphones to sell their products. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), their enforcement efforts led to hundreds of cases directly linked to the sale of fake pills containing fentanyl on social media platforms in 2024. DEA's "One Pill Can Kill" Awareness Campaign warns that drug traffickers have turned smartphones into a one-stop shop to market, sell, buy, and deliver deadly fentanyl pills and other dangerous drugs.

While I appreciate the current work of Snap to employ technology that identifies illicit drug activity as well as shut down accounts associated with such activities, more must be done to protect our nation's youth. For that reason, I respectfully request a response by December 15, 2024, to the following questions.

1. As criminals take advantage of Snapchat to traffic and sell illicit substances, what actions has Snap taken to mitigate these efforts?
  - a. How has Snap prepared to adapt to the ever-changing digital age in which criminals are using these technologies with more and more sophistication?
  - b. What resources has Snap dedicated to countering the efforts of criminals using Snapchat?

2. Would Snap be supportive of federal efforts to provide formal guidance to social media companies regarding how to effectively cooperate with law enforcement?
  - a. To date, how has Snap coordinated with federal agencies to streamline prosecution efforts for those that use Snapchat to facilitate the deadly sale of counterfeit pills?
  - b. How can Congress assist companies like Snap as they work to keep users, particularly young, impressionable users, safe from deadly content?

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress