



STATE OF ALABAMA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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The Honorable Caroline C. Hunter  
Chair  
Federal Election Commission  
1050 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20463

The Honorable Ellen L. Weintraub  
Vice-Chair  
Federal Election Commission  
1050 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear Chairman Hunter and Vice-Chair Weintraub:

I write to encourage the Federal Election Commission to open an investigation into deceptive campaign practices used to influence a 2017 federal election in Alabama. It has been reported that a \$100,000 social media operation, titled *Project Birmingham*, was used to plant manufactured evidence on social media platforms that would hurt the candidacy of Roy Moore, while helping the candidacy of U.S. Senator Doug Jones. Allegedly, the operation was conducted in part by the cyber security firm New Knowledge, a Texas media firm. I am attaching an article published by the Washington Post, dated December 18, 2018, that lays out these allegations in further detail.

I have researched relevant state and federal law and have determined that the Federal Election Commission alone has jurisdiction to pursue this matter. Thus, I write to bring it to your attention and to ask for your assistance.

Alabamians have a right to know if illegal activity occurred during the 2017 race for the U.S. Senate. The reports of what may have transpired are deeply troubling and appear to warrant a full investigation by the Commission.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Marshall".

Steve Marshall  
Attorney General