TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

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LEAD INVESTIGATOR: CHARLES GASKIN INVEST#: 2023I-CID7-50106224

SUPERVISOR: RICARDO SOFORO OPENED: 03/20/2023
TITLE: UNKNOWN SUSPECT / THREAT TO LIFE / FILE STATUS: CLOSED

TRAVIS COUNTY

TYPE: CRIMINAL DIVISION: CRIMINAL

INVESTIGATIONS

DIVISION

SERVICE: REGION: 7

DISTRICT: C AREA: 01-AUSTIN
SUBTYPE: DISORDERLY CONDUCT AND RELATED SPURS URN: CMIV50106224

OFFENSES

CATEGORY: REVIEW DATE: SPECIAL APPROVAL: LEGACY REF:

PROGRAM: SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS SUBPROGRAM: TERRORISTIC

THREAT

CASE#:

INVESTIGATION SYNOPSIS

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS) Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Special Agent (SA) Charles Gaskin received information from Senator Kolkhorst's Office of a general threat posted on an online platform against citizens testifying in support of Senate Bill 147 on 03/02/2023. SA Gaskin and the Federal Bureau of Investigations investigated the threat.

SUPPLEMENTAL SYNOPSES

S1 03/20/2023 Report Writer: Charles Gaskin 04/20/2023 Approved by: Ricardo Soforo

On 03/01/2023, Texas Department of Public Safety (TX DPS), Criminal Investigations Division (CID), Special Agent (SA) Charles Gaskin received information from Senator Kolkhorst's Office of a general threat posted on an online platform against citizens testifying in support of Senate Bill 147 on 03/02/2023. SA Gaskin and the Federal Bureau of Investigations investigated the threat.

SUPPLEMENTAL DETAILS

- On 03/01/2023, Texas Department of Public Safety (TX DPS), Criminal Investigations Division (CID), Special Agent (SA) Charles Gaskin was notified by Senator Kolkhorst's Office of a generalized threat posted in the online digital platform "WeChat" targeting citizens testifying in support of Senate Bill 147 at a hearing on 03/02/2023.
 - 2. The above information was received by Senator Kolkhorst's office from Chad Bullard, an executive with ChinaAid, an international Christian non-profit human rights organization. During routine monitoring of a Chinese messaging application, several messages were discovered

- which indicated unknown persons from several Texas cities were "coming to Austin to cause harm and violence to individuals wishing to support the bill, SB147".
- 3. SA Gaskin contacted Bullard via phone on 03/01/2023. Bullard told SA Gaskin, the founder of ChinaAid, Bob Fu, would be providing public testimony during the Senate committee hearing regarding SB147. Bullard told SA Gaskin, Bob Fu has received several past death threats due to his Anti-Chinese Communist Party position and recent protests have occurred outside of Fu's Midland, TX home.
- 4. SA Gaskin contacted Midland Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) SA Kelly R. Kaderka. SA Kaderka verified the information provided by Bullard was accurate and the FBI was also made aware of the threat posted on "WeChat."
- 5. SA Gaskin requested the link to the original threat from Bullard, it was never provided.
- 6. Due to no identifying information for the "WeChat" account available to evaluate the legitimacy of the threat and background information about the "WeChat" platform, provided by SA Kaderka, an increased security posture was put in place for the Senate Committee Hearing to ensure safe testimony.
- 7. The FBI will continue to monitor and investigate threats against Fu.
- 8. This investigation is closed.

WITNESSES

S1 Bullard, Chad Alan - White/Male -

INVOLVED LOCATIONS

S1 Texas State Capitol 1100 Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78701 Activity Location

OFFENSES

S1 Terroristic Threat Interrupt Public Place 22.07(a)(3) 22.07a3 MA
Travis County, Austin, TX, US
03/01/2023 (Wednesday)

CHARGES

PERSONNEL

S1 Charles Gaskin, Criminal Investigations Division "7" Texas Dept of Public Safety (512) 424-0214

Kelly R. Kaderka, Other

EVIDENCE

ATTACHMENT NAME(S)

END OF REPORT