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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF FLORIDA

Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

Attorney General James Uthmeier Issues Subpoena to TP Link Over Cybersecurity Risks, Alleged Data-sharing with Chinese Communist Party

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General James Uthmeier today announced that he has issued an investigative subpoena to TP-Link Systems Inc. as part of an ongoing consumer protection investigation into the company's cybersecurity practices, supply-chain infrastructure, and handling of U.S. consumer data. TP-Link, headquartered in California, sells Wi-Fi routers that allow access to personal home and business networks.

"Floridians deserve to know the truth about the security of the products they bring into their homes," **said Attorney General James Uthmeier**. "If a company is going to make claims about their cybersecurity or foreign relationship practices, then they had better be accurate. We will not allow Floridians to be misled into handing their personal data to the Chinese Communist Party."

The subpoena requires TP-Link Systems to produce extensive documents regarding its corporate structure, manufacturing and software development practices, data handling, and evidence supporting its claims about product security.

U.S. Department of Commerce officials proposed a ban on TP-Link Systems, citing that the products pose a risk because the U.S.-based company handles sensitive American data and because officials believe it remains subject to jurisdiction or influence by the Chinese government.

If TP-Link Systems is found to expose Floridians to cybersecurity threats or to mislead its customers about foreign government access, it will be in direct violation of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Attorney General Uthmeier recently took legal action against Contec over potential cybersecurity risks and alleged violations of Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act. Attorney General Uthmeier also issued a subpoena to Lorex in a data privacy probe related to the Chinese Military Connection.

This investigation is ongoing, and the issuance of a subpoena is not a determination of wrongdoing by TP-Link.

To view the subpoena, click here.

Consumers who believe they were misled about a product's privacy or security may file a complaint at MyFloridaLegal.com or by calling 1-866-9-NO-SCAM.

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