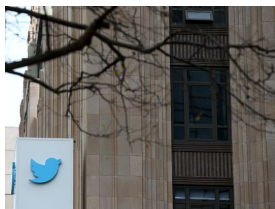


Twitter sued by widow for alleged aid to ISIS

Jessica Guynn, USA TODAY 12:02 p.m. EST January 14, 2016



(Photo: Justin Sullivan, Getty Images)

SAN FRANCISCO — In a move that could increase pressure on social media companies to more quickly remove content from terrorist groups, Twitter is being sued by the widow of an American killed in an attack on a Jordanian police training center who says the social media service makes it too easy for the Islamic State to spread its message.

Tamara Fields, a Florida woman whose husband Lloyd Carl Fields Jr., a government contractor, died in the Nov. 9 attack, accuses Twitter of knowingly allowing the terror group to distribute propaganda, raise money and attract recruits. Fields went to [Amman](#) to help train police there under the auspices of a State Department program. He was one of five people shot by a Jordanian officer at a police training center. ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack.

"Without Twitter, the explosive growth of ISIS over the last few years into the most feared terrorist group in the world would not have been possible," alleges the lawsuit filed Wednesday in San Francisco federal court, according to a [report \(http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci_29381195/twitter-sued-over-isis-attacks\)](http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci_29381195/twitter-sued-over-isis-attacks) in the [San Jose Mercury News](#).

Fields accuses Twitter of providing material support to terrorism and is seeking compensatory damages. She also wants a ruling that Twitter is violating the federal Anti-Terrorism Act.



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[White House to talk terrorism with Apple, Facebook](#)

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In a statement released by Twitter, the San Francisco company said the lawsuit has no merit but expressed sadness for "this family's terrible loss."

"Violent threats and the promotion of terrorism deserve no place on Twitter and, like other social networks, our rules make that clear," Twitter said in the statement. "We have teams around the world actively investigating reports of rule violations, identifying violating conduct, partnering with organizations countering extremist content online, and working with law enforcement entities when appropriate."

The [Obama administration](#) last week set up a task force to police extremist groups using popular Internet services such as Facebook, Alphabet's YouTube and Twitter. These services are facing growing pressure from Washington to more closely monitor and more swiftly remove propaganda from terror groups such as ISIS. The task is daunting: As quickly as Twitter deletes accounts associated with terror groups, new ones pop up.



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[Facebook, Twitter pressured to do more to halt terrorists](#)

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