

Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal

From: Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal
Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2019 3:36 PM
To: Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal
Cc: Julie Roberts - NOAA Federal; Christopher Vaccaro
Subject: Re: Media Inquiry: POTUS Tweet

Julie was on point for this, and can answer you soon. To me, this can quickly be taken care of by answering, "the latter." :-)

-s

On Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 3:20 PM Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov> wrote:
Hi Julie, Scott, Chris - Please see below. WFO Birmingham forwarded this media request on POTUS Tweet for followup.
The answer is the latter part of Daniel's question. If you'd like for me to respond, please advise.
Thank you, -Susan

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Chris Darden - NOAA Federal <chris.darden@noaa.gov>
Date: Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 2:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: Media inquiry from Washington Examiner
To: Susan Buchanan - NOAA Federal <susan.buchanan@noaa.gov>
Cc: Dennis Feltgen - NOAA Federal <dennis.feltgen@noaa.gov>, Jose Garcia <Jose.Garcia@noaa.gov>

Susan,

We received this request from the Washington Examiner. I would assume that PA would like to handle this one?

As I mentioned in the email to the staff Sunday evening, the general timeline was as follows:

Day shift on Sunday starts to receive a large/inordinate amount of calls and post/questions on social media about possible impacts in Alabama (from Dorian).

(b)(6) send out a note on social media (Twitter/FB) to let folks know that Dorian does not appear to be a threat for the state.

Some time later (they estimate about 10 minutes), the staff is made aware of the POTUS tweet when James Spann direct responds to the POTUS Tweet. That was the first time the staff in the office saw it.

So, in short, our tweet/FB post was to try and dispel rumors and not in "direct" response to the POTUS.

Thanks.

Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [sr-bmx.webmaster](mailto:sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov) <sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov>
Date: Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 1:03 PM
Subject: Fwd: Media inquiry from Washington Examiner
To: Chris Darden <chris.darden@noaa.gov>

Chris,

We got the following email in the webmaster account yesterday. I'll let you or NWS PA handle it. Thanks!

Tara

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject: Media inquiry from Washington Examiner
Date: Mon, 2 Sep 2019 20:38:18 -0400
From: Daniel Chaitin <dchaitin@washingtonexaminer.com>
To: sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov

Good evening,

President Trump tweeted on Saturday that Hurricane Dorian may hit Alabama. 20 minutes later the National Weather Service tweeted "Alabama will NOT see any impacts from #Dorian. ... The system will remain too far east."

Can you tell me if this message from NWS was sent in response to Trump or because of calls coming into the station from people concerned the hurricane would be turning towards Alabama?

Regards,
Daniel Chaitin
240-644-7271
Washington Examiner

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Chris Darden
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National Weather Service
465 Weathervane Road
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Scott Smullen
Deputy Director
NOAA Communications
202-482-1097 o / [REDACTED] (b)(6) c