

AMAZON CUSTOMER DUE DILIGENCE SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL

Presented by Myaisha Hayes, Campaign Strategies Director, MediaJustice
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My name is Myaisha Hayes and I am the Campaign Strategies Director at MediaJustice. I am here to present Resolution 6, on behalf of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood and eight co-filers. The proposal calls on Amazon's Board to commission an independent third-party report on Amazon's process for customer due diligence. This report would determine whether customers' use of its surveillance products and services contributes to human rights violations.

MediaJustice is a national organization that fights for racial, gender, and economic justice in the digital age. We're also the home of the MediaJustice Network, a network of 103 organizations based across the country, working on the front lines of social change.

As millions of people shelter in place during this pandemic, Amazon has become a trusted tool to deliver the vital supplies our communities need to stay safe. Yet Amazon is undermining that trust through the sale of surveillance products and services that threaten the safety of our communities and fast track discrimination. Amazon's surveillance products enable wide-spread, unchecked surveillance by our neighbors, employers, and government agencies.

This technology can be used to deny communities access to health care, housing, or even employment opportunities. Amazon's surveillance products create an imbalance of power in our everyday lives. Ring customers can share their video footage with third parties, including law enforcement, who are free to use and share that footage as they please. FOIA Records obtained by the ACLU exposed that ICE already sources information from local law enforcement for the purpose of deportation. Suddenly walking past your neighbor's porch can become evidence in a deportation case.

Furthermore, research from MIT has shown that Amazon's facial Rekognition technology was far more likely to misidentify women and people of color compared to white men. Layered on top of our biased criminal legal system, this technology automates the racial profiling that leads to more people of color being arrested, injured, and/or killed by the police.

Given the potential risks, Amazon is absolutely responsible for how its customers use their surveillance products and therefore should be obligated to mitigate the harm caused by its products. I join proponents in strongly encouraging all shareholders to vote in favor of Item 6 calling for increased oversight of customers' use of Amazon's high-risk tech products and services.