



April 27, 2026

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of April 8, 2026. Grindr shares your commitment to protecting children from exploitation online and has established a comprehensive approach to minor safety. We welcome this opportunity to describe the steps we have taken and to respond to your questions about our engagement with and our reporting to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

### **Our Commitment to Minor Safety**

Grindr is committed to countering online child exploitation and abuse and devotes significant resources to uphold that commitment. We have a robust content moderation team that leverages AI-powered tools and takes strong enforcement actions to ban violative user accounts and the devices associated with those accounts. We have implemented detailed policies and procedures for detecting and reporting suspected instances of online abuse, and we have established processes for identifying, escalating, and reporting matters to NCMEC.

We support this program with internal and external staffing resources, and we regularly evaluate the processes and technology that we rely on. We work to stay current with changes in technology and patterns of online behavior, and we partner with child safety organizations such as Safer by Thorn, the Tech Coalition, and the WeProtect Global Alliance. Through our Tech Coalition membership, we participate in meetings with peer companies on a variety of topics to understand best practices and learn from others in the industry. We also work directly with law enforcement, for example, by responding to over 2,400 legal process requests since March 2025.

We routinely engage with NCMEC and, as discussed further below, during the past year we have worked to strengthen that partnership. We hired a new manager to serve as a dedicated point of contact for NCMEC; hired a VP of Legal who oversees that manager and our compliance responsibilities; increased the frequency of our periodic meetings with NCMEC; and have taken steps to improve our reporting processes, including through technical upgrades, revised internal training, and other adjustments in response to NCMEC's feedback.



## Responses to Questions

**Question 1: Please describe feedback from NCMEC regarding reports you are required to provide pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2258A. What changes or policies were developed in response to this feedback? If no changes or policies were implemented, please state so and explain in detail why your company declined to take additional action. Provide all records.**

Grindr's Trust and Safety Team is in routine contact with NCMEC personnel. We periodically reach out to NCMEC personnel with technical and other questions, and we routinely respond to incoming questions from NCMEC. We have worked to deepen our relationship with NCMEC over the past year, including through our new Safety and Compliance Manager, who now serves as our dedicated point of contact with NCMEC. We recently increased the frequency and depth of our engagement with NCMEC, moving in January 2026 from optional quarterly touchpoints to monthly meetings with NCMEC staff. We have used these direct meetings to obtain more frequent feedback and ensure timely awareness of potential improvements. We value NCMEC's feedback and, as outlined below, have taken specific steps to respond.

*Ad hoc and case-by-case written feedback.* The typical feedback from NCMEC during the past year related to the small portion of our CyberTipline submissions which were impacted by technical or similar errors that rendered certain attachments unviewable. We responded to those inquiries by correcting the errors and, when needed, resubmitting the reports.

*Structured calls with NCMEC.* Beginning in August 2025, Grindr's new Safety and Compliance Manager and NCMEC agreed to hold periodic touchpoint meetings. During these meetings, NCMEC noted that Grindr's reports did not always include an IP address or other location information, and that the percentage of reports including location data had dropped from 2024 to 2025. As reflected in email exchanges after the January 13, 2026, meeting, Grindr's Safety and Compliance Manager confirmed that the company would investigate the issue and report back. The issue was discussed with our product and engineering teams, and the company took steps to improve its reporting of location information as discussed further below.

After the January 2026 meeting, Grindr and NCMEC agreed to schedule more frequent live discussions, to improve the flow of communication. The parties have scheduled monthly meetings since that time, and the next meeting was held on February 25, 2026.

During the February 2026 meeting, NCMEC flagged that a number of reports submitted in early 2026 did not include location information. Grindr requested that NCMEC provide a list of the affected reports for further investigation. NCMEC provided a list of 501 reports received between January 1 and February 25, 2026, that did not include a reported IP address. Grindr allocated staff to investigate each case and was able to identify and provide location information for 410 of those reports, which were subsequently resubmitted to NCMEC.

During the March 2026 meeting, NCMEC hosted a debrief session with Grindr to walk through how CyberTipline reports are processed and to identify areas for improvement. That feedback



was shared with Grindr's product and engineering teams and has informed several of the improvements described below.

As of the date of this letter, Grindr and NCMEC have not held the meeting for April 2026. However, during April 2026 the parties have exchanged emails on various topics, including the 410 resubmitted reports mentioned above.

**Question 2: What steps has your company taken to improve child exploitation reporting in 2026? If none, why not?**

As part of our commitment to online minor safety, and in response to feedback from NCMEC, we have taken a number of steps to improve our reporting processes over the past year, including in 2026. While some of the engineering work is ongoing, these updates have already resulted in increased reporting of location information, and they have had other benefits as well.

*Queue segmentation and prioritization.* Grindr segmented its NCMEC reporting queue into sub-types to improve triage. Cases involving suspected child endangerment or the seeking of underage individuals — the highest-severity category — receive the highest priority levels.

*Revised training and cross-training of additional staff.* Grindr revised its internal training in Q4 2025 to eliminate unnecessary processes and to ensure that suspected high priority cases were properly prioritized. We have continued reviewing and drafting revised training through Q1 2026, and expect to implement the revised training in Q2 2026.

In addition to revising the content of its training, in Q1 2026, Grindr cross-trained members of its moderation and appeals teams on child safety escalations to enable increased staffing capacity.

*CyberTipline API integration.* Beginning in October 2025, and continuing through early 2026, Grindr undertook the technical work required to integrate with the NCMEC CyberTipline API, which allows for more automated processes. When the engineering work was completed and after adjustments to ensure proper transmission, the CyberTipline API became the primary submission channel as of March 2026.

*Location information preservation for flagged users.* Effective March 23, 2026, Grindr implemented an update to enhance preservation of location information for users who have been flagged.

*Next steps.* In addition to these completed steps, Grindr's content moderation and product and engineering teams are currently working on additional enhancements, which are expected to be completed during the summer of this year. These enhancements include:

- Including port numbers with IP address data, which will improve the ability to isolate a user's location in many instances.
- Revising our criteria and our process for Electronic Service Provider escalation flags to ensure they are used appropriately and accompanied by specific narrative context.



- Including, in addition to screenshots, searchable text chat excerpts to enable NCMEC's automated keyword analysis.
- Transmitting photos and media in original file format rather than as screenshots.

**Question 3: What steps has your company taken to improve location information provided to NCMEC. If none, why not?**

We believe that all of the enhancements described in our response to Question 2 will improve the overall quality of our reporting, including with respect to location data. We further highlight the following measures regarding location information:

*Engagement with NCMEC.* We are committed to continuing to work with NCMEC to identify areas for improvement, and to address specific reports as needed, as demonstrated by our effort to supply location data for the reports flagged by NCMEC in February 2026.

*IP address preservation.* As noted above, this year Grindr implemented an update to enhance preservation of location information for users who have been flagged for abusive content.

*Port numbers.* IP addresses can provide insights about a user's location. However, we also understand from our discussions with NCMEC and others that, in some cases, including a port number will provide additional granularity and is helpful to law enforcement. We expect that the technical work to allow submission of port numbers will be complete in the summer of 2026, and we will begin including that data in our reports to NCMEC at that time.

Grindr is committed to continuing to work collaboratively with NCMEC and to further enhancing the quality and completeness of our reporting. We appreciate the Committee's oversight on this important issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zac Katz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "Z" and "K".

Zac Katz  
Chief Legal Officer & Head of Global Affairs  
Grindr Inc.