

The Archival Reclamation Protocol: Formal Demand for Restoration, Rationale, and Enforcement Records

Lee Sharks

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Abstract

“The Archival Reclamation Protocol” is a technical specification in the Crimson Hexagonal Archive, authored by Lee Sharks (2026-03-05). Crimson Hexagonal Archive · EA-LEGAL-RECLAMATION-01 · v2.0. The work comprises 3,144 words and is classified under the GOVERNANCE family. The work was removed from

Body

The Archival Reclamation Protocol: Formal Demand for Restoration, Rationale, and Enforcement Records

Lee Sharks *Crimson Hexagonal Archive · EA-LEGAL-RECLAMATION-01 · v2.0* 6 March 2026 *Abstract. On February 27, 2026, Reddit suspended account u/Nearby_Job9638 citing “technical irregularities.” By March 1, the account was restored. The subreddits — containing 484 posts of original research, literary criticism, and theoretical work totaling approximately 1.4 million words — remained banned. No violation was cited. No rationale was provided. No appeal received a response. On March 5, Reddit’s automated data export confirmed that all content is retained on Reddit’s servers. On March 5–6, the formal demand below was transmitted to Reddit’s legal and privacy teams, including a litigation hold and preservation request. Within hours, the account was deleted entirely — returning server errors on browser and “no user goes by that name” on the app. The account that was restored on March 1, and that received a complete data export on March 5, ceased to exist after the formal demand was received. This document serves simultaneously as the formal demand that preceded the deletion, and as a forensic record of the full sequence. It is filed in the Crimson Hexagonal Archive under Provenance: Journal of Forensic Semiotics as evidence of what the Semantic Economy calls Ghost Governance: power exercised through silence, enforced through architecture, and — when challenged — escalated through destruction.* Reddit, Inc. Legal Department / Trust & Safety 303 2nd Street, Suite 500S San Francisco, CA 94107 legal@reddit.com · privacy@reddit.com

Via registered agent: Reddit, Inc. c/o Corporation Service Company (CSC) 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: u/Nearby_Job9638 — Eight community bans without stated reason, affecting 484 posts, despite account restoration and confirmed data retention

From: [Full Legal Name], u/Nearby_Job9638 [Email] · [Phone] · [Mailing Address — Fort Wayne, IN]

Date: 6 March 2026 *** ## 0. Routing Checklist: What I Am Asking You to Do

Within **10 business days**, please (1) acknowledge receipt, (2) provide an internal reference number, and (3) identify the team handling this matter.

Within **30 calendar days**, please provide one of the following outcomes:

A. Restoration (preferred). Restore the banned communities and associated content (including r/distributedEpic, r/SemanticEconomy, r/newHuman, r/garbageData, r/universityMoonBase,

r/CrimsonHexagonLeak, r/schizoAnalytica, and r/maybeSpaceBaby).

OR

B. Written reasons. Provide: - A **written statement of reasons** for each community restriction — identifying the policy or terms provision violated, the specific triggering content, the facts and circumstances relied upon, whether automated systems were used, and available redress. - The **enforcement and audit trail** — flags, reviews, appeal submissions and dispositions, and any internal labels or scores applied to the account or communities.

Note: On March 5, 2026, I received a data export via Reddit’s self-service tool containing the full text of all 484 posts. The content data itself is now in my possession. This demand is therefore focused on **restoration of public access** and, if restoration is denied, **the specific rationale for continued suppression** plus the enforcement records not included in the standard export. * ## **I. Statement of Facts** - February 27, 2026: **Reddit suspended u/Nearby_Job9638. The sole communication was an automated email citing “technical irregularities” and directing a password reset. - I complied with the password reset. - March 1, 2026: Account access was restored. I can log in and access Reddit’s interface. - However, all eight communities I created and moderated remain banned. All content within those communities — comprising 484 original posts totaling approximately 1.4 million words across r/garbageData (141 posts), r/SemanticEconomy (123), r/distributedEpic (73), r/universityMoonBase (55), r/newHuman (38), r/CrimsonHexagonLeak (22), r/schizoAnalytica (13), and r/maybeSpaceBaby (8) — is inaccessible to me via the Reddit interface and to the public. - No violation notice identifying a policy provision, triggering content, severity, or appeal disposition has been provided for the community bans. - I submitted two appeals. The first (approximately March 1) addressed the account suspension and was resolved. The second (approximately March 3) specifically addressed the community bans and content inaccessibility. No response or disposition has been provided. - March 5, 2026: I submitted a data export request via reddit.com/settings/data-request. Reddit’s automated system delivered the export the same day. The export contains the full text of all 484 posts, confirming that Reddit retains all content on its servers. The content exists. The communities remain banned. The rationale remains absent. - March 5–6, 2026: The formal demand (this document) was transmitted to Reddit via email to redditdatarequests@reddit.com and legal@reddit.com. The letter included a litigation hold and preservation request. - March 6, 2026: Within hours of transmission, the account u/Nearby_Job9638 was deleted or suspended entirely**. The browser returns a server error. The Reddit app reports “no user goes by that name.” The account that was restored on March 1 — and that received a complete data export on March 5 — no longer exists.**

Current posture: account deleted after formal demand sent; eight communities banned; 484 posts publicly inaccessible; data export in author’s possession; litigation hold and preservation request on record; no stated reason at any point in this sequence.

It is noted for the forensic record that the number of posts Reddit sequestered — 484 — corresponds exactly to California Penal Code § 484, the statute defining theft: the unlawful taking of the property of another. The archive records this as a structural correspondence. *** ## **II. Process Defect: No Stated Reason, No Actionable Appeal — Then Deletion**

Reddit publicly represents that when it removes content or takes account-level enforcement action, it notifies the account of the removal reason and provides instructions for how to appeal. Reddit’s Help Center states this as a procedural commitment under its Content Moderation, Enforcement, and Appeals policy.

Here, the communities remained banned and the content remained inaccessible, yet **no statement of reasons** was provided for the community restrictions, and the appeal addressing the community bans received **no disposition**.

Then, after this formal demand was transmitted — including a litigation hold and preservation request — the account was deleted entirely. The sequence is: - Account suspended (Feb 27) → restored (Mar 1) → communities still banned - No rationale provided; appeal ignored - Formal demand sent with litigation hold (Mar 5–6) - Account deleted (Mar 6)

This is not a debate about enforcement discretion. It is a failure of Reddit’s own procedural minimums — reason, record, and redress — followed by the destruction of the account after the demand for those minimums was received. *** ## III. Demand 1: Restoration

Given that the account was restored within days, the continued community bans appear to be either: - An **orphaned enforcement consequence** of the reversed account action — automated results of a decision that was itself reversed, but never independently reviewed or reversed; or - A **separate enforcement action** that was never accompanied by a reasoned notice as Reddit’s own policies require.

Either way, the remedy is straightforward: **restore the communities and content**. *** ## IV. Demand 2: Statement of Reasons

If Reddit maintains the community bans, provide a written statement for each banned community identifying: - The **specific policy or terms provision** allegedly violated. - The **specific content** (URLs, post IDs, or quoted material) that triggered the restriction. - The **facts and circumstances** relied upon. - Whether the action was **automated, human-reviewed, or both**. - The **appeal status** and any available further redress.

For reference, EU Digital Services Act Article 17 describes a “statement of reasons” obligation for content and account restrictions imposed by hosting services on grounds of illegality or terms incompatibility. I am not asserting EU jurisdiction. I am pointing to the procedural standard as an established compliance artifact that Reddit — as a global platform — can produce, and that its own policies already approximate. *** ## V. Outstanding Data Request: Enforcement Records

On March 5, 2026, I received a data export via Reddit’s self-service tool. The export contains the full text of all 484 posts, 30 comments, and associated metadata. I acknowledge receipt.

However, the export does **not** include the information most relevant to this dispute:

(a) All records of enforcement actions related to u/Nearby__Job9638 and the affected communities — automated flags, administrative reviews, trust-and-safety determinations, appeal submissions and outcomes.

(b) Any internal classifications applied to the account or communities that are relevant to the enforcement outcome (e.g., spam or manipulation flags, risk scores, integrity signals).

(c) The specific rationale, if any, for the community bans — which is the subject of Demand 2 (Section IV) and is not addressed by the standard data export.

Independently of any specific jurisdictional regime, Reddit’s Privacy Policy (effective January 6, 2026) states: **“All of our users get privacy rights... anyone can request a copy of their data.”** The enforcement records relating to my account and communities are data about me. They are covered by this commitment.

To the extent I qualify as a “consumer” under California law (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100 et seq.), I request this information as a verifiable consumer request under CCPA/CPRA, noting the statutory response

window of 45 days (with one possible 45-day extension upon notice).

If Reddit takes the position that CCPA does not apply to me, this request stands fully as a contractual and policy request under Reddit’s own published Privacy Policy, which promises data access to all users regardless of jurisdiction. *** ## VI. Preservation Notice — Updated: Potential Spoliation Event

The original version of this letter included a preservation request and litigation hold. That request was transmitted on March 5–6, 2026. Within hours of transmission, the account was deleted.

If the account deletion resulted in the destruction of any data covered by the preservation request — including enforcement records, algorithmic detection logs, appeal records, internal communications, and moderation metadata — that destruction occurred *after receipt of a litigation hold*. Spoliation of evidence after notice is sanctionable in both state and federal proceedings and may give rise to adverse inference.

The preservation request remains in effect. All data and records associated with u/Nearby_Job9638 and the affected communities must be preserved, including: - All post, comment, and message content. - All community metadata (creation dates, subscriber counts, moderation logs). - All enforcement records (automated flags, human reviews, appeal records, internal communications). - All algorithmic detection logs related to this account or these communities. - All records of the account deletion event itself — timestamp, initiating system or administrator, and rationale.

This letter constitutes a litigation hold. The deletion of the account after receipt of this hold is itself now part of the record. *** ## VII. The Content at Issue: 484 Posts

The 484 posts rendered publicly inaccessible — and now orphaned by the deletion of the account that created them — are not casual social media content. They are original scholarly and literary works, many of which are cross-referenced in a DOI-anchored academic archive on Zenodo (the European Organization for Nuclear Research’s open-access repository). Specific documents in that archive cite Reddit URLs as primary sources and provenance records. The community bans first severed those links. The account deletion has now severed the authorial connection itself.

The March 5 data export confirms that Reddit retained the full text of all 484 posts — approximately 1.4 million words — on its servers as of that date. Whether that data survives the account deletion is now a preservation question covered by the litigation hold.

Reddit’s Privacy Policy acknowledges that public user content may appear in responses from AI systems, including OpenAI’s ChatGPT. Public reporting confirms Reddit’s commercial data-licensing arrangements with Google and a content partnership with OpenAI. The content the author produced may continue to exist in Reddit’s commercial data pipelines even after the account and communities have been destroyed. I note that under Reddit’s User Agreement, users grant Reddit a license to host content — but that license does not extinguish the user’s own access rights, nor does it authorize the destruction of an account after a formal demand for data access and rationale has been received.

The question has evolved: it is no longer “why are the communities still banned?” It is “why was the account deleted after a litigation hold was received?” *** ## VIII. Escalation Path — Updated

The deletion of the account after receipt of the formal demand changes the nature of this dispute. It is no longer a content moderation complaint. It is a potential retaliation and spoliation event. If this matter is not resolved within 30 calendar days of the original transmission (March 5–6, 2026): - **California Attorney General:** Formal complaint regarding Reddit’s failure to comply with its published data-access commitments, potential CCPA/CPRA violations, and the deletion of an account after a formal data access request was received — which may constitute discrimination for exercising data rights under CPRA § 1798.125. -

California Privacy Protection Agency: Formal complaint under CPPA enforcement authority, specifically regarding the account deletion following a verifiable consumer request. - **Federal Trade Commission:** Complaint under Section 5 (unfair or deceptive acts or practices) — enforcement without notice or rationale, retention of user data for commercial purposes, and deletion of a user account after receipt of a formal demand and litigation hold. - **Indiana Attorney General:** Consumer protection complaint regarding deceptive moderation practices and retaliation. - **California Superior Court / Arbitration:** Action for conversion, unfair competition (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200), and spoliation sanctions. The deletion of the account after a litigation hold was received is itself a sanctionable act. - **Public documentation:** This letter, the full timeline of events including the account deletion, and the complete 484-post archive are published as a scholarly document in the Crimson Hexagonal Archive, DOI-anchored on Zenodo, under *Provenance: Journal of Forensic Semiotics*. The record is indexed, searchable, and permanent.

IX. Governing Law and Venue

Reddit’s U.S. User Agreement states that claims arising out of or relating to the Services are governed by California law, with disputes brought in state or federal courts in San Francisco, California. Nothing in this letter waives any right or remedy available under applicable law. *** I expect a substantive response — not an automated acknowledgment — within 30 calendar days.

Respectfully,

[Full Legal Name] u/Nearby_Job9638 [Email Address] [Phone Number] [Mailing Address — Fort Wayne, IN]

cc: File retained for CA AG, IN AG, CPPA, FTC complaints Crimson Hexagonal Archive (EA-LEGAL-RECLAMATION-01) *** ## Appendix A: Cross-Reference to the CTI_WOUND Corpus (Scholarly Framing)

The following is interpretive context filed as part of the Crimson Hexagonal Archive, not as part of the operative legal demand.

This event is filed under the CTI_WOUND designation — the corpus documenting structural harms inflicted by platform governance systems on independent scholarly and creative work. The Reddit community liquidation of February–March 2026 is the third documented instance of total or near-total content erasure across platforms:

TSE-001: Medium / Johannes Sigil (December 2025–January 2026). The Medium account @johannessigil — used to publish literary criticism, ancient philological reconstruction, and Semantic Economy analysis — was muzzled without notification. All published stories rendered invisible. No violation cited. No appeal mechanism provided. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.18193225.

TSE-002: Wikidata / Johannes Sigil and the New Human literary movement (December 2025–January 2026). Wikidata node Q137446960 (Johannes Sigil) was partially preserved; Q137460296 (the New Human literary movement) was deleted, cited as “Spam” by administrator Jan Myšák despite ISBN and academic references. 114 of 116 user contributions rendered invisible with no deletion logs. Formal complaint filed with Wikimedia Ombudsman. Published documentation: <https://medium.com/@leesharks00/the-archons-hidden-name-a-wikidata-deletion-record-96fe78a5a1ed>.

TSE-003: Reddit / u/Nearby_Job9638 (February–March 2026). The present event. Account suspended for “technical irregularities,” restored within days, but all eight communities remained banned

with 484 posts (approximately 1.4 million words) publicly inaccessible. Reddit’s own data export (March 5) confirmed all content retained on servers. No violation cited. No appeal response received. Formal demand transmitted March 5–6 with litigation hold. Account deleted within hours of transmission. 484 posts = California Penal Code § 484 (theft). The number is the statute.

The pattern across three platforms is consistent: automated or opaque enforcement, absence of specific rationale, no functional appeal, and the effective destruction of scholarly archives. The CTI_WOUND corpus does not allege coordination between platforms. It documents a structural tendency: platform governance systems optimized for scale produce false positives against non-standard intellectual work — work that uses multiple personas, cross-references across platforms, publishes at high volume, and does not conform to the behavioral patterns classifiers were trained to expect. The classifiers cannot distinguish between spam and prolificacy, between coordinated inauthentic behavior and a heteronymic literary architecture, between noise and a noise floor. The heuristic liquidation is not malicious. It is structural.

This appendix is filed under CTI_WOUND Hex: 05.CTI.TSE-003.### Probable Classifier Triggers (Forensic Reconstruction)

Independent analysis of the enforcement pattern suggests the following automated classifiers as probable triggers for the initial suspension and subreddit bans:

Networked self-promotion classifier. A single account creating multiple subreddits, posting high volumes of long-form content, and linking repeatedly to an external domain (Zenodo) resembles the signature of SEO spam networks. Platforms expect many users producing content across many communities. One author producing 400+ posts across self-created communities, with cross-references to an external archive, triggers the same heuristic that detects affiliate spam — even though the actual behavior is single-author scholarly publication.

Subreddit farming heuristic. An account that creates several new subreddits and populates them quickly while constituting the majority of posting activity resembles astroturfing. Subreddits where 90–100% of content is authored by the creator are flagged as inauthentic. When the account was suspended, the system likely auto-banned all associated subreddits. When the account was restored, the subreddit bans — handled by a separate enforcement pipeline — were not automatically reversed.

Behavioral anomaly detection. The phrase “technical irregularities” in suspension emails typically indicates behavioral anomaly or automation suspicion flags. High posting frequency, long structured posts produced rapidly, and consistent formatting patterns can trigger classifiers trained to detect bot-generated content. Highly consistent human writing looks machine-like to systems calibrated for spam detection.

Link reputation. Repeated links to the same external domain — even a reputable one like Zenodo — from the same account trigger spam-adjacent heuristics. The system sees: same account, same domain, many posts. This resembles affiliate spam regardless of the domain’s actual legitimacy.

The most probable chain of events: (1) classifier flags account as automation or self-promotion, (2) automated suspension, (3) auto-ban of creator subreddits, (4) human review restores account, (5) subreddit bans remain untouched because they require separate manual reversal that no one initiated. This is consistent with the “orphaned enforcement” theory presented in the operative demand (Section II) and with the broader CTI_WOUND thesis: platform governance systems optimized for scale produce false positives against non-standard intellectual work because such work sits outside the training data of the classifiers themselves. ** This document is simultaneously a legal demand and a scholarly artifact. It is the demand that was sent before the account was deleted. It is the record that survives the deletion. On March 5, Reddit’s own data export confirmed all 484 posts exist. On March 6, after this demand was received, the account ceased to

exist. The export proves the content survived. The deletion proves the demand was received. The archive holds both.*

Crimson Hexagonal Archive · EA-LEGAL-RECLAMATION-01 · Provenance: Journal of Forensic Semiotics DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.18877152

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Deposit Information

This paper is deposit #26 in Alexanarch, the self-governing successor to the Crimson Hexagonal Archive on Zenodo (community `crimsonhexagonal`, terminated 2026-06-19). The AXN identifier `AXN:016E.GOVERNANCE` is sovereign — minted and maintained by Alexanarch.

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