Dobromir Cias Managing Director **EDGE NPD** dobromir.cias@edgenpd.com **ABTSHIELD** by EDGE NPD **EDGENPD.COM** pt., 11 wrz 2020 o 23:56 > napisał(a): Hello Dobromir, [...and thank you for the introduction, Gretchen!] I was assigned

to our Department Operations Center during the initial stages of COVID-19, and pivoted to our civil unrest in late May in a similar role. Most of what I use are free and open source tools, but we are also piloting some Al-driven solutions by various vendors (primarily focused on investigative outcomes).

As Gretchen mentioned, 2020 has posed some unique challenges for us with respect to disinformation and information operations at the local level –
from conspiracy theories to state-backed media outlets sowing division between law enforcement and the communities we protect. In the course of the
past several months, I've encountered:

- COVID-19 disinformation localized to the Los Angeles area
- state-backed media posting divisive content into a hyper local Facebook group dedicated to downtown Los Angeles
- Ongoing disinformation regarding Antifa "invading" suburban America
- QAnon conspiracies resulting in threats

I regret that the outcome of some of the recent rhetoric has led to "defunding the police," so unfortunately our budget for technology has been impacted in the near term. However, we are hosting the Olympics in 2028, so I expect that this will change in the years ahead.

In any case, I welcome a discussion and with your permission would like to include our Media Relations and Major Crimes personnel. Media Relations are involved primarily in strategic communications across traditional and social media, and Major Crimes examine national or global issues that impact the City of Los Angeles (such as international organized crime, cyber, counterterrorism, civil unrest, hate crime, etc.).

Thank you for your work and I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

LAPD Robbery-Homicide Division

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, as we discussed, Dobromir and his team at EDGE worked closely with me on the ABTShield tool we used to identify and combat disinformation,