

Last Week Tonight – Submission Packet

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Let's go now to Congressman Devin Nunes

[OTS: [Devin Nunes picture](#)]

Or what Pinocchio would look like if he slightly regretted becoming a real boy

ALT: or more appropriately, "mid-life crisis Pinocchio."

For those who are unfamiliar, Devin Nunes is currently a ranking member on the House Intelligence Committee and played a key role in defending Trump during the impeachment hearings last November. And well, just like his friend, the president, has a bit of a cow when criticized.

[VT-SOT [Judge strikes down Twitter Lawsuit](#) Anchor: A judge in D.C. has ruled that a U.S. congressman cannot sue Twitter for not blocking an account that pretended to be his cow. A judge ruled that former House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes could not sue Twitter over the satire account "Devin Nunes' Cow." : It's an account that insults him using cow-based puns. The judge ruled that Twitter cannot be liable for defamation because of what an account using their platform posts. Nunes is also attempting to sue the cow account as well as a parody account that pretends to be his mother.]

That's right. Last year, Nunes filed a lawsuit

[OTS: [LA TIMES "Devin Nunes Sued a Fake Cow"](#)]

Seeking \$250,000,000 in damages from Twitter and two of its accounts,

[OTS: @DevinCow profile and @nunesalt twitter profile]

One claiming to be his cow on his farm, and the other pretending to be his mother who – I feel it’s important to note – wrote in her bio that she’s

[OTS-PQ: “Probably Hammered. Blocked by @applebees]

“probably hammered” and “blocked by Applebees.” And while I’m not graced in the nuances of the beef between the parody account and the eatery chain, I can only assume that it’s because she revealed their cooking techniques on her

[OTS: @nunesalt banner photo of human centipede illustration]

banner photo. I *KNOW* that \$1 long island iced tea at happy hour is the highlight of your week, Susan, but it’s just a distraction for what’s going on behind the scenes. Open your eyes!

Now, the Congressman claimed that the social media site did not adhere to its terms and conditions

[OTS-PQ: “After Devin Nunes Sues @DevinCow, the Twitter Parody Gains a Half-Million Followers” “Of course, Twitter does have rules against impersonation, targeted harassment and attacks motivated by bigotry. But in cases of parody, Ms. Jacquet said, it might be better for public figures to ignore criticism from little-known Twitter accounts, instead of lashing out.]

requiring the removal of accounts that impersonate others. However, one legal expert familiar with the case shot back

[OTS-PQ: “It’s one thing if it’s a fake account that looks legitimate,” she said. “But this is a cow.”]

stating, “It’s one thing if it’s a fake account that looks legitimate,” she said. “But this is a cow.”

And yes, it is a pretty safe bet that Devin’s actual cow isn’t behind that Twitter. His cumbersome hooves probably break the phone screen pretty often,

[OTS MOCKUP: Cow with broken iPhone screen standing next to exasperated genius bar employee]

and he couldn’t spring for AppleCare on a Bovine’s salary. I’m not entirely convinced, however, that @nunesmom isn’t actually his mother.

[OTS: [Devin Nunes Picture](#)]

After all, this is a face that looks like it’s caused his family a lot of disappointment.

Since Twitter has refused to disclose the identities behind these accounts, Nunes has taken a lot of the detective work on himself, accusing everyone from

[OTS: [Picture of Adam Parkhomenko and Liz Mair](#)]

former Democratic National Committee employee Adam Parkhomenko to right-wing strategist Liz Mair of being behind the various social media smear campaigns. And, if I may, Congressman, you can’t just willy-nilly accuse people you don’t like. You’re like the

[OTS MOCKUP: Devin Nunes illustrated a-la Hanna-Barbera pulling on the top of another cartoon person's head, as if to pull off a non-existent mask]

Scooby-Doo gang if they were incredibly shitty at their jobs, and that's a group of stoned teenagers and a Great Dane.

It's worth noting that Nunes has been throwing around SLAPP lawsuits like this one for the last few years and, like most career politicians, has learned to game the system.

[VT-SOT: CNN 0:45 "This is also especially ironic because Nunes once sponsored the Discouraging Frivolous Lawsuits Act" cut to 1:04 "Nunes brought the suits in Iowa and Virginia, rather than his native California, because they don't have strong protection]

Nunes has sued everyone from an

[OTS-PQ Headline: Visalia Times Delta "Devin Nunes' Latest Target, Retired Organic Farmer, Artist Paul Buxman"]

elderly constituent for pushing him to remove his occupation as "farmer" on the ballot,

[OTS-PQ Headline: Devin Nunes' lawsuit over Iowa farm story called a 'fishing expedition' by Esquire Magazine]

To Esquire Magazine for writing that his family farm had moved to Iowa, a claim that's literally true, to, well... this.

[VT-SOT: Brian Stelter (CNN): Devin Nunes, a Trump loyalist and representative from California, has filed a \$150 million defamation lawsuit against the McClatchy newspaper company over this story.

(On Screen: “A yacht, cocaine, prostitutes: Winery partly owned by Nunes sued after fundraiser event”)

Brian Stelter: It was published by “The Fresno Bee.” Nunes also wants the article deleted off the website

[VT-SOT: NBC Bay Area 0:25-0:34 “In his complaint, his legal team alleges a reporter who worked at “The Fresno Bee” deliberately hurt him by tweeting out this allegation involving misbehavior on a boat.

(On Screen: @MackenzeMays: “A woman who worked for the winery (listed as a primary asset of Devin Nunes') sued after she said she was stranded on a yacht with its top investors who were using cocaine and underage sex workers. The cruise was auctioned off as part of a charity event.)

To be clear, this allegation is nonsense. He had no connection with the behavior, he wasn't even there.”]

It's true. The Fresno Bee

[OTS-PQ Headline: Fresno Bee “A yacht, cocaine, prostitutes: Winery partly owned by Nunes sued after fundraiser event]

published a story about a wild party thrown in conjunction with the winery of which Nunes is part-owner. It's important to note, though, that Nunes' lawsuit doesn't dispute the fact that there were underage sex workers and cocaine at said party, but only states that he was

[OTS-PQ: NYT “Devin Nunes Sues McClatchy Newspaper Chain, Alleging ‘Character Assassination’” line “... he was not involved in the incident]

“...not involved in the incident.” And if we can be honest for a second, that sounds a lot less like a man making a legal case for himself and more like a scorned rich boy who missed out on a *lit* party.

[OTS MOCKUP: Nunes crying with friends partying on a yacht in the background]

(imitating rich kid Nunes) You didn't think that / would want to go to your boat party with hookers and blow?! How could you?? IT WAS MY BOAT!!

It turns out there might be some rationale for Nunes' growing sensitivity. While he had previously won re-election by a landslide each race, 2018 proved to be increasingly difficult,

[OTS: Ballotpedia California 22nd District Electoral History, 2018]

Only winning the race by about 5% *as the incumbent*. This is also the same year that the California Republican House Delegation shrunk from 14 to 7 seats out of the state's 53 total. It seems as though Californians are as exhausted with Republicans as

[OTS: Adam Driver]

Adam Driver is with my undying love and affection.

[Shift to Camera B]

Adam, I'm so sorry, but please unblock my number. I just want to talk.

[Return to center]

With the 2020 elections approaching, Nunes is scrambling to make a case for himself and is doing this by tapping into his base's deep anti-media sentiment. Unfortunately for the Congressman, if online sentiment is any indicator,

[OTS: Twitter image from @Devincow]

it might be time for him to moooooooooooooove on.

And now, this.