

AP17:043

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 9, 2017 CONTACT: Jesse Melgar or Sam Mahood (916) 653-6575 or <u>Jesse.melgar@sos.ca.gov</u>

Secretary of State Alex Padilla Responds to Trump Cyber Security Tweet

SACRAMENTO – California Secretary of State Alex Padilla released the following statement in response to a tweet by President Donald Trump suggesting the formation of a joint cyber security unit between the United States and Russia:

"Every American – including our representatives in Congress – should be outraged by Trump's latest tweet describing his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"With his tweets and policies, Trump is threatening our nation's security and our democracy. He continues to ignore our United States intelligence agencies who have unanimously concluded that Russia, at the direction of Vladimir Putin, made a full scale effort to undermine and influence the 2016 Presidential Election.

"Trump's dangerous tweet announcing a cyber security partnership with Putin – the very head of state behind the cyber attacks – presents an obvious threat to our democracy.

"President Trump is placing Russian interests before American interests.

"Why on earth would Trump ever share our cyber security information with Putin? Trump's willingness to turn over the keys to our nation's cyber security defenses shows that he is unfit to serve as Commander in Chief.

"This is yet another reason why America's election officials should reject the Trump administration's requests for personal information about our nation's voters. This administration cannot be trusted to protect the rights of the American people."

###

Follow the California Secretary of State on Twitter and Facebook.