

## Salvador Hernandez

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**From:** Salvador Hernandez  
**Sent:** Friday, September 6, 2019 10:37 PM  
**To:** scott.smullen@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** BuzzFeed News Inquiry

Hi Scott, this is Sal Hernandez from BuzzFeed News. I'm reaching out regarding the [statement that was issued by NOAA](#) earlier today.

Meteorologists across the country are criticizing the statement for politicizing what they see as a correct tweet from the Birmingham NWS office.

NOAA's former COO has [called it "moral cowardice"](#) and many speculate it was issued under pressure from the White House.

Was NOAA contacted by anyone at the White House and asked to issue this statement?

What prompted NOAA to issue this statement?

Why was there no name, spokesperson, or NOAA official named in the statement? Why wasn't it attributed to any specific official?

Is there any response from NOAA regarding some of the criticism that the agency is receiving for its decision to issue this statement and for the criticism of the Birmingham NWS office?

Any help or direction would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

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