

A Republican congressional candidate has doubled down and defended tweets that led to her permanent suspension from Twitter.

Danielle Stella, one of five Republican candidates hoping to go toe-to-toe with Rep. Ilhan Omar for Minnesota's fifth congressional seat in 2020, was banned from the platform on Thursday after suggesting the freshman Democrat "should be tried for treason and hanged," if unproven allegations against her were true.

Stella sent two tweets making the assertions after a Kuwaiti-born Canadian businessman, Alan Bender, claimed that Omar was a Qatari asset who used her position of power to funnel information to Iran.

Bender made the allegations in a Florida district court on October 23 after he was subpoenaed to testify against the Qatari emir's brother, Sheikh Khalid bin Hamad al-Thani, according to a deposition [acquired by Al Arabiya this week](#). Al-Thani is accused of ordering his American bodyguard to murder two people and holding his hired American paramedic prisoner.

However, the allegations against Omar could not be supported by the available evidence and a spokesperson for the Somali-born refugee condemned the allegations as being conspiracy theories for Saudi Arabian misinformation campaigns.

Following Stella's tweets, her @2020mncongress account was suspended by Twitter. Her landing page for the account was also made blank and accompanying text reads: "Twitter suspends accounts which violate the Twitter Rules."

The suspension was further confirmed by a Twitter spokesperson to Newsweek who said: "The account was permanently suspended for repeated violations of the Twitter Rules."

Following the suspension, Stella posted a lengthy Facebook post in which she defended her use of words which some alleged incited violence.

"There are MANY hypocrites rage posting here," Stella said. "Breathe, think this through, logically."

"To clarify, I said, 'If it is proven [Omar] passed sensitive info to Iran, she should be tried for treason and hanged.'

“Treason is the only thing mentioned in the constitution for the death penalty, punishable by hanging or firing squad. I believe all involved should be thoroughly investigated.

“I did not threaten anyone. If you are calling it a threat—you believe that individual is guilty, and therefore it is not a threat, it's treason. You and the fake news #MSM [mainstream media] are lying by calling it lynching or terroristic threats.”

She added: “The only death threats I'm seeing is from the angry liberal mob where facts don't matter, only emotion, and you're somehow thinking you're righteous by threatening my life, my supporters' lives, my loved ones lives? No, this is wrong. You are hypocrites.”

Stella is running against Lacy Johnson, Lucia Vogel, Alley Waterbury and Brent Whaley in the Republican primary for Minnesota's fifth district seat. The winner will go on to face Omar or her Democratic challenger John Mason.