comments on 42 separate posts on O'Connor-Ratcliff's Facebook page and 226 identical replies within a 10-minute span to every tweet on her Twitter feed. The Trustees initially deleted the Garniers' comments before blocking them from commenting altogether.

The Garniers sued the Trustees under 42 U. S. C. §1983, seeking damages and declaratory and injunctive relief for the alleged violation of their First Amendment rights. At summary judgment, the District Court granted the Trustees qualified immunity as to the damages claims but allowed the case to proceed on the merits on the ground that the Trustees acted "under color of" state law when they blocked the Garniers. §1983.

The Ninth Circuit affirmed. It held that §1983's state-action requirement was satisfied because there was a "close nexus between the Trustees' use of their social media pages and their official positions." 41 F. 4th 1158, 1170 (2022). The court cited its own state-action precedent, which holds that an off-duty state employee acts under color of law if she (1) "purports to or pretends to act under color of law"; (2) her "pretense of acting in the performance of [her] duties had the purpose and effect of influencing the behavior of others"; and (3) the "harm inflicted on plaintiff related in some meaningful way either to the officer's governmental status or to the performance of [her] duties." *Ibid.* (citing *Naffe* v. *Frey*, 789 F. 3d 1030, 1037 (CA9 2015); internal quotation marks and alterations omitted). Applying that framework, the court found state action based largely on the official "appearance and content" of the Trustees' pages. 41 F. 4th, at 1171.

We granted certiorari in this case and in *Lindke* v. *Freed*, ___ U. S. ___ (2024), to resolve a Circuit split about how to identify state action in the context of public officials using social media. 598 U. S. ___ (2023). Because the approach that the Ninth Circuit applied is different from the one we have elaborated in *Lindke*, we vacate the judgment below

Per Curiam

and remand the case to the Ninth e