## Startup accelerator fires Silicon Valley's most infamous Trump supporter



Bye, Peter.

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IMAGE: JIM LO SCALZO/EPA/REX/SHUTTERSTOCK

Silicon Valley startup accelerator Y Combinator has cut ties with Peter Thiel, *BuzzFeed* reported.

The billionaire PayPal founder joined the accelerator as a part-time partner in 2015. Since then, he's become better-known outside the tech world for funding the lawsuit that took down *Gawker* and for his support of Donald Trump.

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Back in 2015, Y Combinator president Sam Altman said he was "delighted" to welcome Thiel and that he was "confident that Peter joining will be great for YC." The blog post announcing Thiel's start at Y Combinator now bears an editor's note that says, "Peter Thiel is no longer affiliated with Y Combinator."

According to *BuzzFeed*, Y Combinator ended its part-time partner program entirely. But while other partners in that

program remain affiliated with Y Combinator as "experts," Thiel's disassociation was complete.

Y Combinator didn't announce it cut ties with Thiel. The accelerator didn't respond to request for comment from *Mashable*.

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