

Elon Musk's Disregard Of Rules And Laws

Elon Musk's rise to power, wealth and influence has been enabled through his indifference to the law. Though he's now calling certifiably legal acts crimes, it is he who has been found to have broken the law repeatedly, even if the consequences have often been a slap on the wrist or less. If you know of any other instances of Musk or one of his companies being found to have broken the law, regulations, contracts or subject to civil or criminal penalties or lawsuits, please contact us. Our goal is for this document to be as comprehensive as possible.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Musk's companies have frequently flouted environmental and labor law. Some of these violations are far in excess of industry norms, particularly in regards to issues of employee safety.
- Tesla has faced many recalls for their products. While some of this is due to mechanical or software issues, other issues appear to be deliberate design choices, like the option to direct you vehicle to roll through stop signs rather than come to a complete stop.
- Musk has also appeared to have disregarded rules governing immigration law, public health, securities and government employees.

TWITTER TAKEOVER

2022 – Amid His Takeover Of Twitter, Musk Apparently Refused To Pay The Company's Obligations Including:

Rent. “More landlords are taking Twitter to court over unpaid rent, this time at the social media company's headquarters in San Francisco and its British offices — the latest sign that owner Elon Musk's extreme cost-cutting strategy includes simply not paying the bills. Twitter is facing a lawsuit over allegations it failed to pay rent for its head office, according to California court documents. The owner of its premises in central London, meanwhile, said it's taking the company to court over rental debt. Musk is slashing costs after his \$44 billion deal last year to buy Twitter left the company on the hook for about \$1 billion in annual interest payments. Twitter has already been taken to court this month for falling behind on rent at another San Francisco office.” [Associated Press, [1/24/23](#)]

Employee Salaries. “WASHINGTON — Twitter violated contracts by failing to pay millions of dollars in bonuses that the social media company, now called X Corp, had promised its employees, a federal judge ruled on Friday.” [NBC News, [12/23/23](#)]

And He Possibly Refused To Give Proper Warning Of Mass Layoffs. “A mass layoff of Twitter employees began after billionaire Elon Musk took over the company in October. However, it raised allegations that these cuts were in violation of the Worker Adjustment and

Retraining Notification (WARN) Act. Some of the company's top executives were ousted last week, but cuts continued as Twitter employees learned whether they would remain employed by the social media company Friday morning. NBC reported that a federal lawsuit was filed against Twitter on Thursday in San Francisco, California, alleging that the layoffs were in violation of the federal WARN Act." [Newsweek, [11/4/22](#)]

TESLA RANGE ISSUES

Jul. 2023 – A Reuters Report Found That Tesla Had Rigged Their Cars To Display A “Rosy” Picture Of The Car’s Range. “In most cases, the complaining customers’ cars likely did not need repair, according to the people familiar with the matter. Rather, Tesla created the groundswell of complaints another way – by hyping the range of its futuristic electric vehicles, or EVs, raising consumer expectations beyond what the cars can deliver. Teslas often fail to achieve their advertised range estimates and the projections provided by the cars’ own equipment, according to Reuters interviews with three automotive experts who have tested or studied the company’s vehicles.” [Reuters, [7/27/23](#)]

The Dashboard Was Rigged By An Algorithm To Show An Incorrect Range Estimate, Reportedly At Musk’s Request. “Tesla years ago began exaggerating its vehicles’ potential driving distance – by rigging their range-estimating software. The company decided about a decade ago, for marketing purposes, to write algorithms for its range meter that would show drivers ‘rosy’ projections for the distance it could travel on a full battery, according to a person familiar with an early design of the software for its in-dash readouts. Then, when the battery fell below 50% of its maximum charge, the algorithm would show drivers more realistic projections for their remaining driving range, this person said. To prevent drivers from getting stranded as their predicted range started declining more quickly, Teslas were designed with a “safety buffer,” allowing about 15 miles (24 km) of additional range even after the dash readout showed an empty battery, the source said. The directive to present the optimistic range estimates came from Tesla Chief Executive Elon Musk, this person said. ‘Elon wanted to show good range numbers when fully charged,’ the person said, adding: ‘When you buy a car off the lot seeing 350-mile, 400-mile range, it makes you feel good.’” [Reuters, [7/27/23](#)]

In Response To Widespread Customer Complaints, Reuters Reported That The Company Created A Secretive Team To Retaliate Against The Customers Outspoken On The Issue. “Last summer, the company quietly created a “Diversion Team” in Las Vegas to cancel as many range-related appointments as possible. The Austin, Texas-based electric carmaker deployed the team because its service centers were inundated with appointments from owners who had expected better performance based on the company’s advertised estimates and the projections displayed by the in-dash range meters of the cars themselves, according to several people familiar with the matter. Inside the Nevada team’s office, some employees celebrated canceling service appointments by putting their phones on mute and striking a metal xylophone, triggering applause from coworkers who sometimes stood on desks. The team often

closed hundreds of cases a week and staffers were tracked on their average number of diverted appointments per day.” [Reuters, [7/27/23](#)]

Oct 2023 – DOJ Announced An Investigation Into Tesla Regarding The Company’s Claims About Vehicle Range. “The Justice Department is investigating whether or not Tesla cars can live up to the EPA’s official estimates of how far they can go on a single charge. In the company’s most recent SEC filing, it disclosed that the DOJ is looking at questions surrounding a number of issues, including ‘vehicle range.’ The range of electric vehicles can be affected by the outdoor temperature, with cars going farther in warm weather. But Consumer Reports has conducted tests that it said shows Tesla vehicles fall well short of the advertised range, no matter the weather.” [CNN, [10/25/23](#)]

May 2024 – A Study Found That Teslas Got Just 64% Of Their Advertised EPA Estimated Range. “Recurrent can pinpoint battery life using the data it collects from 7,078 Model 3s and 5,120 Model Ys. It used nearly 1.6 million observations (around 130 observations per vehicle) to determine the average fleet-wide range statistics in its report. The data from Recurrent shows that after approximately three years (right around the 1,100-day mark), the average Tesla Model 3 and Model Y are achieving just 64% of their original EPA-rated range.” [InsideEVs, [5/24/24](#)]

Mar. 2024 – The Two Reports Contributed To Tesla Owners Filing A Class Action Lawsuit Alleging The Company Lied About Their Car’s Range And Manipulated The Range On The Dashboard Display Of The Vehicles. “The plaintiffs accused Tesla of fraudulently inducing consumers to buy its cars by overstating how far they can travel on a single charge. The pair of lawsuits also alleged that Tesla, led by billionaire CEO Elon Musk, misrepresented the driving range on vehicle dashboards. A Reuters special report in July revealed that Tesla had created a secret team to suppress drivers’ complaints about driving range. Both lawsuits cited the special report.” [Reuters, [3/7/24](#)]

The Case Was Dismissed Due To Mandatory Arbitration Clauses In The Purchase Contract. “U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers in Oakland, California said, opens new tab on Thursday the drivers had agreed to an arbitration provision for resolving disputes with the automaker when they bought their vehicles.” [Reuters, [3/7/24](#)]

EMPLOYEE SAFETY ISSUES

From 2014-2018, Tesla Reportedly Accumulated Three Times As Many OSHA Violations As Its Top 10 Competitors Combined. “While the number of active workers may be more than any other manufacturer who produces cars in the US, Tesla has seemingly also discovered that more employees mean more risk to injury that needs to be stymied. In fact, data collected by Forbes shows that Tesla has accumulated more than three times the number of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) violations that its top 10 competitors amassed from 2014-2018.” [The Drive, [5/29/19](#)]

May 2020 – Elon Musk Ignored Orders From Alameda County Health Officials, Illegally Re-Opened The Tesla Plant In Fremont California. “Elon Musk has reopened Tesla’s factory in Fremont, California, pushing back against local public health officials who declined to give the company authorization to resume production. After previously doubting the severity of the Covid-19 pandemic, threatening to move Tesla’s headquarters out of California, and even filing a federal lawsuit, Musk has now volunteered to be the first one arrested for defying the county’s order, though that’s yet to happen.” [Vox, [5/12/20](#)]

County Officials Had Ordered The Factory Cease All But The Necessary Minimum Functions. “On Monday, a local Alameda official wrote to Tesla ordering the company to cease production beyond minimum basic operations, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. But that doesn’t appear to have stopped the company’s work. Local news footage showed activity at the Tesla plant in Fremont not long after Musk’s tweets. In fact, one worker told the Chronicle that work had resumed even earlier.” [Vox, [5/12/20](#)]

Musk Sent An Email To All Employees Threatening Them With The Loss Of Unemployment Benefits If They Did Not Show Up To Work At The Opened Factory. “And in an email obtained by the Guardian, Tesla workers were told that if they choose not to return to work, they risk losing their unemployment benefits.” [Vox, [5/12/20](#)]

Reporting Would Later Show That The Re-Opening Resulted In A Spike Of Covid-19 Cases Among Factory Workers. “Tesla’s Bay Area production plant recorded hundreds of covid-19 cases following CEO Elon Musk’s defiant reopening of the plant in May, according to county-level data obtained by a legal transparency website. The document, obtained by the website PlainSite following a court ruling this year, showed Tesla received around 10 reports of covid-19 in May when the plant reopened, and saw a steady rise in cases all the way up to 125 in December, as the disease caused by the novel coronavirus peaked around the country.” [Washington Post, [3/12/21](#)]

Nov. 2022 – Construction Workers At Tesla’s Austin Factory Alleged That Supervisors Did Not Provide Adequate Safety Training And Engaged In Wage Theft. “Whistleblowers came forward to allege serious labor and employment violations during construction of the electric car manufacturer’s massive new facility in Austin, Texas, that left them vulnerable to injuries and wage theft. Amid accusations of constant hazards and onsite accidents, one worker said his bosses at an unnamed subcontractor falsified credentials instead of actually providing him and others with required job training involving education about health, safety, and workers’ rights – including the right to refuse dangerous work. Other whistleblowers are reporting what they describe as wage theft and say they weren’t paid at all or didn’t receive proper overtime compensation for their work on the hi-tech facility.” [The Guardian, [11/15/22](#)]

Feb 2024 – Musk’s Boring Company Is Hit Repeatedly For Workplace Safety Violations In The Construction Of The Las Vegas “Hyperloop.” A Report From Nevada OSHA Found That Workers Had To Wade Through Chemical Accelerants Daily And That Workers Were “Being Scarred Permanently On Their Arms And Legs” As A Result. “An investigation by

the state OSHA, which Bloomberg Businessweek has obtained via a freedom of information request, describes workers being scarred permanently on their arms and legs. According to the investigation, at least one employee took a direct hit to the face. In an interview with Businessweek, one of the tunnel workers recalls the feeling of exposure to the chemicals: ‘You’d be like, ‘Why am I on fire?’ [...] Although no one has been killed at a Boring Company worksite in Las Vegas, the OSHA report shows some very close calls. Last summer, according to employees interviewed by the investigators, an intern was nearly crushed when a bin made out of two-ton concrete blocks collapsed. It had been overloaded with muck, the employees said, and the metal brackets holding it together gave way, sending the intern running. (The intern didn’t respond to Bloomberg inquiries for this story.) Altogether, OSHA found eight violations it categorized as “serious” and fined the Boring Company a total of \$112,504 last fall.” [Bloomberg, [2/26/24](#)]

Nov. 2024 – A 30 Foot Furnace Door In Tesla’s Austin Factory Was Unable To Close Properly For Months, Subjecting Employees To 100+ Degree Temperatures And Pollutants According To A Whistleblower Memo. “Workers at Tesla’s Austin factory were said to have faced temperatures as high as 100 degrees Fahrenheit and a ‘constant haze’ because the door of a 30-foot furnace would not close properly, The Wall Street Journal reported Sunday night.” [Business Insider, [11/25/24](#)]

Whistleblower Memo Also Said That Tesla Engaged In An “Elaborate Ruse” To Ensure Regulators Did Not Find This Issue. “In a memo sent to the Environmental Protection Agency this year and viewed by the Journal, a whistleblower said Tesla used an ‘elaborate ruse’ to conceal the issue from regulators. The memo reportedly said Tesla adjusted the amount of fuel going into the furnace, which melts aluminum used to make car parts, and temporarily closed the door. The tactic appeared to help Tesla pass emissions tests carried out by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, according to the memo seen by the Journal.” [Business Insider, [11/25/24](#)]

FIGHTS WITH NHTSA

Oct. 2021 – Tesla Was The Only Autonomous Vehicle Company To Not Officially Respond To The NTSB Safety Recommendations. “The NTSB issued Safety Recommendation H-17-42 to Tesla and five other manufacturers of vehicles equipped with SAE Level 2 driving automation systems. The other five manufacturers responded to us, describing the actions they planned to take, or were taking, to better monitor a driver’s level of engagement. Tesla is the only manufacturer that did not officially respond to us about the recommendation.” [National Transportation Safety Board Letter, [10/25/21](#)]

Dec. 2021– New York Times Reports That A New Tesla Feature Allows For Drivers To Play Videogames On The Center Console Screen Of The Car While The Vehicle Is In Motion. “The automaker added the games in an over-the-air software update that was sent to most of its cars this summer. They can be played by a driver or by a passenger in full view of the driver,

raising fresh questions about whether Tesla is compromising safety as it rushes to add new technologies and features in its cars. “It’s a big concern if it plays in view of the driver, for sure,” said Jonathan Adkins, executive director of the Governors Highway Safety Association, which coordinates state efforts to promote safe driving.” [New York Times, [12/7/21](#)]

NHTSA Opened An Investigation Into This Feature. “The federal government’s main auto safety regulator said on Wednesday that it had opened an investigation into a feature in Teslas that allows drivers to play games on a dashboard touch screen while the car is in motion. The investigation, by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, is the latest of several moves that regulators have taken in recent months regarding safety issues in cars made by Tesla, the dominant electric carmaker and the world’s most valuable automaker.” [New York Times, [12/22/21](#)]

Dec. 2021 – New York Times Publishes Investigative Report On Tesla’s “Full Self Drive” Feature. Report Shows Musk Pushed For It To Be Called “Full Self Driving” When Some Inside The Company Were Concerned The Name Implied The Program Could Do More Than It Actually Can. “When Mr. Musk unveiled Autopilot 2.0 in October 2016, he said at the news conference that all new Tesla cars now included the cameras, computing power and all other hardware they would need for ‘full self driving’ — not a technical term, but one that suggested truly autonomous operation. His statements took the engineering team by surprise, and some felt that Mr. Musk was promising something that was not possible, according to two people who worked on the project. Sterling Anderson, who led the project at the time and later started an autonomous driving company called Aurora, told Tesla’s sales and marketing teams that they should not refer to the company’s technology as ‘autonomous’ or ‘self-driving’ because this would mislead the public, according to two former employees.” [New York Times, [12/6/21](#)]

Musk Also Reportedly Pushed Engineers To Expand The Program Despite Objections, Opposed Adding Sensors Other Than Camera (As Is Standard In The Experimental Field Of Self-Driving Cars). “Unlike technologists at almost every other company working on self-driving vehicles, Mr. Musk insisted that autonomy could be achieved solely with cameras tracking their surroundings. But many Tesla engineers questioned whether it was safe enough to rely on cameras without the benefit of other sensing devices — and whether Mr. Musk was promising drivers too much about Autopilot’s capabilities. [...] Hardware choices have also raised safety questions. Within Tesla, some argued for pairing cameras with radar and other sensors that worked better in heavy rain and snow, bright sunshine and other difficult conditions. For several years, Autopilot incorporated radar, and for a time Tesla worked on developing its own radar technology. But three people who worked on the project said Mr. Musk had repeatedly told members of the Autopilot team that humans could drive with only two eyes and that this meant cars should be able to drive with cameras alone.” [New York Times, [12/6/21](#)]

NHTSA Opened An Investigation Into ‘Full Self Driving’. “Now those questions are at the heart of an investigation by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration after at least 12 accidents in which Teslas using Autopilot drove into parked fire trucks, police

cars and other emergency vehicles, killing one person and injuring 17 others.” [New York Times, [12/6/21](#)]

Feb. 2022 – Tesla Created A “Rolling Stop” Feature For Tesla Self-Driving Which Would Have The Car Roll Through Stop Signs If No Other Vehicles Were Detected. This Was Illegal In Nearly Every State. “Tesla’s ‘rolling stop’ feature was a hot topic in the automotive circuit last week. Now that it is officially removed from all Tesla vehicles, two U.S. Lawmakers with a history of calling out the electric automaker have drafted a new letter, wondering why the feature ever existed in the first place. Senators Ed Markey and Richard Blumenthal are voicing their concerns to Tesla and its CEO Elon Musk, claiming that, while the implementation of Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) is crucial to potentially improving safety, they must comply with legal driving behaviors. [...] The rolling stop feature gave members of Tesla’s Full Self-Driving Beta program the option to let their car slowly roll through a stop sign if no moving objects were detected. The car slowed down to speeds between 0.2 and 5.6 MPH, rolling through all-way-stop intersections in a controlled fashion. However, the feature did not necessarily follow traffic laws, which require drivers to stop completely at a stop sign.” [Teslarati, [2/8/22](#)]

The NHTSA Forced The Company To Recall All Vehicles With The Feature. “Last week, the NHTSA required Tesla to recall all 53,822 vehicles that equipped the feature. Tesla remedied the issue with an Over-the-Air software update. The new software, FSD Beta v.10.10, rolled out late last week and eliminated the rolling stop feature.” [Teslarati, [2/8/22](#)]

May 2024 – NHTSA Announces Investigation Into Tesla For Repeated Instances Of Model 3 And Model Y Cars Losing Steering “The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said on Wednesday it is seeking records from electric car-maker Tesla in its investigation into Model 3 and Model Y vehicles over power steering loss reports. The auto safety regulator, which upgraded its investigation in February, said in a letter dated Tuesday to Tesla and posted on its website that it wants Tesla’s records by July 24 about the steering components. The request includes Tesla’s process for identifying problems and creating solutions for potential defects. The agency also wants to know whether Tesla has made any changes to power steering components or plans any in the next four months.” [USA Today, [5/29/24](#)]

In 2024 Alone Tesla Had 15 Recalls. “Tesla on Friday announced it is recalling almost 700,000 cars in the United States over an issue with the tire pressure monitoring system, bringing the total number of recalls for the electric vehicle maker to 15 so far this year, impacting more than 2.7 million cars.” [Forbes, [12/20/24](#)]

FIGHTS WITH THE SEC

2018 – Musk Tweets Out That He Has “Secured Funding” To Take Tesla Private At \$420 A Share. While Shareholder Lawsuits Against Musk Failed, A Civil Case By The SEC Was

Settled With Musk Paying \$20 Million In Fines And Stepping Down As The Company's Chairman. "A turn from losses to profits about a year after the tweet started Tesla shares on an extraordinary run, gaining 1520% from the day of the tweet to its record high in November 2021. That record close of \$409.97 works out to \$6,150 a share, when adjusted for the two stock splits since that day. Even with the 70% decline in Tesla shares from that all-time high to Friday's close, shares are still up 384% since the close on the day of the 2018 tweet. Musk's tweet also prompted a civil suit by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the federal agency charged with protecting investors by requiring executives to tell the truth. It originally sought to strip him of his position as Tesla's CEO. It eventually reached a settlement with Musk in which he and Tesla each agreed to pay \$20 million in fines, and Musk gave up his title as chairman of the company but retained the CEO title. It also required that any tweet he sent out with material information about Tesla be reviewed in advance by other company executives." [CNN, [2/3/23](#)]

April 2022 – Elon Musk Reportedly Did Not Comply With SEC Rules Requiring The Disclosure Of His Large Stock Purchases Of Twitter, Only Disclosing It 11 Days After The Deadline Had Passed. "According to Musk's own disclosure, his purchases of Twitter shares brought him to 5% ownership of the company stock on March 14. Securities law requires that any such holding be divulged publicly and to the Securities and Exchange Commission within 10 days, or in this case by March 24; Musk didn't make the disclosure until April 4, which was 11 days late." [LA Times, [5/18/22](#)]

January 2025 – SEC Announces Lawsuit Against Musk For Failing To Disclose His Ownership Of Twitter Stock In His Takeover Of The Company. "The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has sued billionaire Elon Musk, saying he failed to disclose his ownership of Twitter stock in a timely manner in early 2022, before buying the social media site. As a result, the SEC alleges, Musk was able to underpay "by at least \$150 million" for shares he bought after he should have disclosed his ownership of more than 5 percent of Twitter's shares. Musk bought Twitter in October 2022 and later renamed it X. Musk started amassing Twitter shares in early 2022, and by March of that year, he owned more than 5 percent. At this point, the complaint says, he was required by law to disclose his ownership, but he failed to do so until April 4, 11 days after the report was due." [PBS, [1/15/25](#)]

Sep. 2024 – Elon Musk Skips Court Ordered Testimony With The SEC For A Second Time, Decides To Attend A SpaceX Rocket Launch Instead. "Musk was slated to testify on the morning of Sept. 10 at the SEC's Los Angeles office, the agency wrote in the filing, adding that three of its own attorneys had flown in the day before. However, just hours before the testimony's scheduled start, one of Musk's attorneys notified the SEC that he would not be able to attend because he had to "urgently travel" to Cape Canaveral, Florida, the day before for SpaceX's latest launch, Polaris Dawn, according to the filing. The SEC wants Musk to be held in contempt for waiting so long to alert the agency that he would not be in attendance for the testimony. It's also seeking to recover its travel costs and for other relief deemed appropriate by the court." [Politico, [9/20/24](#)]

FIGHTS WITH THE NLRB

Mar. 2023 – Elon Musk Found To Have Broken The Law By Threatening Tesla Employees With No Stock Options If They Were To Join A Union. “A US appeals court has ruled that Elon Musk violated federal labour law by tweeting that employees of Tesla would lose stock options if they joined a union. The New Orleans-based 5th US circuit court of appeals upheld a decision by the US National Labor Relations Board that said the 2018 tweet amounted to an unlawful threat that could discourage unionising and ordered Musk to delete it. Amid an organising campaign at Tesla’s Fremont, California, plant by the United Auto Workers (UAW) union, Musk tweeted: ‘Nothing stopping Tesla team at our car plant from voting union ... But why pay union dues & give up stock options for nothing?’” [The Guardian, [4/1/23](#)]

Jan. 2024 – Elon Musk Was Found By NLRB To Have Broken Federal Labor Law By Firing SpaceX Employees For Criticizing Him In A Letter. “Federal labor officials accused the rocket company SpaceX on Wednesday of illegally firing eight employees for circulating a letter critical of the company’s founder and chief executive, Elon Musk. According to a complaint issued by a regional office of the National Labor Relations Board, the company fired the employees in 2022 for calling on SpaceX to distance itself from social media comments by Mr. Musk, including one in which he mocked sexual harassment accusations against him. The letter circulated by the employees also called on SpaceX, which has more than 13,000 employees, to clarify its harassment policies and enforce them consistently. The labor board complaint said the company’s president and chief operating officer, Gwynne Shotwell, had illegally restricted employees from circulating the letter, and it identified similar infractions by other executives and managers.” [New York Times, [3/1/24](#)]

In Response To The NLRB Finding That SpaceX Acted Illegally In Firing 8 Employees For Criticism Of Musk, SpaceX Has Alleged That The NLRB Itself Is Unconstitutional. “At SpaceX, the complaint involved eight employees who said they were fired in retaliation for speaking critically of Musk. Both companies argue that the labor agency’s structure violates the separation of powers. ‘The NLRB routinely exercises authority to prosecute alleged violators of federal labor law, define the legal standards that govern the prosecutions, and weigh the facts necessary to find a violation — with only limited judicial review by Article III courts,’ attorneys for SpaceX wrote in a court filing. The companies also find fault with the president’s inability to fire NLRB board members, who serve five-year terms, and in SpaceX’s case, its administrative law judges. Additionally, they argue the NLRB’s system for adjudicating cases denies them the right to a trial by jury.” [NPR, [11/18/24](#)]

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION

2017 – A Former Elevator Operator At Tesla’s Fremont, California, Factory, Filed A Lawsuit In 2017 Alleging Severe Racial Harassment, Including Frequent Use Of Racial Slurs And A Hostile Work Environment. “In 2023, as CNBC previously reported, Diaz testified in a San Francisco federal court that his colleagues at Tesla regularly used racist epithets to

denigrate him and other Black workers, made him feel physically unsafe at the factory, told him to “go back to Africa” and left racist graffiti in restrooms. Diaz’s Tesla colleagues also left a racist drawing in his workspace, he said. The drawing was a rudimentary reference to Inki the Caveman, a 1950s-era cartoon whose main character is a Black boy portrayed with large lips, wearing a loincloth, earrings, and a bone through his hair. During his trials, Diaz recounted that he had encouraged his son to work at Tesla, but would later regret the referral because his son was also exposed to a racially hostile workplace.” [CNBC, [3/15/24](#)]

In October 2021, A Jury Awarded Diaz \$137 Million In Damages, Which Was Later Reduced To \$15 Million By A Federal Judge. Diaz Rejected The Reduced Award, Leading To A Retrial In April 2023, Where A Jury Awarded Him \$3.2 Million. In March 2024, Tesla Settled The Lawsuit With Diaz For An Undisclosed Amount. “In his first trial, a jury awarded Diaz a much larger verdict, including punitive damages, of \$137 million after he and his attorneys persuaded the jury that he had endured serious racist discrimination and the company failed to take all reasonable steps to end and prevent that and further civil rights violations. Diaz and Tesla sought a retrial to decide damages after Judge William H. Orrick reduced the jury’s awarded amount to \$15 million. Diaz once again prevailed, securing the \$3.2 million verdict.” [CNBC, [3/15/24](#)]

June 2018 – A Neuralink Employee Sued The Company For Employment Discrimination After She Was Supposedly Fired After Telling Her Superiors That She Was Pregnant, And That She Had An Unsafe Work Environment, Being Scratched By A Herpes-Infected Monkey. “A former employee is suing Elon Musk’s Neuralink, claiming that she was scratched by a monkey infected with Herpes B virus, and that she was fired after she told her superiors that she was pregnant.” [The Independent, [6/18/24](#)]

Feb 2022 – California Department Of Fair Employment And Housing Filed Suit Against Tesla For Violations Of The Fair Employment And Housing Act And The California Equal Pay Act. “California’s civil rights agency, the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), announced today that it filed a civil action opens in a new window in Alameda Superior Court against Tesla, Inc., for violations of the Fair Employment and Housing Act and the California Equal Pay Act. The lawsuit alleges that Tesla discriminated against Black workers in California, including segregating them to the lowest levels of the workforce across the state, including the contracted workforce. Black workers are severely underrepresented in the ranks of executives, senior officials, and managers at Tesla.” [California Civil Rights Department, [2/10/22](#)]

Jun 2022 – This Was Followed Up With A Class Action Lawsuit By Black And Hispanic Workers At The Tesla Factory In Fremont “On June 30, 2022, another employment class action lawsuit was filed against Tesla, Inc., (“Tesla” or the “Company”) alleging that African American and Hispanic employees suffer discrimination at the Company’s Fremont factory. More specifically, the lawsuit claims that Tesla supervisors, managers, and Human Resources personnel engaged in daily harassment of African American and Hispanic employees, creating a toxic work environment. Plaintiffs are seeking civil penalties, monetary damages, and a legal order requiring Tesla to improve

training to prevent harassment, discrimination, and retaliation and to establish enforcement rules.” [Miller Shah, [7/22/22](#)]

Sep. 2023 – The EEOC Sued Tesla For Racial Harassment And Retaliation. “Electric car maker Tesla, Inc., violated federal law by tolerating widespread and ongoing racial harassment of its Black employees and by subjecting some of these workers to retaliation for opposing the harassment, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) charged in a lawsuit filed today. According to the EEOC’s suit, since at least 2015 to the present, Black employees at Tesla’s Fremont, California manufacturing facilities have routinely endured racial abuse, pervasive stereotyping, and hostility as well as epithets such as variations of the N-word, “monkey,” “boy,” and “black b*tch.” Slurs were used casually and openly in high-traffic areas and at worker hubs. Black employees regularly encountered graffiti, including variations of the N-word, swastikas, threats, and nooses, on desks and other equipment, in bathroom stalls, within elevators, and even on new vehicles rolling off the production line, the EEOC said.” [EEOC, [9/28/23](#)]

Aug 2024 – DOJ Brought A Lawsuit Against SpaceX For Illegally Discriminating Against Asylees And Refugees In Hiring. “The Justice Department filed a lawsuit today against Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SpaceX) for discriminating against asylees and refugees in hiring. The lawsuit alleges that, from at least September 2018 to May 2022, SpaceX routinely discouraged asylees and refugees from applying and refused to hire or consider them, because of their citizenship status, in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). In job postings and public statements over several years, SpaceX wrongly claimed that under federal regulations known as “export control laws,” SpaceX could hire only U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, sometimes referred to as “green card holders.” Export control laws impose no such hiring restrictions. Moreover, asylees’ and refugees’ permission to live and work in the United States does not expire, and they stand on equal footing with U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents under export control laws. Under these laws, companies like SpaceX can hire asylees and refugees for the same positions they would hire U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents. And once hired, asylees and refugees can access export-controlled information and materials without additional government approval, just like U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents.” [US Department of Justice, [8/24/23](#)]

Nov. 2023 – SpaceX Won Injunctions Against The Lawsuit By Arguing That The Administrative Law Judge System Is Unconstitutional “A court ruling favoring SpaceX could provide companies with a powerful defense against Department of Justice immigrant-related employment discrimination lawsuits. The DOJ investigated and reached a \$25 million legal settlement over employment discrimination with Apple, even though the company said it observed Department of Labor rules when sponsoring immigrants. After the Justice Department filed a lawsuit against SpaceX for discriminating against asylees and refugees, the company argued the agency’s process was unconstitutional, and a federal judge granted a preliminary injunction against DOJ.” [Forbes, [11/28/23](#)]

Before Being Shut Down By Musk/DOGE/Trump, USAID Was Investigating Starlink. “The Lever reported Tuesday that USAID’s inspector general was in the process of investigating its own public-private partnership between Musk’s Starlink and the Ukrainian government at the time that the billionaire’s DOGE crippled the agency. Publicly available information about that probe is still online. An announcement from last May reads: “The USAID Office of Inspector General, Inspections and Evaluations Division, is initiating an inspection of USAID’s oversight of Starlink satellite terminals provided to the Government of Ukraine. Our objectives are to determine how (1) the Government of Ukraine used the USAID-provided Starlink terminals, and (2) USAID monitored the Government of Ukraine’s use of USAID-provided Starlink terminals.” [Gizmodo, [2/5/25](#)]

FAA

Jun 2022 – The FAA Mandates SpaceX Take 75 Actions To Mitigate The Environmental Impact Of Superheavy Launches. “The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will require SpaceX to take more than 75 actions to mitigate environmental impacts from its proposed plan to launch the Starship/Super Heavy vehicle from Boca Chica, Texas. The actions are part of the agency’s environmental review. The environmental review must be completed along with public safety, national security, and other analyses before a decision on whether to grant a launch license can be made. The license application is still pending.” [FAA, [6/13/22](#)]

SpaceX’s Starlink System Requires Thousands Of Satellites, Which Is Reportedly Contributing To The Massive Increase In Orbital Debris. “As an astronomer, I already had good reasons to worry about SpaceX. The company has been launching huge numbers of its Starlink internet broadband satellites since 2019; more than 6,000 are in orbit, and as many as 42,000 are planned. As Starlink grew—along with competing plans for other satellite “mega constellations”—my telescope data and my huge prairie sky filled with bright, easily visible satellites just as many astronomers (including myself) had warned. Beyond this disruptive light pollution, though, new research shows that atmospheric pollution is skyrocketing from the SpaceX-dominated dramatic increase in launches and reentries—with potentially disastrous global effects. The aluminum oxide produced by sublimating satellites in Earth’s upper atmosphere, it turns out, is a potent and lasting catalyst for chemical reactions similar to those that in the 20th century famously corroded a gaping hole in our planet’s delicate, radiation-blocking ozone layer.” [Scientific American, [7/11/24](#)]

The Company Is Reportedly Responsible For Up To 40% Of All Disused Satellites. “About 40% of disused satellites burning up in Earth’s atmosphere these days belong to SpaceX’s Starlink megaconstellation, according to Andrew Bacon, the chief technology officer and co-founder of U.K.-based in-orbit manufacturing firm Space Forge. That amounts to “a minimum of 500 kilograms [1,100 pounds]” of incinerated satellite trash a day, added Bacon, who presented those numbers at the workshop on Protecting Earth and Outer Space from the Disposal of Spacecraft and Debris held at the University of Southampton in the U.K. on Sept. 23 and Sept. 24.” [Space.com, [10/17/24](#)]

In Response To These Issues And More, The FAA Proposed A Rule In September 2023 To Reduce Orbital Debris Like That Produced By SpaceX. “On Wednesday, the FAA proposed a new rule that would require private space companies to dispose of their upper stages after launch to mitigate the growing issue of orbital debris. As rockets launch to orbit, their upper stages burn up in the atmosphere, fall back to Earth, or join thousands of discarded fragments that form a cloud of orbital debris around our planet. The proposed rule suggests five disposal options for companies with FAA commercial launch licenses to choose from. Those options include carrying out a controlled reentry of the upper stage, moving it to a less congested orbit (also known as a graveyard orbit), sending it farther out into space on an Earth-escape trajectory, retrieving the upper stage within five years, or performing an uncontrolled atmospheric disposal where it burns up upon reentry. ‘By strictly limiting the uncontrolled reentry of upper stages, the FAA seeks to mitigate the risk to people on the ground and in flight due to its significant size and mass and the uncertainty of where it will land,’ the FAA wrote.” [Gizmodo, [9/21/23](#)]

Sep 2023 – The FAA Sent A Report to Congress on the Risk Associated with Reentry Disposal of Satellites from Proposed Large Constellations in Low Earth Orbit Which Singled Out SpaceX As A Major Contributor To Debris. “Since over 85 percent of the expected risk to people on the ground and aviation from reentering debris in 2035, as predicted in the Aerospace technical report, is a result of FAA-licensed Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SpaceX) launches of Starlink satellites, it would be worthwhile to definitively evaluate if any debris from random atmospheric reentry of Starlink spacecraft survives reentry. If SpaceX is correct in reporting zero surviving debris, as SpaceX reports in FCC filings, and Starlink is a fully-demisable spacecraft, the rise in reentry risk is minimal over the current risk. By 2035, if the expected large constellation growth is realized and debris from Starlink satellites survive reentry, the total number of hazardous fragments surviving reentries each year is expected to reach 28,000, and the casualty expectation, the number of individuals on the ground predicted to be injured or killed by debris surviving the reentries of satellites being disposed from these constellations, would be 0.6 per year, which means that one person on the planet would be expected to be injured or killed every two years.” [FAA, [9/22/23](#)]

Oct 2023 – SpaceX Attacked The Letter As Flawed, Predicated On Assumptions And Outdated Methods. “In an Oct. 9 letter to the FAA and Congress seen by SpaceNews, SpaceX principal engineer David Goldstein said the report relied on “deeply flawed analysis” based on assumptions, guesswork, and outdated studies. The letter came four days after SpaceNews contacted the company with questions about the report, published Oct. 5 on the FAA’s website.” [Space News, [10/9/23](#)]

Sep 2024 – The FAA Proposes Fining SpaceX \$633,000 For Failing To Follow Licensing Requirements For Two 2023 Launches. “The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) proposes \$633,009 in civil penalties against Space Exploration Technologies Corp (SpaceX) for allegedly failing to follow its license requirements during two launches in 2023, in accordance with statutorily-set civil penalty guidelines. ‘Safety drives everything we do at the FAA, including a legal responsibility for the safety oversight of companies with commercial space transportation

licenses,' said FAA Chief Counsel Marc Nichols. 'Failure of a company to comply with the safety requirements will result in consequences.'" [FAA, [9/17/24](#)]

Jan 2025 – The FAA Opens An Investigation Into A SpaceX Rocket That Broke Up During A Test Flight. "The Federal Aviation Administration has ordered SpaceX to carry out a formal investigation into the breakup of its Starship rocket during a test flight Thursday that sent a spectacular shower of flaming debris plummeting back to Earth, the agency announced Friday. 'The FAA is requiring SpaceX to perform a mishap investigation into the loss of the Starship vehicle during launch operations on Jan. 16,' the FAA said in a statement. 'There are no reports of public injury, and the FAA is working with SpaceX and appropriate authorities to confirm reports of public property damage on Turks and Caicos.'" [CBS News, [1/17/25](#)]

The Debris From This Explosion Mandated The Diversion Of Flights.

"WASHINGTON, Jan 16 (Reuters) - A SpaceX Starship rocket broke up in space minutes after launching from Texas on Thursday, forcing airline flights over the Gulf of Mexico to alter course to avoid falling debris and setting back Elon Musk's flagship rocket program." [Reuters, [1/16/25](#)]

ANIMAL WELFARE

Dec 2022 – USDA Announces It Is Investigating Neuralink For Possible Animal Welfare Violations Including Allegations That The Animal Testing Is Being Rushed, Causing Needless Suffering And Deaths. "Dec 5 (Reuters) - Elon Musk's Neuralink, a medical device, opens new tab company, is under federal investigation for potential animal-welfare violations amid internal staff complaints that its animal testing is being rushed, causing needless suffering and deaths, according to documents reviewed by Reuters and sources familiar with the investigation and company operations. Neuralink Corp, is developing a brain implant it hopes will help paralyzed people walk again and cure other neurological ailments. The federal probe, opens new tab, which has not been previously reported, was opened in recent months by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Inspector General at the request of a federal prosecutor, according to two sources with knowledge of the investigation. The probe, one of the sources said, focuses on violations of the Animal Welfare Act, which governs how researchers treat and test some animals." [Reuters, [12/5/22](#)]

Feb 2023 – US Department Of Transportation Announces Investigation Into Neuralink's Potential Illegal Movement Of Hazardous Pathogens. "The U.S. Department of Transportation said on Thursday it is investigating Elon Musk's brain-implant company Neuralink over the potentially illegal movement of hazardous pathogens. A Department of Transportation spokesperson told Reuters about the probe after the Physicians Committee of Responsible Medicine (PCRM), an animal-welfare advocacy group, wrote to Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg earlier on Thursday to alert it of records it obtained on the matter. PCRM said it obtained emails and other documents that suggest unsafe packaging and movement of implants removed from the brains of monkeys. These implants may have carried infectious diseases in violation of federal law, PCRM said. The Department of Transportation spokesperson said the agency took PCRM's allegations 'very seriously.'" [NBC News, [2/9/23](#)]

ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

Apr. 2019 – Tesla Settles With The EPA For Violations Of Federal Hazardous Waste Laws At The Company’s Fremont Factory. “Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a settlement with Tesla Motors Inc. over federal hazardous waste violations at their automobile manufacturing plant in Fremont, Calif. Under the agreement, Tesla will take specific steps to properly manage hazardous wastes at its factory. Tesla will also purchase \$55,000 in emergency response equipment for the City of Fremont Fire Department and pay a \$31,000 penalty.” [EPA, [4/1/19](#)]

Feb 2022 – Tesla Settles With The EPA For Violations Of The Clean Air Act At The Company’s Fremont Factory. “While Tesla has long touted the climate benefits of driving EVs, its manufacturing practices have been decried by environmentalists for years. Tesla landed at 89 on the 2023 Toxic 100 Air Polluters list, an annual study by the Political Economy Research Institute at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. The Environmental Protection Agency fined Tesla \$275,000 in 2022, saying the company had failed to measure, track and maintain records about its own emissions or to minimize air pollutants from painting operations at the facility.” [CNBC, [5/14/24](#)]

Dec 2024 – Tesla Reportedly Under Criminal Investigation By The EPA For The Illegal Dumping Of Toxic Chemicals Into The A Wastewater Pond And Austin’s Sewer System. “Tesla’s actions in Austin extended beyond the factory floor, with a six-acre wastewater pond reportedly leaking untreated chemicals into the city’s sewer system. During rainstorms, Tesla allegedly discharged chemicals into the nearby Colorado River, temporarily turning its waters brown. Such actions have sparked outrage among environmental groups and raised questions about Tesla’s commitment to sustainability.”
<https://www.firstpost.com/tech/teslas-austin-factory-found-to-be-in-violation-of-several-environmental-guidelines-13840766.html>

A 30 Foot Furnace Door In Tesla’s Austin Factory Was Unable To Close Properly For Months, Allowing Pollutants Into The Air, According To A Whistleblower Memo. “Workers at Tesla’s Austin factory were said to have faced temperatures as high as 100 degrees Fahrenheit and a ‘constant haze’ because the door of a 30-foot furnace would not close properly, The Wall Street Journal reported Sunday night.” [Business Insider, [11/25/24](#)]

The Whistleblower Memo Also Said That Tesla Engaged In An “Elaborate Ruse” To Ensure Regulators Did Not Find This Issue. “In a memo sent to the Environmental Protection Agency this year and viewed by the Journal, a whistleblower said Tesla used an ‘elaborate ruse’ to conceal the issue from regulators. The memo reportedly said Tesla adjusted the amount of fuel going into the furnace, which melts aluminum used to make car parts, and temporarily closed the door. The tactic appeared to help Tesla pass emissions tests carried out by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, according to the memo seen by the Journal.” [Business Insider, [11/25/24](#)]

The Whistleblower Said “Tesla Repeatedly Asked Me To Lie To The Government So That They Could Operate Without Paying For Proper Environmental Controls.” “The Journal also obtained a whistleblower memo sent this year to the Environmental Protection Agency by an environmental-compliance staffer at Tesla’s Austin plant who wrote, ‘Tesla repeatedly asked me to lie to the government so that they could operate without paying for proper environmental controls.’” [The Daily Beast, [11/25/24](#)]

Oct 2024 – A Lawsuit Alleged That SpaceX Illegally Dumped Pollutants Into Wetlands Near The Company’s Brownsville Launch Site. “The environmental group Save RGV filed suit against SpaceX on Wednesday alleging Elon Musk’s company discharged unpermitted effluent at its Boca Chica launch site near Brownsville, Texas. The group is asking a judge to enjoin SpaceX from using a cooling system that the company installed to prevent a launch pad explosion, called a “deluge” system in the lawsuit, until it gets a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit under the Clean Water Act.” [Bloomberg Law, [10/10/24](#)]

The Lawsuit Alleged That The Company Has Dumped A Coolant Into The Wetlands On At Least 13 Different Occasions. “The deluge system has polluted surrounding wetlands at least 13 times without a permit, violating the Clean Water Act each time, Save RGV alleges in its lawsuit. The deluge system has the capacity to discharge 360,000 gallons of water per launch. The suit alleges that SpaceX’s 2023 launch of its Starship rocket led to its launch pad exploding, sending debris into wild areas managed by the state of Texas, and leading to the company’s installation of the deluge system.” [Bloomberg Law, [10/10/24](#)]

Sep. 2024 – The EPA Fined SpaceX \$150,000 For Dumping Fuel Into Local Wetlands. “The Environmental Protection Agency fined Elon Musk’s spacecraft company \$148,378 for a 2022 liquid oxygen spill and for discharging gallons of deluge water to wetlands near its launch pad in recent months. The wetlands affected have a continuous surface connection to the Rio Grande and are considered protected navigable waters. As the EPA noted, those discharges require a specific permit that SpaceX lacked.” [Chron, [9/12/24](#)]

May 2024 – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District Sought An Abatement Order Against Tesla’s Fremont Factory. The District Alleged That The Company Racked Up 112 Violations Since 2019 And That The Paint Shop’s Thermal Oxidizer – The Device Intended To Keep Harmful Pollutants From Escaping The Factory – Was Frequently Broken Or Shut Down By Operators. “The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has accused Tesla’s Fremont plant of potentially emitting thousands of tons of illegal air pollutants in recent years and is seeking an order to force the company to take measures to stop. The company has racked up 112 notices of violations since 2019 for a variety of reasons, resulting in as much as 750 pounds of unmitigated air pollution per violation. The Fremont plant’s paint shop is the target of the abatement order. It has been the source of many of the violations the Air District issued for releasing toxic emissions and precursor chemicals directly into the atmosphere. The Air District said the paint shop’s thermal oxidizer, which treats harmful pollutants and converts them to safer emissions before being released, is often broken. Even when it is sometimes

working, the abatement device is shut down by operators because other equipment is malfunctioning. Regulators said the violations were foreseeable and could be prevented. The air district is asking the hearing board to compel the company to address the problems through a two-step process.” [KTVU, [5/2/24](#)]

Feb. 2024 – 25 District Attorneys In California Announced A \$1.5 Million Penalty For Tesla’s Mishandling Of Hazardous Waste At Car Centers Around The State. “District Attorney Mike Hestrin, along with 24 other District Attorneys throughout California, announced that today a judge in San Joaquin County ordered Tesla, Inc. to pay \$1.5 million as part of a settlement of a civil environmental prosecution alleging the electric car company mishandled hazardous waste at its car service centers, energy center, and its factory in Fremont. [...]The investigation, initiated by the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office Environmental Division began in 2018 when San Francisco District Attorney investigators conducted undercover inspections of Tesla, Inc.’s trash containers at its car service centers, which revealed the illegal disposal of hazardous used lubricating oils, brake cleaners, used lead acid batteries and other batteries, used aerosols, used antifreeze, waste solvents and other cleaners, electronic waste, waste paint, and contaminated debris. District Attorney investigators from Alameda, Monterey, Orange, Placer, Riverside, San Diego, and San Joaquin counties then conducted additional inspections at Tesla, Inc.’s car service centers throughout California, and found similar unlawful disposals” [Riverside DA, [2/1/24](#)]

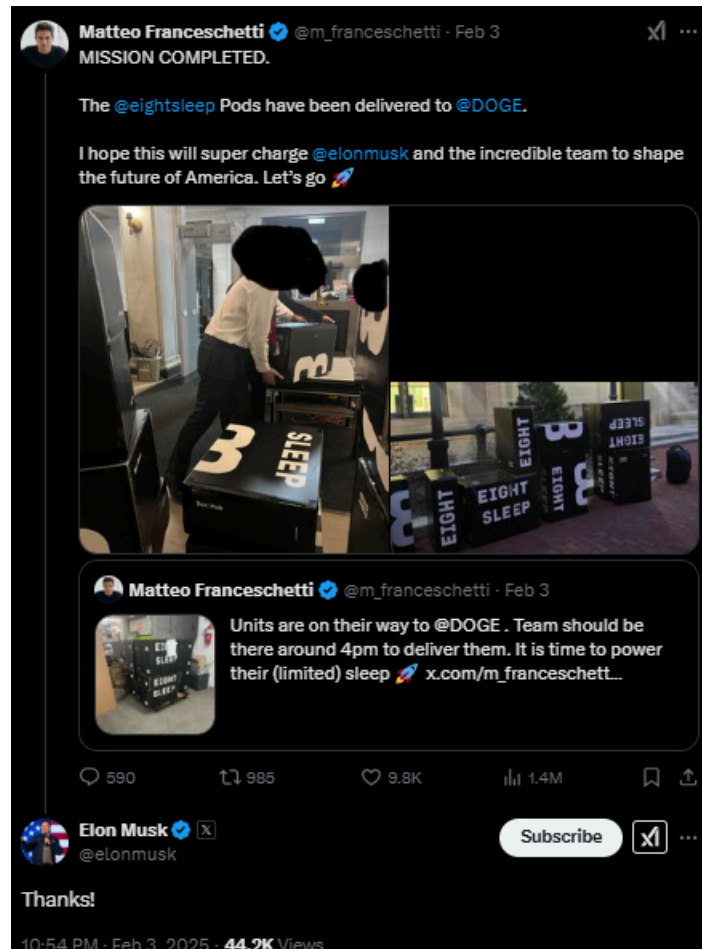
Jul 2024 – The Boring Company Is Hit With A Violation By The Texas Commission On Environmental Quality For Allegedly Failing To Obtain A Permit On Its New Tunnel. “Elon Musk’s The Boring Company is once again in hot water after it was hit with a new violation from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Chap Ambrose, a Bastrop resident who has raised concerns about how the tunneling company operates, filed the complaint with TCEQ in April after claiming The Boring Company constructed a tunnel at the Gigafactory in Austin without a permit.” [KVUE, [7/10/24](#)]

IGNORING INTERNATIONAL LAWS

Aug. 2024 – Elon Musk Ignores A Brazilian Court’s Order To Suspend The Twitter Accounts That Were Found To Have Broken Brazilian Law. Twitter Was Blocked In The Country In Response To Musk’s Behavior. “Alexandre de Moraes, a Brazilian Supreme Court justice, ordered Brazil’s telecom agency to block access to X across the nation of 200 million because the company lacked a physical presence in Brazil. Mr. Musk closed X’s office in Brazil last week after Justice Moraes threatened arrests for ignoring his orders to remove X accounts that he said broke Brazilian laws. X said that it viewed Justice Moraes’s sealed orders as illegal and that it planned to publish them. “Free speech is the bedrock of democracy and an unelected pseudo-judge in Brazil is destroying it for political purposes,” Mr. Musk said on Friday.” [New York Times, [8/30/24](#)]

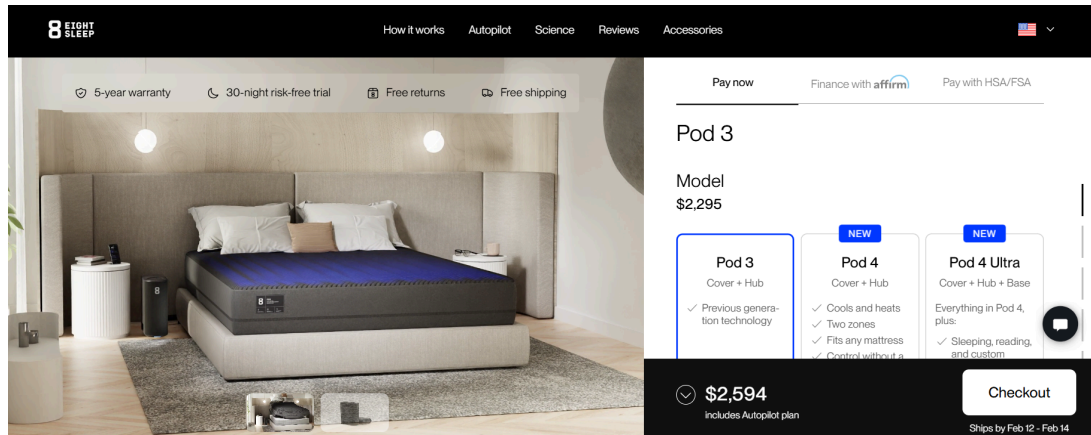
DOGE

Feb. 2025 – Elon Musk Thanked Someone For What Is Possibly An Illegal Gift To A Federal Employee. [Twitter, 2/3/25]



Federal Employees Are Generally Banned From Accepting Gifts Of Over \$20 In Value. “Under the \$20 rule, an employee may accept an unsolicited gift of \$20 or less per occasion and no more than \$50 in a calendar year from one person. If the market value of a gift offered on any single occasion exceeds \$20, the employee may not pay the excess value over \$20 in order to accept the gift. For example, if Tim was offered a \$55 item by a prohibited source, he could not apply the \$20 rule to the gift and pay the other \$35 to account for the total \$55. Please note that if the aggregate value of tangible items offered on a single occasion exceeds \$20, the employee may decline any distinct and separate item in order to accept those items amounting to \$20 or less.” [General Services Administration, Accessed 2/10/25]

The Website Of The EightSleep Company Shows Their Lowest Priced Sleep “Pod” Costs Over \$2,200. This Would Place The Value Of The Four Pictured At Nearly \$10,000 As A Low Estimate. [EightSleep.com, Accessed 2/10/25]



Feb. 2025 – 404 Media Reports That A Musk Ally Was Told That Sharing Government Data With AI Would Be Illegal, But Said To “Still Push Forward And See What We Can Do”

“Thomas Shedd, a Musk-associate and now head of the General Services Administration’s Technology Transformation Services (TTS), told government tech workers in a meeting this week that the administration plans to widely deploy AI throughout the government. Shedd also said the administration would need help altering login.gov, a government login system, to further integrate with sensitive systems like social security ‘to further identify individuals and detect and prevent fraud,’ which employees identified on the meeting as ‘an illegal task.’ Shedd, who is a former Tesla engineer, said the government should ‘try to get consent,’ regarding login.gov changes but that ‘we should still push forward and see what we can do.’” [404 Media, [2/4/25](#)]

FOREIGN CONNECTIONS

Sep. 2023 – Musk Allegedly Unilaterally Blocked Starlink Access To The Ukrainian Government To Prevent Them From Attacking Russia. The Defense Department Had Purchased Starlink For The Ukrainian Government. “According to excerpts published by CNN, a soon-to-be-released biography of the SpaceX CEO claims that Musk secretly ordered his engineers to turn off his Starlink satellite network over Russian-occupied Crimea last year in order to prevent a Ukrainian drone attack on Russia’s naval fleet. [...] In June, the Pentagon agreed to purchase Starlink satellite internet terminals from Musk for use in Ukraine.” [NBC News, [9/8/23](#)]

Oct. 2024 – Musk Reportedly Had Secret Conversations With Russian President Vladimir Putin. “Elon Musk, the world’s richest man and a linchpin of U.S. space efforts, has been in regular contact with Russian President Vladimir Putin since late 2022. The discussions, confirmed by several current and former U.S., European and Russian officials, touch on personal topics, business and geopolitical tensions. At one point, Putin asked the billionaire to avoid activating his Starlink satellite internet service over Taiwan as a favor to Chinese leader Xi Jinping, said two people briefed on the request.” [Wall Street Journal, [10/25/24](#)]

Reporting On Musk’s Foreign Contacts And His Lack Of Disclosure Of This Triggered Multiple Federal Investigations Into His Security Clearance. “Elon Musk and his rocket company, SpaceX, have repeatedly failed to comply with federal reporting protocols aimed at protecting state secrets, including by not providing some details of his meetings with foreign leaders, according to people with knowledge of the company and internal documents. Concerns about the reporting practices — and particularly about Mr. Musk, who is SpaceX’s chief executive — have triggered at least three federal reviews, eight people with knowledge of the efforts said. The Defense Department’s Office of Inspector General opened a review into the matter this year, and the Air Force and the Pentagon’s Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security separately initiated reviews last month, the people said.” [New York Times, [12/17/24](#)]

The Air Force Recently Denied Musk A Security Clearance. “The Air Force also recently denied Mr. Musk a high-level security access, citing potential security risks associated with the billionaire. Several allied nations, including Israel, have also expressed concerns that he could share sensitive data with others, according to defense officials.” [New York Times, [12/17/24](#)]

Despite This, Musk And Other Executives Have Reportedly Inserted Themselves Into Conversations On Subjects They Do Not Have Clearance For. “SpaceX executives promised to keep Musk out of the most sensitive discussions, but some government officials worried he has joined the meetings anyway, the Times reported. Whistleblowers at the company said executives had been allowed to attend meetings without the proper security clearances, while employees—including Musk—were allegedly discouraged from reporting security-clearance violations.” [The Daily Beast, [12/18/24](#)]

Musk And SpaceX’s Lax Compliance With These Rules Allegedly Triggered Employees To Complain To The DOD Inspector General. “Internally, SpaceX has a team that is expected to ensure compliance with the government’s national security rules. Some of those employees have complained to the Defense Department’s Office of Inspector General and other agencies about the lax reporting, which goes back to at least 2021, four people with knowledge of the company said.” [New York Times, [12/17/24](#)]

Nov. 2024 – Elon Musk Met With Iranian Ambassador To Discuss Us Foreign Policy “Elon Musk, a close adviser to President-elect Donald J. Trump, met with Iran’s ambassador to the United Nations on Monday in New York in a session that two Iranian officials described as a discussion of how to defuse tensions between Iran and the United States. The Iranians said the meeting between Mr. Musk and Ambassador Amir Saeid Iravani lasted more than an hour and was held at a secret location.” [New York Times, [11/14/24](#)]

Critics Argue This Could Have Violated The Logan Act. “The world’s richest man may have made promises to Iran from the U.S. government behind the scenes to help

get an Italian journalist released from jail there. If true, the action would raise questions about whether Musk violated the Logan Act.” [Raw Story, [1/15/25](#)]

Nobody Has Ever Been Convicted Under The Logan Act. “The Logan Act, enacted in 1799, prohibits any private citizen from participating in unauthorized correspondence with members of foreign governments. The act reads: ‘Any citizen of the United States, wherever he may be, who, without authority of the United States, directly or indirectly commences or carries on any correspondence or intercourse with any foreign government or any officer or agent thereof, with intent to influence the measures or conduct of any foreign government or of any officer or agent thereof, in relation to any disputes or controversies with the United States, or to defeat the measures of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.’ [...] As of today, no one has been convicted of violating the Logan Act. However, at least two people have been prosecuted under the Logan Act, one in 1803 and the other in 1853, per the Congressional Research Service.” [Houston Chronicle, [11/15/24](#)]

FTC

In The Wake Of Musk’s Twitter Takeover, The FTC Opened An Investigation Into The Possibility That The Company Was Violating A 2022 Privacy Settlement By Allowing Journalists Complete Access To The Company’s Data. “Andrew Saylor, the company’s former director of security engineering, told FTC investigators that Musk’s orders to give journalists complete access to Twitter’s systems showed a “disregard for the overall sensitivity and security” of the company’s systems. Musk originally asked Saylor and other security employees to provide unrestricted access to some journalists, including Bari Weiss, for the “Twitter Files.” Saylor and Seth Wilson, another former senior cybersecurity official, said they declined to provide Weiss with direct access to Twitter’s systems, which could have violated the FTC consent order. Instead, they created a “safer alternative” for the journalists to get details for their stories without accessing any user information, Wilson said.” [Bloomberg Law, [2/21/24](#)]

The Inquiry Reportedly Began After A Whistleblower Complaint Was Submitted To The FTC By Twitter’s Former Cybersecurity Officer, Peiter Zatkó. “The FTC had already opened a new inquiry into Twitter after the company’s former chief cybersecurity officer, Peiter Zatkó, filed a whistleblower complaint in September 2022. Zatkó testified before Congress that the platform was a “ticking bomb of security vulnerabilities.” The agency subsequently expanded the probe to look into Musk’s changes.” [Bloomberg Law, [2/21/24](#)]

Musk Attempted To Challenge The Legality Of The FTC’s Order, But Lost The Case. “A federal judge said Thursday he would not intervene in a dispute between X owner Elon Musk and the Federal Trade Commission in an ongoing agency investigation of the social media giant that has triggered intense public scrutiny. The decision means Musk may be forced to cooperate with federal investigators who are probing X, the

company formerly known as Twitter, over business decisions that regulators fear may have jeopardized user security or privacy. The 11-page order by US Magistrate Judge Thomas Hixon denies X's attempt to invalidate a longtime privacy settlement with the FTC that forms the basis for the investigation. Hixon said the US District Court for the Northern District of California lacks the authority to grant X's request to overturn the independent agency's administrative order." [CNN, [11/17/23](#)]

PERSONAL ISSUES

FINANCES

2021 – Elon Musk's Charity Failed To Meet Donation Minimums "But tax records cited by the New York Times show that the Musk Foundation, which was at one time headed by a Russian professional gambler, did not donate the minimum required by law in 2021 and 2022. In 2021, the Musk Foundation was \$41 million short of the minimum threshold. The next year, the shortfall grew to \$193 million, according to tax filings." [NY Post, [3/11/24](#)]

DRUG USE

Jan 2024 – Musk Has Reportedly Used Many Illegal Drugs Including "LSD, Cocaine, Ecstasy, Mushrooms And Ketamine" "The world's wealthiest person has used LSD, cocaine, ecstasy and psychedelic mushrooms, often at private parties around the world, where attendees sign nondisclosure agreements or give up their phones to enter, according to people who have witnessed his drug use and others with knowledge of it. Musk has previously smoked marijuana in public and has said he has a prescription for the psychedelic-like ketamine. In 2018, for example, he took multiple tabs of acid at a party he hosted in Los Angeles. The next year he partied on magic mushrooms at an event in Mexico. In 2021, he took ketamine recreationally with his brother, Kimbal Musk, in Miami at a house party during Art Basel. He has taken illegal drugs with current SpaceX and former Tesla board member Steve Jurvetson. People close to Musk, who is now 52, said his drug use is ongoing, especially his consumption of ketamine, and that they are concerned it could cause a health crisis. Even if it doesn't, it could damage his businesses." [Wall Street Journal, [1/6/24](#)]

This Could Violate Rules Governing Security Clearances. "Federal contracts require that companies comply with the Drug-Free Workplace Act and foster a drug-free culture with programs and policies, regardless of any state laws that may legalize some usage. Contractors can also lose security clearances because of drug abuse, defined as the use of illegal drugs or prescription medications "in a manner that deviates from approved medical direction." In his role as CEO and founder of SpaceX, Musk has a security clearance that gives him access to classified information." [Wall Street Journal, [1/6/24](#)]

Feb. 1 2025 – Musk Comes Out In Support Of "Federal Workforce-Wide, Mandatory, Immediate Drug Tests" [Twitter, [2/1/25](#)]



SEXUAL HARASSMENT

2018 – A SpaceX Flight Attendant Settled A Sexual Harassment Lawsuit For \$250,000. The Woman Alleged That Musk Exposed Himself To Her And Offered To Buy Her A Horse In Return For Sexual Favors “SpaceX, the aerospace firm founded by Elon Musk, the world's wealthiest man, paid a flight attendant \$250,000 to settle a sexual misconduct claim against Musk in 2018, Insider has learned. The attendant worked as a member of the cabin crew on a contract basis for SpaceX's corporate jet fleet. She accused Musk of exposing his erect penis to her, rubbing her leg without consent, and offering to buy her a horse in exchange for an erotic massage, according to interviews and documents obtained by Insider.” [Business Insider, [5/19/22](#)]

Jun 2024 – Elon Musk And SpaceX Were Sued By 8 Former Employees For Sexual Harassment “SpaceX and CEO Elon Musk were hit on Wednesday with a lawsuit from eight former employees, who alleged they were illegally fired for raising concerns about sexual harassment and discrimination against women at the company. Why it matters: The lawsuit comes just a day after a Wall Street Journal report alleged Musk has had sexual relationships with at least two SpaceX employees and has made sexually inappropriate comments toward other women at the company.” [Axios, [6/12/24](#)]

OTHER

2000 – Musk Wrecks His Uninsured \$1 Million McLaren F1 Recklessly In An Attempt To Show Off To Peter Thiel. “In 2000, while driving on Sand Hill Road with PayPal Inc. Co-Founder Peter Thiel to a meeting, a moment of bravado led Musk to demonstrate the car's capabilities. “Watch this,” he said, moments before the McLaren spun out of control, flew “like a discus” 3 feet into the air and crashed. The worst part? The car wasn't insured.” [Yahoo Finance, [2/8/24](#)]

IMMIGRATION

1995 – Elon Musk And His Brother Come To The United States Under The Auspices Of Studying At Stanford, But With Apparently No Intention To Do So. They Then Seem To Have Worked Illegally On A Startup.

“Musk and his brother, Kimbal, have often described their immigrant journey in romantic terms, as a time of personal austerity, undeterred ambition and a willingness to flout conventions. Musk arrived in Palo Alto in 1995 for a graduate degree program at Stanford University but never enrolled in courses, working instead on his start-up. Leaving school left Musk without a legal basis to remain in the United States, according to legal experts. [...] Musk never enrolled at Stanford. In a May 2009 deposition, he said he called the department chair two days after the start of the semester to say he wasn’t going to attend. In the same deposition, he said he began working at Zip2 — originally called Global Link Information Network — in August or September 1995. Upon not enrolling, Musk would have had to leave the country, according to legal experts and immigration laws at the time. He would not have been allowed to work. While overstaying a student visa is somewhat common and officials have at times turned a blind eye to it, it remains illegal.” [Washington Post, [10/26/24](#)]

Kimbal Musk Admitted Their Status Was Illegal In 2013. “Kimbal Musk’s account captured in a video of the 2013 event posted on the Milken Institute’s YouTube page. ‘When they did fund us,’ Kimbal Musk recalled, ‘they realized that we were illegal immigrants.’ ‘Well...’ Elon Musk interjected. ‘Yes, we were,’ Kimbal Musk pushed back. Video of the remarks shows Elon Musk laughing as he jumped in with a different interpretation: ‘I’d say it was a gray area.’” [CNN, [9/29/24](#)]

BONUS: MUSK THREATENING PEOPLE WITH LEGAL ACTION FOR VERIFIABLY LEGAL THINGS

Musk Threatening To Have A Mayor Arrested For Not Having His Municipal Police Department Carry Out Immigration Enforcement [Twitter, [11/23/24](#)]



Musk Saying It Is A Crime To Publish The Names Of DOGE Staffers. “On Sunday night, after Democrats of the House Foreign Affairs Committee posted on X that “DOGE’s attempt to bulldoze its way into classified systems is part of a broader agenda to dismantle U.S. foreign aid and soft power,” another user on the site, with a paid verified account, replied, “Here’s a list of techies on the ground helping Musk gaining and using access to the US Treasury payment system,” and named the six men identified in the Wired article. Musk shot back, “You have committed a crime,” though there is no law against reporting the names of individuals with a government-affiliated task force. The post was then removed and replaced with a message saying that it had violated X rules. Then the account itself was suspended.” [Rolling Stone, [2/3/25](#)]

Musk Claims Rep. Omar Is “Breaking The Law. Literally. Outright” By Advising People On Their Constitutional Rights. [Twitter, [2/4/25](#)]

 **Elon Musk**  
@elonmusk Subscribe  ...

She is breaking the law. Literally. Outright.

 **Ian Miles Cheong**   @stillgray · Feb 4

Ilhan Omar is conducting seminars for Somalians who are living illegally in the U.S. without documentation, providing guidance on how to evade deportation.

 @bancitysam

Representative Ilhan Omar recently spoke to the media

0:01 / 0:57    

12:20 PM · Feb 4, 2025 · **61.4M** Views