

## FACT SHEET: TRUMP ADMINISTRATION, DOGE PUNISH AGENCIES INVESTIGATING ELON MUSK'S COMPANIES

## Several Federal Agencies That Were Investigating Elon Musk's Companies Have Become The Early Targets Of The Trump Administration And Musk's Department Of Government Efficiency (DOGE)

- **Department of Labor (DOL):** DOL, which oversees the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) had <u>over a dozen open investigations</u> into Tesla and SpaceX regarding alleged unfair labor practices, safety violations, and discriminatory work practices.
  - NLRB <u>filed a complaint</u> against SpaceX after eight employees said they were fired in retaliation for speaking critically of Musk; SpaceX sued the NLRB in response. OFCCP was conducting an audit of potential workplace discrimination at Tesla. EEOC sued Tesla for alleged racial harassment and retaliation in 2023.
  - The DOL Inspector General was unlawfully <u>fired</u> by Trump during his midnight purge of inspectors general on Jan. 24.
  - Trump <u>fired</u> the chair of the NLRB and has effectively shut down NLRB's ability to rule on cases.
  - Trump <u>gutted OFCCP via an executive order</u> on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> before their investigation's findings could be made public.
  - Trump <u>fired</u> two of the three Democratic Commissioners on the EEOC.
- **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB):** Consumers have submitted <u>over 300 complaints</u> about Elon Musk's Tesla to the CFPB. 66 of these complaints were submitted in the last year.
  - Trump <u>fired</u> CFPB Director Rohit Chopra and installed Project 2025 architect Russ Vought as the bureau's acting director.
  - CFPB's Washington headquarters has been closed, and staff and contractors have been told that they cannot "perform any work tasks."
  - Musk <u>tweeted</u> "Delete CFPB" less than a week after the agency <u>finalized</u> a rule that could put his planned collaboration with Visa to offer a real-time payments system on the platform into the agency's crosshairs.
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID): The USAID Inspector General <u>initiated a probe</u> into Starlink satellite terminals provided to the Government of Ukraine
  - USAID has been shuttered after Musk's DOGE took a wrecking ball to the agency.
  - The USAID Inspector General was <u>fired</u> days after publishing a report critical of the Trump Administration's dismantling of the agency.
- **Department of Transportation (DOT):** DOT, which oversees the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), had <u>several open</u> <u>investigations</u> into Tesla. FAA had recently ordered SpaceX to carry out a formal <u>investigation</u> into the loss of a Starship vehicle during a test flight, and previously <u>ordered over \$630,000 in civil penalties</u> against SpaceX.
  - The DOT Inspector General was <u>fired</u> by Trump.
  - The FAA Administrator resigned effective Jan. 20, following pressure from Musk.

- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA): The USDA Inspector General launched a probe into Elon Musk's Neuralink in 2022 for potential violations of the Animal Welfare Act. As of January, the investigation was ongoing.
  - The USDA Inspector General, a 22-year veteran of the agency, was fired by Trump and later <u>escorted</u> out of her office by security guards.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): EPA regulators have settled <u>multiple lawsuits</u> with Tesla over violations of the Clean Air Act and hazardous waste laws at the company's automotive manufacturing plant in Fremont, California.
  - The EPA Inspector General was <u>fired</u> by Trump.
- Federal Election Commission (FEC): The FEC is set to rule on a number of complaints filed during the 2024 election cycle, including complaints pertaining to Musk's America PAC.
  - The Trump Administration <u>unlawfully removed FEC chairwoman Ellen Weintraub</u> from her post.
- **Department of the Interior (DOI)**: DOI oversees the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), which monitors the federal lands near SpaceX's launch site in Texas for any damage to threatened species' habitats. Musk has repeatedly clashed with FWS, calling their review process "<u>unacceptable</u>."
  - The DOI Inspector General was <u>fired</u> by Trump.
- **Department of Defense (DOD):** Concerns that <u>SpaceX has repeatedly failed to comply with federal</u> reporting protocols aimed at protecting state secrets, including by not providing some details of Musk's meetings with foreign leaders, have reportedly triggered federal reviews by DOD's Office of Inspector General, the Air Force, and the Pentagon's Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security. The Air Force also recently denied Musk high-level security access, citing potential security risks associated with the billionaire.
  - The DOD Inspector General was <u>fired</u> by Donald Trump.
- **Department of Justice (DOJ):** DOJ filed a <u>lawsuit in 2023 against SpaceX</u> for allegedly discriminating against asylees and refugees in hiring. DOJ also opened <u>investigations into whether Tesla</u> has been candid in describing the features of its vehicles.
  - While leaving its Inspector General in place, for now, the Trump Administration has taken several actions to gut the DOJ, including firing top leadership and prosecutors.
- Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC): The SEC sued X in January 2025, alleging Musk misled shareholders about his Twitter stock purchases in 2022 and ordering Musk to pay the federal government as much as \$150 million. Musk called the agency a "totally broken organization" in response to the lawsuit.
  - Trump vowed to fire the SEC Chair Gary Gensler "on day one"; Gensler <u>stepped down</u> before Trump could fire him, leaving a Republican majority at the SEC.
- Office of Government Ethics (OGE): Days after Members of Congress requested that OGE <u>investigate</u> <u>Mr. Musk's conflicts of interest</u>—given his status as a Special Government Employee and his extensive business holdings that receive <u>billions of dollars in federal government contracts and subsidies</u>—the Director of OGE was <u>fired</u> by Trump.