

CHIP ROY  
21<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, TEXAS  
COMMITTEE ON RULES  
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

103 CANNON HOB  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4321  
(202) 225-4236

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4312**

March 28, 2025

Lisa Davis  
Chief of Police  
Austin Police Department  
715 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Chief Davis,

I write today with concerns regarding a troubling incident that recently took place in Austin, a portion of which falls in Texas' 21st Congressional District, which I represent. As you know, on March 24, 2025, Austin Police Department (APD) officers were dispatched to a Tesla dealership in north Austin after multiple "suspicious objects" were discovered in the dealership's showroom.<sup>1</sup>

The APD bomb squad determined that the suspicious items were incendiary devices – which could have been used to harm someone or destroy property if detonated. Fortunately, authorities took custody of the devices before they could cause any damage. The brave men and women of APD and its bomb squad should be commended for their response to the incident, safeguarding life and property.

Since President Trump returned to office and directed Tesla CEO Elon Musk to oversee the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), several Tesla dealerships, vehicle lots, charging stations, and even privately owned Tesla vehicles have been targets of criminal activity nationwide. These acts have escalated from mere vandalism to dangerous acts, including igniting Tesla vehicles on fire, shooting live ammunition, and throwing Molotov cocktails at Tesla showrooms.<sup>2</sup>

In this month alone, law enforcement has responded to 48 instances involving Tesla vehicles, dealerships, and charging stations being targeted across the country, seven of which, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has partnered with local law enforcement.<sup>3,4</sup> Additionally, the FBI suspects these attacks appear to be politically motivated, targeting Tesla-affiliated individuals for perceived political stances and Mr. Musk's actions at DOGE.<sup>5,6</sup>

As I am sure you're aware, Tesla Inc. is headquartered in Austin and has five other locations across the city. Therefore, I request that any ongoing threat to Tesla be handled judiciously to ensure its employees, clients, and Austin residents do not fall victim to a potential attack.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kxan.com/news/local/austin/incendiary-devices-found-at-austin-tesla-showroom/>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://apnews.com/article/tesla-vandalism-musk-trump-domestic-extremism-7576c03393a733eaf34b793e86ad1a6f>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/US/multiple-incendiary-devices-found-tesla-dealership-texas-police/story?id=120104766>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://thehill.com/regulation/national-security/5212446-fbi-task-force-tesla-vandalism/>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.foxnews.com/us/tesla-vehicles-dealerships-targeted-arson-gunfire-vandalism-least-9-states-fbi>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.foxbusiness.com/technology/tesla-being-targeted-heinous-violence-white-house-says>.

My constituents routinely express their concerns about public safety in Austin and the surrounding areas. As their elected representative, I have a duty to inquire if their safety or security is in jeopardy, especially if incidents such as these are related to terrorism.

FBI Director Kash Patel recently announced the creation of a task force to crack down on violent attacks related to Tesla.<sup>7</sup> While this is a positive development, I would like my office to receive timely updates on APD's investigation into the March 24, 2025, Tesla incident in Austin. I understand that specific investigation details might be Law Enforcement Sensitive (LES), so I therefore request a briefing from you or your agency subordinates to discuss the following questions:

1. Does the March 24, 2025, Tesla incident have preliminary signs of ties to terrorism or extremist groups?
2. Are there any suspects(s) or persons-of-interest(s) APD is suspecting in the March 24, 2025, Tesla incident?
3. How many calls-for-service and/or reports has APD received related to Tesla vehicles, dealerships, and charging stations being vandalized or Tesla owners being victimized because of their ownership of said vehicle since January 20, 2025
  - a. If so, how many of these incidents has the FBI been called in to investigate?
4. Has APD received calls-for-service detailing individuals being targeted for their political beliefs since January 20, 2025?
5. Does APD anticipate increasing security and surveillance at any of the other five Tesla locations in the Austin area?

Thank you for your public service and prompt attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chip Roy', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chip Roy  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Kash Patel, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

---

<sup>7</sup> <https://x.com/FBIDirectorKash/status/1904253808374649020>.