Elon Musk is mad at the SEC again

The Securities and Exchange Commission is preparing “numerous counts” against Elon Musk, according to a letter from his lawyer that Musk posted to X. It has also “reopened an investigation into Neuralink.”

The letter is short on specifics — such as what the charges may be, and how many Musk companies are affected. Instead, Musk’s lawyer, Alex Spiro, complains that “the Commission Staff issued a settlement demand that required Mr. Musk agree within 48 hours to either accept a monetary payment or face charges on numerous accounts.” Even this is somewhat unclear; presumably, Spiro means that Musk would *pay* a penalty rather than accept money from the SEC.

The letter characterizes this history as “more than six years of harassment.”

It is unclear from Spiro’s letter whether the charges the SEC is pursuing have to do with the Twitter matter or something else. *Reuters* previously reported that the Department of Justice was probing whether Tesla’s self-driving claims were actually securities fraud. In 2023, *Reuter*s reported that lawmakers had asked the SEC to probe Neuralink over Musk’s comments about the safety of the company’s brain device.

Musk also asked his AI, Grok, to draw a picture of SEC chair Gary Gensler. The image depicted a snail in a business suit, seemingly a reference to Gary the Snail from *Spongebob Squarepants*, a television show for children.

https://www.theverge.com/2024/12/12/24320060/elon-musk-sec-ale

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