JOSH KAUL, in his official capacity as Wisconsin Attorney General 17 West Main Street Madison, WI 53703,

Plaintiff,

v.

ELON MUSK 2110 Ranch Road 620 S. #341886 Austin, TX 78734, and

AMERICA PAC P.O. Box 341027 Austin, TX 78734,

Defendants.

## **SUMMONS**

## THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

To each entity and individual named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within twenty (20) days of receiving this summons, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Wis. Stat. ch. 802, to the complaint. The court

may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 215 South Hamilton Street, Suite 1000, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, and to Karla Z. Keckhaver and Lewis W. Beilin, Assistant Attorneys General, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Wisconsin Department of Justice, Post Office Box 7857, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7857. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within twenty (20) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 28th day of March 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA L. KAUL Attorney General of Wisconsin

Electronically signed by:

s/Karla Z. Keckhaver KARLA Z. KECKHAVER Assistant Attorney General State Bar #1028242

LEWIS W. BEILIN Assistant Attorney General State Bar #1038835

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# ATTORNEY GENERAL JOSH KAUL,

Plaintiff,

v.

ELON MUSK and AMERICA PAC,

Defendant.

## **COMPLAINT**

# **INTRODUCTION**

On March 27, 2025, Elon Musk posted this statement to his X.com account:



Wisconsin law forbids anyone from offering or promising to give anything of value to an elector in order to induce the elector to go to the polls, vote or refrain from voting, or vote for a particular person. Wis. Stat. § 12.11(1m). Musk's announcement of his intention to pay \$1 million to two Wisconsin electors who attend his event on Sunday night, specifically conditioned on their having voted in the upcoming April 3, 2025, Wisconsin Supreme Court election, is a blatant attempt to violate Wis. Stat. § 12.11. This must not happen.

The Attorney General brings this action pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 5.07 seeking immediate, temporary and permanent injunctive relief to prevent Musk and America PAC's egregious attempt to buy votes in a Wisconsin election.

## **PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff is Joshua L. Kaul, Attorney General of Wisonsin, who is authorized to bring this action by Wis. Stat. § 5.07. The Attorney General is head of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, whose address is Risser Justice Center, 17 West Main Street, Madison, WI 53703.
- 2. Defendant Elon Musk is the founder of America PAC. He is also the owner of X.com, formerly Twitter. His address is 2110 Ranch Road 620 S. #341886 Austin, TX 78734.
- 3. Defendant America PAC is a federal political action committee. Its address is P.O. Box 341027, Austin, TX 78734. Defendant Musk was the founder and remains principal funder of America PAC. The Treasurer of America PAC is Chris Young.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 5.07, which authorizes the Attorney General to "sue for injunctive relief, a writ of mandamus or prohibition, or other such legal or equitable relief as may be appropriate to compel compliance with" the laws regulation the conduct of elections or election campaigns, whenever a violation of such laws "occurs or is proposed to occur." Wis. Stat. § 5.07.
- 2. Venue is appropriate in Dane County pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 5.07 and 801.50. Defendants have publicized two \$1 million payments throughout the state, indeed throughout the nation and world, via online platforms. Voters in all Wisconsin counties are being solicitated to participate in the Defendants' scheme, including voters in Dane County.

### RELEVANT LAW

3. Wisconsin Stat. § 5.07 provides:

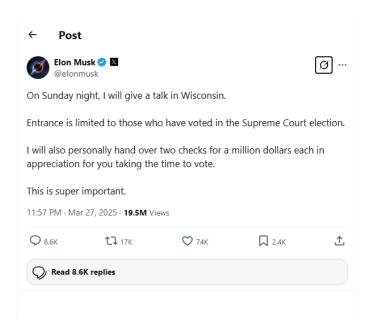
Whenever a violation of the laws regulating the conduct of elections or election campaigns, other than a violation of the laws regulating campaign financing, occurs or is proposed to occur, the attorney general or the district attorney of the county where the violation occurs or is proposed to occur may sue for injunctive relief, a writ of mandamus or prohibition, or other such legal or equitable relief as may be appropriate to compel compliance with the law. No bond is required in such actions.

- 4. Wisconsin Stat. § 12.11(1m) provides that "[a]ny person who does any of the following violates this chapter:
  - (a) Offers, gives, lends or promises to give or lend, or endeavors to procure, anything of value, or any office or employment or any privilege or immunity to, or for, any elector, or to or for any other person, in order to induce any elector to:
    - 1. Go to or refrain from going to the polls.

- 2. Vote or refrain from voting.
- 3. Vote or refrain from voting for or against a particular person.
- 4. Vote or refrain from voting for or against a particular referendum; or on account of any elector having done any of the above.
- (b) Receives, agrees or contracts to receive or accept any money, gift, loan, valuable consideration, office or employment personally or for any other person, in consideration that the person or any elector will, so act or has so acted.
- (c) Advances, pays or causes to be paid any money to or for the use of any person with the intent that such money or any part thereof will be used to bribe electors at any election.

## **FACTS**

5. On March 27, 2025, Elon Musk posted to his X.com account the following statement:



- 6. As of 11:57 pm on March 27, 2025, there were already 19.5 million views of Musk's X.com post.
- 7. The post was also widely reported by the news media. See, e.g., Scott Bauer, Wisconsin Supreme Court Race; Musk to hold rally, deliver \$2M to voters,

FOX6 News (Mar. 28, 2025), https://www.fox6now.com/news/wisconsin-supreme-court-race-musk-hold-rally-deliver-2m-voters; Alison Dirr, et al., *Elon Must says he will be in Wisconsin Sunday, hand out \$2M ahead of Supreme Court election,* Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Mar. 28, 2025), https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2025/03/28/musk-coming-to-wisconsin-ahead-of-tuesday-state-supreme-court-election/82702597007/.

- 8. Musk is the founder and largest funder of America PAC. America PAC, https://theamericapac.org/ (last visited Mar. 28, 2025); see also America PAC, Fed. Election Comm'n, https://www.fec.gov/data/committee/C00879510/?cycle=2024 (last visited Mar. 28, 2025).
  - 9. Musk is also the owner of X.com, formerly Twitter.
- 10. Defendants' announcement of two \$1 million payments to Wisonsin electors to vote in the Wisconsin Supreme Court election is a further step in their ongoing involvement in the April 3, 2025, Wisconsin election.
- 11. Defendant America PAC has also offered a \$100 payment to any Wisconsin registered voter who signs an online "Petition" that expresses the signer's agreement with certain statements regarding judges.
- 12. The Petition was publicized via an America PAC post on X.com on March 20, 2025. @america, X.com, https://x.com/america/status/1902888358432370773 (Mar. 20, 2025, 8:01 p.m.) and was reported widely in the media. See, e.g., Scott Bauer, Musk group offers \$100 to Wisconsin voters ahead of pivotal state Supreme Court election, AP News.com (March 21, 2025 1:57 PM CDT),

https://apnews.com/article/wisconsin-supreme-court-musk-trump-b9be6119d500bdacc9c6341be013cd62.

- 13. The Petition also offered \$100 for each additional registered voter who signs the Petition and identifies the referring voters by name and email address.
- 14. Although the initial Petition announcement only offered \$100 payments, America PAC announced on March 27, 2025, that it had given \$1 million to a Wisconsin registered voter who had signed the Petition. Mariana La Roche, *Musk PAC gives Wisconsin voter \$1 million after petition campaign*, WISN 12 (Mar. 27, 2025, 10:59 PM CDT), https://www.wisn.com/article/musk-pac-gives-wisconsin-voter-1-million-after-petition-campaign/64310654.
- 15. As of 12:20 pm on March 28, 2025, Musk's March 27, 2025, post on X.com shown in paragraph 1 appears to have been taken down. Jessica Piper & Andrew Howard, *Musk butts up against state law with (now deleted) \$1 million check giveaway*, Politico.com (March 28, 2025 updated 1:49 PM EDT), https://www.politico.com/news/2025/03/28/elon-musk-wisconsin-supreme-court-giveaway-00257082.

16. As of 12:28 pm on March 28, 2025, Musk posted on X.com the following:



17. As of the time of this filing, neither Musk nor America PAC have announced that their plan to pay \$1 million to two Wisconsin electors on Sunday March 30, 2025, has been cancelled.

## LEGAL CLAIM

# INJUNCTION: Wis. Stat. §§ 5.07, 813.02

18. Plaintiff re-alleges all preceding paragraphs and incorporates them herein by reference.

- 19. Defendant Musk's public statement on March 27, 2025, demonstrates an intention to violate Wis. Stat. § 12.11. Although the post appears to have been taken down from the X.com site as of this filing, the offer has not been withdrawn.
- 20. Upon information and belief, despite taking down the X.com post, neither Musk nor America PAC have announced that the plan to make two \$1 million payments to Wisconsin electors who have voted in the Wisconsin Supreme Court election has been cancelled.
- 21. Wisconsin Stat. § 5.07 authorizes this Court to grant injunctive relief to prevent violations of Wis. Stat. § 12.11 from occurring and to issue any legal or other equitable relief necessary to compel compliance with Wis. Stat. § 12.11.
- 22. Defendants' actions demonstrate the appropriateness of immediate injunctive relief pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 813.02.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

On the basis of the foregoing and all papers submitted to the Court herewith and in further support of this Complaint, Attorney General Kaul respectfully requests that the Court grant the following:

- A temporary restraining order prohibiting Defendants from any further promotion of the million-dollar gifts to attendees of the planned Sunday March 30, 2025.
- 2. A temporary restraining order prohibiting Defendants from making any payments to Wisconsin electors to vote.

- 3. Temporary and permanent injunctive relief on appropriate terms to restrain and prohibit all actions by Defendants taken in furtherance of a planned violation of Wis. Stat. § 12.11.
- 4. Other such legal or equitable relief as may be appropriate to compel compliance with the law.

Dated this 28th day of March 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA L. KAUL Attorney General of Wisconsin

Electronically signed by:

s/Karla Z. Keckhaver KARLA Z. KECKHAVER Assistant Attorney General State Bar #1028242

LEWIS W. BEILIN Assistant Attorney General State Bar #1038835

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