Elon Musk has security scare

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By Terry A. Hurlbut December 16, 2022



Yesterday Elon Musk has a very bad security scare. Last night, in direct response, he suspended a large number of accounts of "journalists." All have a leftist bias, and all have ties to the legacy media. So legacy media organs announced "re-evaluations" of their relationship with Twitter. Sadly, very few people, even among his allies, understand the real risk to which Elon Musk had to respond.

What spooked Elon Musk?

The scare started two days ago when Elon Musk discovered, and suspended, an account called "elonjet." This account was reporting – in real time – the coordinates of his private jet. After suspending the account, Musk promulgated a simple rule: do not give anyone's location in real time. Musk would consider that a "physical safety violation" and would suspend any such account forthwith.

Any account doxxing real-time location info of anyone will be suspended, as it is a physical safety violation. This includes posting links to sites with real-time location info.

Posting locations someone traveled to on a slightly delayed basis isn't a safety problem, so is ok.

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 15, 2022

But the thread did not end with that. It continued with footage of a stalker accosting the limousine carrying his son.

Anyone recognize this person or car? pic.twitter.com/2U0Eyx7iwl

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 15, 2022

The footage shows someone with a mask covering the mouth (but not nose or eyes). The person-of-interest is driving a late-model white Hyundai sedan, license number CJ82G38. Musk asks anyone who has seen man or car to contact the Los Angeles Police Department. In addition, Musk spoke of legal action against Jack Sweeney, owner of the "elonjet" account, and anyone else wishing harm upon himself and/or his family. That started a debate, which turned snide when a certain user tried to excuse the act of "doxxing." Herewith one thread:

Posting publicly available information isn't doxxing. Flight information is publicly available by law.

— Garrett Q (@Garzard27) December 15, 2022

Does the same hold true for libsoftiktok, which routinely posts addresses of places that host drag events with the intent of her followers to harass and intimidate (maybe even do worse) to people at those locations???

— Garrett Q (@Garzard27) December 15, 2022

nah she calls them groomers and makes assumption about them, while posting where they work and sometimes the address of their work, or locations of events, such as drag events.

— Garrett Q (@Garzard27) December 15, 2022

According to you logic, videogames need to be banned too. Because as a 12 years old, I was able to beat up hookers with a Dildo in GTA and visit strip clubs in Saints Row.

— Kyle the Wolf (@Eistee931) December 16, 2022

No. 100% a different issue. Plus, if you are 12 and your parents are letting you play GTA, we don't have a grooming problem, we have a neglectful parent who needs to be investigated. And these are physical shows. GTA is on a screen. You are making this a 'well, well, what about'

— Stone Feather (@StoneFeather27) December 16, 2022

and another along the same vein:

I swear.

Someone made a parody account, now suddenly there are new impersonation rules

Someone used public information to Tweet about Elon's jet, so now there are new location rules

One thing is for sure – if it personally offends him, you won't be able to do it anymore

— Broosh (@Brooshie) December 15, 2022

I fail to see how someone jumping on the hood of a car he wasn't in, in Pasadena, has anything to do with public flight information of his jet landing at LAX.

— яussdogg (@russdogg) <u>December 16, 2022</u>

Read the Twitter Rules!

No one, now making snide comments about Elon Musk "making up rules as he goes," seems to have read the Twitter Rules. The <u>Private Information and Media Policy</u> provides that no user, without the consent of an affected party, may share:

home address or physical location information, including street addresses, GPS coordinates or other identifying information related to locations that are considered private;

or

live location information, including information shared on Twitter directly or links to 3rd-party URL(s) of travel routes, actual physical location, or other identifying information that would reveal a person's location, regardless if this information is publicly available.

The Wayback Machine <u>shows</u> that Twitter administration added the second paragraph at or before 7:11:36 p.m. Before then, only the first paragraph applied. But even *that* might cover the suspension of "elonjet," *especially* in the context of a direct attack against an individual or member of his family. The footage Elon shared clearly shows such an attack. And the most disturbing observation is that certain users actually said the assailant was within his rights.

Bear this in mind when judging what Elon Musk did next.

Elon Musk and the Thursday Night Massacre

Apparently several journalists, all with a leftist bias, shared either the address of "elonjet" or some of the information upon which "elonjet" relied. First to do this, apparently, was Keith Olbermann. At 8:34 p.m. EST, the "Hodgetwins" account noted the suspension, *and* the grounds:

- .@keitholbermann just got suspended for telling people to post links to .@elonmusk's jet location. This one is actually pretty funny **②**
- Hodgetwins (@hodgetwins) December 16, 2022

Musk then suspended at least five more, according to Good Morning America.

Twitter suspends at least six journalists, with Elon Musk citing the company's livelocation policies. @DymburtNews reports. pic.twitter.com/YReKshCE1U

— Good Morning America (@GMA) December 16, 2022

Jack Posobiec covered the suspensions better than anyone. Beginning at 8:05 p.m. EST he listed as many of the suspended accounts as he could find, in real time. The names are: Aaron Rupar, Drew Harwell, Ryan Mac, Donie O'Sullivan, It's Going Down News, and Keith Olbermann.

Massacre

Hearing Aaron doxxed Elon's jet. Did they all do it? pic.twitter.com/PLBqacMG2P

— Pillow Purge Poso (@JackPosobiec) <u>December 16, 2022</u>

More like Your Account is Going Down because you're SUSPENDED! pic.twitter.com/Knjv6FCqEE

— Comrade Stump (@GranTorinoDSA) <u>December 16, 2022</u>

Keith Olbermann has been permanently banned. <u>pic.twitter.com/VDL9rh18NV</u>

— Ryan Saavedra (@RealSaavedra) December 16, 2022

BREAKING: <u>@ElonMusk</u> just hopped on Spaces with a group of journalists and informed them the same doxxing rules apply to them and they aren't special <u>pic.twitter.com/SaYFWxZVpJ</u>

— Pillow Purge Poso (@JackPosobiec) <u>December 16, 2022</u>

Libby Emmons <u>reported</u> that last in *The Post Millennial*. Basically, Elon joined a "Twitter Space" with several journalists to tell them they have *no special privilege* to break the Private Information and Media Policy.

Since 10:56 p.m. EST, Elon Musk has been polling users asking for recommendations on when to lift these suspensions. He closed one poll after half a million had voted in it.

Unsuspend accounts who doxxed my exact location in real-time

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) <u>December 16, 2022</u>

The results were:

Option	Percent
Now	43 percent
Tomorrow	4.5 percent
Seven days	14.4 percent
Longer	38.1 percent

Musk then pointed this out, to show how hypocritical his critics can be:

They posted my exact real-time location, basically assassination coordinates, in (obvious) direct violation of Twitter terms of service

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 16, 2022

If anyone posted real-time locations & addresses of NYT reporters, FBI would be investigating, there'd be hearings on Capitol Hill & Biden would give speeches about end of democracy!

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 16, 2022

At time of posting, Elon has another poll running.

Unsuspend accounts who doxxed my exact location in real-time

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 16, 2022

The options are "now" or "seven days." At this time nearly 60 percent say "now." For the record, *CNAV* votes for a seven-day suspension.

Reaction

Reaction varies from "How dare you!" to "Welcome to being a public figure" to "I would do the same." Libby Emmons' article has the best available collection of tweets:

Same doxxing rules apply to "journalists" as to everyone else

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 16, 2022

Criticizing me all day long is totally fine, but doxxing my real-time location and endangering my family is not

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 16, 2022

I'm just laughing at the thought of them realizing there are now rules on Twitter that apply to then.

— Brick Suit (@Brick_Suit) December 16, 2022

Elon decided that he can publish the license plate of a car and that there are certain people he feels should be banned despite the rules

The only thing that changed at twitter is the ideology of the billionaire in control, its still just subject to the whims of a billionaire https://t.co/40JunfeD0p

— Tim Pool (@Timcast) December 15, 2022

Tim Pool has more room to criticize than most. Last week some "unknown subjects" attacked his house. He wasn't there, and his staff opened fire, thus putting them to flight.

Accounts engaged in doxxing receive a temporary 7 day suspension

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) <u>December 16, 2022</u>

That policy seems definite enough.

Yeah, we will add that feature. Current system isn't clear.

A time delay on reporting location that doesn't put people at serious risk of being killed is fine.

— Elon Musk (@elonmusk) December 16, 2022

A workable compromise. The best time delay is after a reasonable observer would assume the person wasn't there anymore.

In other news, followers of the Twitter Files are still waiting for the release of the sixth installment.