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October 19, 2015

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Ricardo Reyes
Global Communications
Tesla Motors
ricardo@teslamotors.com

Re: October 9, 2015 Incident: Storey County, Nevada

Dear Mr. Reyes:

I am legal counsel to the Reno Gazette-Journal ("RGJ"), and write you for several reasons related to the October 9, 2015 incident involving Tesla security personnel and two RGJ staffers at the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center ("TRIC") in Storey County, Nevada.

First, much of the media coverage of this event, beginning with Tesla's blog post on October 13, 2015, has been irresponsibly inaccurate and misleading. The two RGJ staffers - - one, a long-time RGJ photographer, and the other, the RGJ's Tesla and Reno Rebirth reporter - - have been portrayed as essentially lawless renegades who "broke into" Tesla's gigafactory construction site at TRIC, and then attempted to flee "the scene" in an RGJ vehicle, "accelerating into" and "assaulting" law-abiding Tesla security personnel who merely sought to peaceably detain them. This portrayal is scandalous and could not be further from the truth.

The RGJ staffers were nowhere near the gigafactory construction site. They had simply parked their RGJ-marked vehicle in a publicly accessible area on the TRIC property and walked up an old jeep road to a ridge top high above and significantly far from the construction area. It has been approximately one year since the gigafactory construction began, and the staffers merely wanted to take some photos of the site for a potential story in the RGJ in early November on the construction progress.

After some initial photos were taken, an individual in a brightly colored vest and construction hard hat approached the staffers, accusing them of trespass and demanding possession of their photographic equipment. The RGJ staffers stated they did not want any trouble and began peacefully walking back to their vehicle.

When they arrived at the vehicle, they got in it to leave, but their path forward was blocked by what appeared to be an unmarked off-road vehicle. The driver of the RGJ vehicle thus backed it up, steered around the unmarked off-road vehicle, and began driving away.

At that point, an individual who was also wearing a brightly colored vest and construction hard hat raced up to the RGJ vehicle in the unmarked off-road vehicle and began ramming the side of the RGJ vehicle before pulling in front of it and forcing it to stop.

The RGJ vehicle was then descended upon by the individuals in the brightly colored vests and construction hard hats. One of those individuals began to pound on the hood of the vehicle and, reportedly, jumped all the way onto the hood. Another of those individuals picked up a large rock and shattered the driver's door window, sending glass shards and fragments throughout the vehicle. A knife was then displayed by one of those individuals, who reached the knife through the broken window and, near the head of the RGJ driver, severed the driver's side seatbelt. The driver was then forcibly removed from the vehicle and planted face-first in the dirt with a knee or foot in his back. This entirely over-the-top conduct was accompanied by taunts from the hard hat wearing individuals such as, "now who's the tough guy?", and, "your problem is you think your rights are better than ours."

None of these facts were in the Tesla blog post. But if the hard hat wearing individuals were, as Tesla has represented, Tesla security guards, those individuals were the lawless renegades, not the RGJ staffers. Moreover, quite clearly, the escalation of events on October 9 resulted from the conduct of Tesla and its employees, not from the RGJ and its staffers. Under the circumstances, the RGJ demands that Tesla discontinue any further public statements that mischaracterize or falsely portray the RGJ staffers or the October 9 incident.

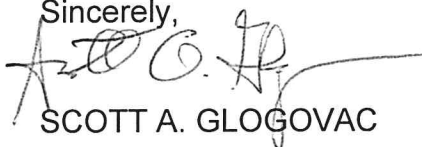
Second, the conduct of the purported Tesla security personnel appears to have been criminal in nature. Several provisions of Chapters 205 and 206 of the Nevada Revised Statutes make it a crime for an individual to maliciously or purposefully damage the property of another. This appears to have occurred with the damage caused to the RGJ vehicle by the Tesla security personnel. The RGJ is thus reviewing its rights to file formal criminal charges against those individuals with the Storey County Sheriff's Office. The RGJ additionally believes its staffers should consider various criminal charges of their own against those individuals, including charges of assault and battery.

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Third, the RGJ believes the damages caused to its vehicle give rise to civil damage claims against Tesla and its security personnel. The RGJ is thus reviewing its rights in this regard as well. The RGJ has notified its insurance carrier of the October 9 incident and anticipates that Tesla will receive communications from that company regarding the damages caused by the Tesla employees. Moreover, the RGJ once again believes its staffers should consider civil damage claims of their own. In particular, the driver of the RGJ vehicle, who sustained cuts, bruises and abrasions from the assault perpetrated on him by the Tesla security personnel, should clearly seek appropriate redress from those individuals and Tesla.

In conclusion, the RGJ is outraged by the conduct of the Tesla security personnel, and intends to actively pursue its rights and correct any inaccurate or misleading media portrayal of its staffers or the October 9 incident.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.A. GLOGOVAC", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

SCOTT A. GLOGOVAC

SAG/zb