



Musk's Lawyer Issues Apology for Absence at Closing Remarks

Description

OAKLAND, California – A lawyer for billionaire Elon Musk apologised to jurors on Thursday for Musk's absence from court, as closing statements began in his lawsuit against artificial intelligence startup OpenAI. The lawyer, Steven Molo, urged the jury not to draw negative conclusions from Musk's nonappearance.

The trial, which has lasted three weeks, has reached a critical stage. Meanwhile, Musk was in China meeting with President Donald Trump and other business leaders, despite being told by the trial judge that he was required to attend and could be called back to testify. Musk's public comments in Beijing described the discussions with President Xi Jinping as "awesome."

The lawsuit revolves around OpenAI's shift to a for-profit model to secure funds for its research and development, including its flagship app, ChatGPT. Musk, an original co-founder and early supporter, claims that OpenAI has abandoned its nonprofit roots. In response, OpenAI, led by CEO Sam Altman, insists that a nonprofit still oversees the organisation and that Musk was on board with their for-profit plans.

Though Musk initiated the case, he has not returned to court for two weeks after testifying for three days. Altman, however, was present in court during closing arguments.

Molo highlighted that five witnesses had accused Altman of dishonesty and suggested Altman's reputation was unreliable, using a bridge analogy to illustrate his point. Additionally, he raised concerns about Altman and OpenAI co-founder Greg Brockman profiting from the organisation.

OpenAI's representatives countered this view by clarifying that the executives created the value in question and defended their actions as legitimate. They argued that Musk's motivations were contrary to his claims of wanting to maintain OpenAI as a nonprofit, asserting that he had previously proposed merging OpenAI with Tesla. They also indicated that Musk's lawsuit may be time-barred, stating he could have raised his concerns much earlier.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What is the nature of the lawsuit against OpenAI?

Option: Defamation

Option: Breach of contract

Option: Shift to for-profit model



Option: Patent infringement

2. Who is the lawyer representing Elon Musk in the lawsuit?

- Option: Sam Altman
- Option: Greg Brockman
- Option: Steven Molo
- Option: Donald Trump

3. How long did the trial last?

- Option: One week
- Option: Two weeks
- Option: Three weeks
- Option: Four weeks

4. Which country was Elon Musk visiting during the trial?

- Option: Japan
- Option: China
- Option: India
- Option: Russia

5. What is the name of OpenAI's flagship app?

- Option: GPT-3
- Option: ChatGPT
- Option: AI Assistant
- Option: OpenAI App

6. Who is the CEO of OpenAI?

- Option: Elon Musk
- Option: Sam Altman
- Option: Greg Brockman
- Option: Steven Molo

True-False

7. Elon Musk was present at the court during the closing statements.

8. The lawsuit claims that OpenAI has abandoned its nonprofit roots.



-
9. OpenAI's representatives claimed that the executives did not create value for the organization.
 10. Musk suggested merging OpenAI with Tesla at one point.
 11. Five witnesses in the trial supported Sam Altman's honesty.
 12. Elon Musk testified in court for three days before his absence.

Gap-Fill

13. Elon Musk was told by the trial judge that he was required to attend and could be called back to testify, but he was in China meeting with President _____.
14. The lawyer for Musk urged the jury not to draw negative conclusions from Musk's _____.
15. The lawsuit revolves around OpenAI's shift to a for-profit model to secure funds for its _____.
16. The trial has reached a critical _____.
17. Musk has not returned to court for two weeks after _____ for three days.
18. OpenAI insists that a _____ still oversees the organisation despite the for-profit shift.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Shift to for-profit model 2. Steven Molo 3. Three weeks 4. China 5. ChatGPT 6. Sam Altman

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. Donald Trump 14. nonappearance 15. research and development 16. stage 17. testifying 18. nonprofit

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL5

POST TAG



1. attorney
2. closing remarks
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. Level 5
6. Musk

Tags

1. attorney
2. closing remarks
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. Level 5
6. Musk

Date Created

2026/05/15

Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM