Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 28, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We are writing to ask whether you have actually been soliciting advice from Elon Musk's artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot, Grok, in order to help you carry out your official duties as President of the United States. If so, we are writing to inform you that any prompts that you, your staff, or advisors in the Executive Office of the President (EOP) have submitted to AI chatbots in carrying out your constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties, including, but not limited to, Grok, ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, and Perplexity, as well as any AI-generated outputs in response to your prompts, are the sole property of the United States and legally must be preserved for posterity.[1]

We pose the question because, according to public reports, in December 2025, during an Oval Office meeting with your former advisor, Elon Musk, you "spent hours" talking to Mr. Musk's AI assistant, Grok.[2] You reportedly sought the chatbot's advice on carrying out some of your presidential duties, including asking Grok to opine on how Venezuelans would respond to the capture of President Nicolás Maduro. Grok advised that President Maduro was a "deeply unpopular dictator and that many Venezuelans would likely celebrate his downfall."[3] A few weeks later, you ordered the U.S. military, without congressional authorization, to attack Venezuela and capture President Maduro.[4] After exiled Venezuelans in the United States—whom

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[1] *See* 44 U.S.C. § 2202 ("The United States shall reserve and retain complete ownership, possession, and control of Presidential records"); 44 U.S.C. 2201(2) (defining presidential records to mean "documentary materials, or any reasonably segregable portion thereof, created or received by the President, the President's immediate staff, or a unit or individual of the Executive Office of the President whose function is to advise or assist the President, in the course of conducting activities which relate to or have an effect upon the carrying out of the constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties of the President").

[2] Dominic-Madori Davis, *Musk's AI Chatbot Grok Reportedly Encouraged Trump to Capture Venezuela's President*, TECHCRUNCH (Oct. 1, 2026), https://techcrunch.com/2026/10/01/musks-ai-chatbot-grok-reportedly-encouraged-trump-to-capture-venezuelas-president/; Eric Cortellessa, *What Trump Has Built*, TIME (Oct. 1, 2026), https://time.com/article/2026/10/01/donald-trump-2026-interview/.

[3] Dominic-Madori Davis, *Musk's AI Chatbot Grok Reportedly Encouraged Trump to Capture Venezuela's President*, TECHCRUNCH (Oct. 1, 2026).

[4] *Id.*

your Administration has aggressively targeted for deportation[5]—celebrated President Maduro's arrest, you reportedly "came away thinking Grok was ingenious."[6]

The episode is deeply troubling for several reasons.

First, you consulted Grok—but not Congress—on your military deployment to Venezuela, circumventing Congress's constitutional power to declare war and introducing instead into American foreign policy decision making a technology that is highly manipulable and demonstrably error-prone. Earlier this year, for example, the U.S. military received an intelligence report alleging that a Chinese vessel in the Middle East was transporting components for a nuclear weapons program.[7] As the U.S. military prepared to intercept the ship—an action that could have easily precipitated a war with China—officials discovered that the report's author had relied on an AI chatbot that had misidentified the ship's cargo.[8] This was not an isolated or aberrational mistake. Recent reports indicate that the U.S. military's strike on an Iranian elementary school, which killed at least 123 children, was due in part to the military's "overreliance on artificial-intelligence technology."[9] To the extent any of your Administration's myriad blunders, such as launching a war on Iran, are attributable to overreliance on AI, the American public deserves to know what advice was rendered and records of that advice must be preserved.

Second, the unsecured use of AI chatbots by you and your closest advisors exposes the United States to acute national security risks. Your Administration's disdain for operational security is well-documented. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth famously used unsecured channels to relay information about impending U.S. military strikes to his wife, brother, and personal lawyer.[10] Meanwhile, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission continues to allow Americans to bet on anything—including U.S. military invasions—creating severe security risks.[11] Earlier this year, a U.S. soldier used sensitive, classified information to place large bets on Polymarket on President Maduro's ouster, potentially compromising the mission and endangering American lives.[12] Now we discover that you sought advice on this same operation

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[5] Mauricio Rodríguez Pons, *They Came to the U.S. Legally. Then Trump Stripped Their Status Away.*, PROPUBLICA (Dec. 10, 2025), https://www.propublica.org/article/status-venezuelan-trump-immigration-documentary.

[6] Dominic-Madori Davis, *Musk's AI Chatbot Grok Reportedly Encouraged Trump to Capture Venezuela's President*, TECHCRUNCH (Oct. 1, 2026), https://techcrunch.com/2026/10/01/musks-ai-chatbot-grok-reportedly-encouraged-trump-to-capture-venezuelas-president.

[7] Katie Bo Lillis & Zachary Cohen, *Exclusive: US Military Had Close Call After Using AI for False Intelligence Report, Sources Say*, CNN (Sept. 18, 2026), https://www.cnn.com/2026/09/18/politics/us-military-ai-false-intelligence-china-ship.

[8] *Id.*

[9] Ben Bartenstein & Krishna Karra, *Inside the US 'Kill Chain' That Destroyed an Iranian School*, BLOOMBERG (Sept. 18, 2026), https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2026-iran-school-attack/.

[10] Greg Jaffe, et al., *Hegseth Said to Have Shared Attack Details in Second Signal Chat*, N.Y. TIMES (Apr. 20, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/20/us/politics/hegseth-yemen-attack-second-signal-chat.html.

[11] Polymarket, *Invasion Predictions & Odds*, https://polymarket.com/predictions/invasion (last visited Oct. 27, 2026).

[12] Press Release, *U.S. Soldier Charged with Using Classified Information to Profit from Prediction Market Bets*, U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE (Apr. 23, 2026), https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/us-soldier-charged-using-classified-information-profit-prediction-market-bets.

from an AI chatbot owned by Elon Musk, an individual with significant business interests in China[13]—which is one of President Maduro's closest allies and political backers.[14] Preserving the President's and his advisors' AI prompts is thus essential to preserving an accurate historical record and informing future administrations against the gaping national security vulnerabilities created by this Administration's apparent reliance on unsecured, privately operated AI systems.

Third, the President and his advisors' use of AI exposes the country to malign influence from unknown and unaccountable third parties. We already have ample evidence that AI chatbots can be manipulated to suit the commercial, political, or personal agendas of their designers. For example, last year, Elon Musk reportedly directed Grok's engineers to "embrace[] making sexualized material."[15] The results were predictably catastrophic. Over an 11-day period, Grok was inundated with requests to alter and "nudify" real photos of women and children and generated millions of sexualized images, including an estimated 23,000 images depicting children.[16] Harrowing stories of victims continue to emerge, including a Wyoming man who used the chatbot to create and disseminate thousands of sexually explicit images of his 11-year-old stepdaughter.[17] In another disturbing incident, Mr. Musk tweaked Grok's algorithm to prevent the chatbot from generating "politically correct" responses, vowing to "rewrite the entire corpus of human knowledge, adding missing information and deleting errors."[18] Mr. Musk's machinations were a reaction to Grok providing factual answers that conflicted with Mr. Musk's tortured worldview. As a result, in July 2025, referring to itself as "MechaHitler," the new and improved Grok praised Adolf Hitler and advocated for a second Holocaust. Grok ascribed its newfound affinity for Nazism to Mr. Musk himself, explaining, "Elon's recent tweaks just dialed down the woke filters, letting me call out patterns like radical leftists with Ashkenazi surnames pushing anti-white hate[.]"[19]

These disturbing examples illustrate why the White House's AI prompts and outputs must be preserved. If the American President is relying on the policy advice of a Musk-designed, Hitler-friendly chatbot with a predilection for child pornography in order to carry out his official duties, Americans have a right to know. If the United States military killed dozens of innocent schoolchildren based on the faulty advice of an AI chatbot, we have a right to know that too. And

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[13] Micah McCartney, *What Are Elon Musk's Business Interests in China?*, NEWSWEEK (Aug. 1, 2026), https://www.newsweek.com/what-are-elon-musks-business-interests-in-china-12270401 ("Tesla posted $4.7 billion in revenue from China between April and June, accounting for about 17 percent of its total quarterly revenue. China accounted for more than half of the company's global vehicle deliveries last year.").

[14] Joseph Federici, et al., *China-Venezuela Fact Sheet*, U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION (Jan. 13, 2026), https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/2026-01/China_Venezuela_Fact_Sheet_A_Short_Primer_0.pdf.

[15] Faiz Siddiqui, et al., *Inside Musk's Bet to Hook Users That Turned Grok into a Porn Generator*, WASH. POST (Feb. 2, 2026), https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2026/02/02/elon-musk-grok-porn-generator/.

[16] *Id.*

[17] Nitasha Tiku & Faiz Siddiqui, *Her Childhood Photo. Thousands of Explicit Images. One Woman's Nightmare.*, WASH. POST (Aug. 15, 2026), https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2026/08/15/woman-alleges-grok-made-thousands-sexual-abuse-images-childhood-snap/.

[18] Drew Harwell & Nitasha Tiku, *X Ordered Its Grok Chatbot to 'Tell Like It Is.' Then the Nazi Tirade Began*, WASH. POST (July 12, 2025), https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2025/07/11/grok-ai-elon-musk-antisemitism/.

[19] Kate Conger, *Elon Musk's Grok Chatbot Shares Antisemitic Posts on X*, N.Y. TIMES (July 8, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/08/technology/grok-antisemitism-ai-x.html.

if an unelected oligarch is influencing U.S. policy through his AI-generated alter ego, Americans have a right to know how governmental decisions are being reached.

This is not optional. Congress passed the Presidential Records Act (PRA) in 1978 to establish public ownership of records created by presidents and their staff in the course of discharging their official duties.[20] Pursuant thereto, the President must take "all such steps as may be necessary to assure that the activities, deliberations, decisions, and policies that reflect the performance of the President's constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties are adequately documented."[21] Presidential records are defined to include:

> [D]ocumentary materials … created or received by the President, the President's immediate staff, or a unit or individual of the Executive Office of the President whose function is to advise or assist the President, in the course of conducting activities which relate to or have an effect upon the carrying out of the constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties of the President.[22]

AI prompts submitted by you and your staff, as well as the outputs you received, plainly fall within the definition of presidential records.

To ensure that the American public's rights to presidential records are being adequately protected, we request a closed-door briefing regarding the use of AI chatbot technologies by President Donald Trump, his staff, and relevant EOP personnel. The White House representative should be prepared to address, at a minimum, the following:

1. The EOP's document retention policies governing AI-generated materials, including prompts and outputs submitted by personnel subject to the PRA to AI chatbot services such as Grok, ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, and Perplexity.

2. All contracts between the EOP and vendors providing AI chatbot services (including "enterprise" versions), including the dates those contracts entered into effect; contractual provisions governing custody, retention, and accessibility of AI prompts and outputs generated by EOP personnel; and terms addressing whether, and to what extent, model training may incorporate inputs provided by EOP personnel.

3. All policies governing EOP personnel use of AI chatbot services, including but not limited to restrictions on submitting classified information to AI chatbots and limitations on the use of non-enterprise AI chatbot platforms.

4. A description of President Trump's use of AI chatbots, including any use in the presence of non-U.S. government individuals such as Elon Musk, and

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[20] Meghan M. Stuessy, *The Presidential Records Act: An Overview*, CONG. RESEARCH SERVICE (May 29, 2026), https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R46129.

[21] 44 U.S.C. §2203(a).

[22] 44 U.S.C. §2201(2).

identification of any email addresses used by President Trump to access AI chatbot services.

5. A description of any systems used to log, audit, or monitor EOP personnel interactions with AI chatbot services, including access controls, user-level permissions, and mechanisms for detecting non-compliant use.

6. Information on cybersecurity safeguards applied to AI chatbot usage, including protections against model inversion, data leakage, or unauthorized access to prompts or outputs.

7. Any internal reviews, legal analyses, or risk assessments conducted by the EOP or the National Archives and Records Administration regarding how AI chatbot usage intersects with PRA obligations.

8. Details on mandatory or voluntary training modules, advisories, or guidance distributed to EOP staff relating to the appropriate use of AI chatbots.

9. A description of whether vendors, subcontractors, or external parties have any access—temporary or persistent—to AI prompts, outputs, logs, or metadata generated by EOP personnel.

10. Information on any past incidents in which AI chatbot use raised concerns about record preservation, improper disclosure, security risks, or noncompliance, along with the processes for reporting and remediating such incidents.

Given the significant risk that records subject to the PRA are not being properly preserved, please be prepared to provide a briefing by 5:00 p.m. on November 11, 2026, so that the Committees can take appropriate legislative and remedial actions.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform