

Tesla Faces Another Major Lawsuit

By Kevin Harrish

Tesla is facing a pretty significant proposed class-action lawsuit after claims that the company speeds up odometers on its electric vehicles so they fall out of warranty sooner. According to CNBC, plaintiff Nyree Hinton claims in the lawsuit that Tesla odometer readings don't actually reflect the literal, actual mileage driven. Instead, the odometers use energy consumption, driver behavior, and "predictive algorithms" to come up with an estimated mileage that differs from actual mileage. Hinton claims that the odometer on his 2020 Model Y, which he purchased in December 2022 with 36,772 miles, ran at least 15 percent faster than he believed that it should. He claims that the vehicle said he drove 72 miles a day for a time when, at most, he drove 20. As a result of the incorrect odometer, Hinton claims that his 50,000-mile basic warranty expired well ahead of schedule, leaving him with a \$10,000 suspension repair bill that he thought Tesla should cover under their warranty. "By tying warranty limits and lease mileage caps to inflated 'odometer' readings, Tesla increases repair revenue, reduces warranty obligations, and compels consumers to purchase extended warranties prematurely," the complaint said. Tesla and its lawyer did not immediately respond to CNBC's requests for comment, but they have denied all material allegations in the lawsuit. This news comes just a few weeks after Tesla was hit with some significant recalls that impacted nearly every Cybertruck and a few other vehicles. Hinton is seeking compensatory and punitive damages for Tesla drivers in California, which could encompass more than 1 million vehicles.

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