

Elon Musk Has a Gaming Rig in His Government Office Where He's Firing Workers for Being Lazy

He's working hard for America.

Centibillionaire Elon Musk has been tearing through the federal government, operating under the theory that many of its workers have been doing little at work as they cash paychecks on the taxpayers' dime.

But it sounds like he may have been indulging in exactly the type of lazy misuse of the workday he's weaponized in his cost-cutting escapade. New reporting by Politico has revealed that Chris Young — once an ascendant GOP field organizer and now Musk's top political adviser — is operating as Musk's errand boy, procuring equipment including a "massive TV for Musk's office in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building so he could play video games."

The revelation is appalling but not exactly surprising. Musk's gaming habit is well documented, and he recently bragged not only that he was among the top 20 Diablo IV players in the world but that he had a Path of Exile 2 character ranked 12th on the game's Hardcore leaderboards — at least before losing it on an embarrassing livestream and admitting he'd paid a skilled player to level up his account.

If you thought Musk had left those adolescent habits behind as he became one of the most powerful figures in the world, Politico's reporting builds on a

photo that emerged last month showing that his DOGE office contained a gaming PC and matching monitor.

And despite being the richest man in history, the DOGE czar's gaming rig is pretty dingy.

"Appalling cable management," quipped on Bluesky user, disgusted by Musk's lackadaisical approach to wire organizing. Others pointed out the fact that he had no mousepad, a pretty glaring offense in the gaming world.

Going pixel by pixel, some sleuths deduced that Musk was running an RTX 4060 or 4070 graphics card on his rig — a modest choice considering Musk's beefy 49-inch Samsung Odyssey monitor. As Tom's Hardware put it, that's like "putting a lawn mower engine in a muscle car."

Nitpicking aside, it's been a little over month since Musk bragged that "DOGE is working 120 hours a week" — just about 17 hours a day, including weekends. We'd love to see how the billionaire manages to juggle that along with his gaming, six major companies, and 14 known kids.

For now though, we'll just have to take his word on it — unless he wants to write an email detailing what he did last week, that is.

More on Musk: Elon Musk Throws Tantrum After Being Exposed by Gamers, Leaks YouTuber's DMs and Seemingly Takes Away His Checkmark work as they cash paychecks on the taxpayers' dime.

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Fear and Loathing in the West Wing

Inside the revolt against Elon Musk...



[Tara Palmeri](#)

Welcome back to *The Red Letter*.

The tolerance for **Elon Musk** inside of the White House is wearing thin, as they deal with the fallout of his calamitous interview with **Larry Kudlow** when he touched the third rail – entitlements. Even though Trump’s staffers are terrified of Musk, they know that if you try to cut Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, you die, politically speaking.

“It’s no longer simmering resistance, people are fucking furious,” said a source with knowledge of the situation.

“Medicaid is not just for Black people in the ghetto, these are our voters,” said a Republican operative close to the White House.

Even before the interview, I’m told that the White House communications team was adamantly against letting Musk do the interview with Kudlow, even though he’s a former administration official and ally. They know that FOX News is a network that their older, white working-class voters watch closely and this was a rare televised interview for Musk, not the same as getting high with **Joe Rogan**.

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Now they’re playing cleanup. Sure, they sent out a “Fact Check” [memo](#) from the White House highlighting that his words were garbled when he said he’s looking at the “waste and fraud in entitlement spending,” not entitlements all together. But then Musk went further, falsely claiming in the interview that Democrats use entitlement programs to attract illegal immigrants into the country so that they can add them to their voter rolls. It doesn’t help that earlier this month, Musk referred to Social Security as “the biggest Ponzi scheme of all time.”

You can even see Kudlow shifting around uncomfortably during the interview.

Trump’s spokesperson **Steven Cheung** denied that there was an issue. “We love [Musk] doing media,” he said, pointing to his joint interview with Trump on Sean Hannity.

As promised, I want to share the ins and outs of my reporting process with you, so I first reached out to Trump’s personal pollster **John McLaughlin** after I learned about the meltdown over Musk’s interview to ask if he’s been polling Musk’s response in the interview. And I was shocked to learn that McLaughlin has not polled Musk at all, even though he’s clearly a political liability to the President. McLaughlin has been polling Trump for decades and was one of the main pollsters alongside **Tony Fabrizio** on the campaign. He said the last poll that he conducted that even remotely touched on Musk was about DOGE in November 2024 and it did not mention Musk by name.

“No one has asked us to do that poll,” McLaughlin told me.

Well, the public polling shows that the numbers for Musk – what some would call Trump’s heat shield – have been in free fall since Trump took office, with more than 53 percent of people having an unfavorable opinion of Musk, according to a new [CNN poll](#). But surely Trump’s political operation, which to be fair is an impressive one, would want to know if Musk was starting to become a liability. No political consultant in Washington trusts public polling. They’d probably trust the opposition party’s polling over public polling. So that leaves me to believe that they are afraid of Trump’s appendage or it’s because Musk just donated \$100 million to Trump’s [political arm](#), which just so happens to be run

by Trump's other pollster Fabrizio. When I asked Fabrizio if he's conducting polls on Musk favorables, he didn't get back to me.

Regardless, I've heard that the White House is aware that Musk's numbers are "dog shit," according to a source.

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I can't even begin to explain the anger I'm hearing from within the White House and agencies over Musk. If he's telling the Polish Foreign minister **Radosław Sikorski**, "Be quiet, small man" and reminding Trump's cabinet that he's the billionaire in the room, then you can only imagine how he treats a White House official, even at the deputy chief of staff level, and there are many of them in this top-heavy White House.

"He's demonstrably dismissive of people who have incredibly important jobs because he doesn't understand the government," said the source with knowledge of the matter.

I've been reporting for months that Musk has been disrespectful to Chief of Staff **Susie Wiles**. As Axios's **Marc Caputo** said in the video above, she's survived because she knows when to push back and when to just show up. She knows the "MAGA serenity prayer," as he calls it.

"He treats [Wiles] like a secretary in front of people," the source with knowledge of the matter said. "The second most powerful person in Washington, the first woman and someone who has done a good job of keeping the trains running on time."

But I've heard that it's even become too much for Wiles, who for the most part has been delivering on what matters most to Trump—producing the Presidency with a daily event featuring co-star Musk and a cast of cabinet members for the press. She's a professional and a survivor, but she's being bombarded with calls from cabinet secretaries furious over cuts and members worried about state programs.

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"Susie doesn't like how Musk is a freelancer and has direct access to Trump and she's complained to Trump about it," said a source familiar. Cheung denied this.

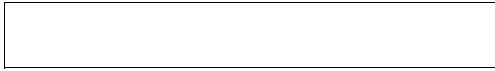
Administration officials have a myriad of feelings toward Musk: they hate him, they're afraid of him and they think he's creepy for doing things like sleeping on a cot in his office in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, where five guards stand outside of his door.

"The [staff] hates him," said the source with knowledge of the matter. "Part of it is policy and part is that he's not human. He treats Susie like a fucking secretary. But they're petrified of him."

Wiles's deputies are extremely loyal to her, and the cabinet secretaries and their deputies are still getting their sea legs while they attempt to wrangle control of the agencies.

“They’re like ‘Fuck this guy, he’s not communicating what he’s going to cut, he’s just cutting,’” said a well-placed source. “Whenever they get a call, everything goes to shit. They’re trying to run their agencies, and then they have this guy who thinks he’s trimming the fat, but it isn’t fat.”

“He treats cabinet secretaries like they’re messenger boys,” the source with knowledge of the matter said.



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The last time I spoke to Cheung about how Musk treats Wiles, someone who commands fierce loyalty among the ranks, he was very explicit. “These sources are full of shit and have no idea what they are talking about,” he said. “Instead of making up out-right lies, they should focus their time on self-reflection to better understand what happened in their lives that led them down this dark path.” His over-the-top defense of another White House official suggests that any perception of unhappiness with Musk will not end well for anyone involved. **Marco Rubio** seemed to be able to move past their angry battle at the [last cabinet](#) meeting after Trump brought them together over dinner at Mar-a-lago on Saturday, but Wiles has to deal with Musk on a day-to-day basis.

For now, Trump likes having Musk around, even though Musk is extremely clingy and Trump likes his space. (It’s clearly a quality he appreciates in his wife **Melania**.) So their love affair seems to be lasting. Perhaps the only thing that might break them up is Musk’s clinginess.

That’s all for now. Check out the video above for my latest show with two of the best political reporters on the White House beat, Teddy Schleifer of *The New York Times* and Marc Caputo of *Axios*.