

Tesla Uses It's Main Stream Media Partnerships To Hid It's Horrific Safety Scandals

Twin Cities man's Tesla rolls into marsh; he blames autopilot feature

By [Paul Walsh](#) Star Tribune



A Twin Cities man whose Tesla overturned in a central Minnesota marsh is blaming the crash on the luxury electric car's "autopilot" feature, according to authorities.

David Clark, 58, of Eden Prairie, said he was driving Saturday evening before sunset on a country road 18 miles northeast of Willmar, when the car "suddenly accelerated" and overturned in the marsh, the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office said in a statement Sunday.

Clark and four adults in the vehicle were slightly hurt.

A statement from Tesla issued Monday cast doubt on the driver's contention, saying, the company has "no reason to believe [the autopilot feature] worked other than as designed."

The crash occurred after “Clark ... engaged the autopilot feature,” sending the car off eastbound 172nd Avenue NE. and rolling into the marsh, the Sheriff’s Office statement continued.

Deputies arrived at the scene to find to find the Tesla on its roof.

In May 2016, a motorist near Gainesville, Fla., was killed when his Tesla collided with a semitrailer truck while in the self-driving mode. The crash brought intense scrutiny on the technology and whether the car’s manufacturer, based in Palo Alto, Calif., overstated the capability of the autopilot feature.

Federal investigators reviewed the crash and chose not to impose a recall, concluding there was no safety defect involved in the crash.

At the same time, regulators in January warned the vehicle’s operators to not treat the semiautonomous cars as if they are fully self-driving.

The autopilot feature uses cameras, radar and computers to detect objects and automatically brake if the car is about to hit something. It also can steer the car to keep it centered in its lane.

Other carmakers offer vehicle features akin to autopilot, but not to the degree of autonomy in Tesla’s technology. For example, Mercedes-Benz has a steering-free mode, but it requires hand contact with the steering wheel.

In a statement issued Monday, Tesla said it is “working to establish the facts of the incident and have offered our full cooperation to the local authorities. We have not yet established whether the vehicle’s autopilot feature was activated and have no reason to believe [it] worked other than as designed.”

Other “sudden acceleration” crashes have been attributed by motorists to the autopilot technology. Electrek, an industry website that focuses on alternative transportation advances, has reported that data logs from the vehicles have often revealed that the drivers were actually responsible.

Tesla’s statement responding to the Minnesota crash emphasized that whenever drivers activate the autopilot, “they are reminded of their responsibility to remain engaged and to be prepared to take immediate action at all times, and drivers must acknowledge their responsibility to do so before autopilot is enabled.”

The Star Tribune has left messages with Clark seeking further details on his actions leading up to the crash.

A federal lawsuit filed in California seeks class-action status for other claims of sudden acceleration made by Tesla motorists in various states.

pwalsh@startribune.com 612-673-4482 [walshpj](#)

[Tesla Updates Autopilot - But Faces Federal Lawsuit ...](#)

Tesla Updates Autopilot - But Faces **Federal Lawsuit**. ... of **California**, seeks **class action status**. ... most **other unintended acceleration claims** going back ...

 thedetroitbureau.com/2017/01/tesla-updates-autopilot-but-faces...

[Tesla being sued for unintended acceleration | Page 2 | Tesla](#)

... of **California**, seeks **class action status**. ... **Class Action Lawsuit Is Filed** Against Tesla Motors ... **other sudden unintended acceleration claims** ...

 <https://forums.tesla.com/forum/forums/tesla-being-sued-unintended-...>

[Tesla owner files lawsuit in California claiming sudden ...](#)

... **filed in** U.S. District Court in the Central District of **California**, seeks **class action status**. ... dealing with **sudden acceleration** ... Tesla **claims** the Model ...

 reuters.com/article/us-tesla-lawsuit-idUSKBN14J1ZE

[UPDATE 1-Tesla owner files lawsuit in California claiming ...](#)

... in **California** claiming **sudden acceleration** ... **lawsuit, filed in** U.S. District Court in the Central District of **California**, seeks **class action status**.

 jessiepowell.blogspot.com/2017/01/update-1-tesla-owner-files-lawsui...

[Tesla Owner Sues Claiming Sudden Acceleration Caused Him to](#)

...

Tesla Owner Sues Claiming **Sudden Acceleration** ... LawNewz.com obtained a copy of the **lawsuit filed** on Friday in **federal** court in ... **California, class action, ...**

 lawnewz.com/uncategorized/tesla-owner-sues-claiming-s...

[An Individual and Class Action Lawsuit Is Filed Against Tesla ...](#)

... An Individual and **Class Action Lawsuit Is Filed** ... P.C., **filed a federal** individual and **class action lawsuit** ... Tesla **Sudden Acceleration Class Action** ...

 prnewswire.com/news-releases/an-individual-and-class-act...

[Tesla Model X Owner Sues Over Sudden Unintended Acceleration ...](#)

... Sues Over **Sudden Unintended Acceleration**. ... **filed a class action lawsuit in federal** court in **California**. To qualify for **class action status** under ...

 gas2.org/2017/01/02/tesla-model-x-owner-sues-sudde...

[Lawsuit Filed In Us District Court In Birmingham 2017 | 2016 ...](#)

Class Action Lawsuit Filed in the United States ... in **California** claiming **sudden acceleration** ... Central District of **California**, **seeks class action status**.

[scholarshipeasy.com/tags/lawsuit-filed-in-us-district-court-i...](#)

[An Individual and Class Action Lawsuit Is Filed Against Tesla ...](#)

... **Class Action Lawsuit Is Filed** Against Tesla Motors Alleging the Model X Has a Serious **Sudden Unintended Acceleration** ... **federal** individual and **class action** ...

[https://secure.marketwatch.com/\(S\(jedoqeb3epnwcu454c0p3lzb\)\)/story/an-in...](https://secure.marketwatch.com/(S(jedoqeb3epnwcu454c0p3lzb))/story/an-in...)

[Class Action Lawsuits](#)

Class Action Lawsuits. **Filed class action lawsuits** seeking ... **Filed in Florida federal** court, the suit **claims** ... Tesla **Sudden Unintended Acceleration Class Action** ...

<https://www.bigclassaction.com/lawsuits/?page=9>

[Tesla's Cover-Up Is Falling Apart- Lawsuits Filed- NHTSA...](#)

... **California**, **seeks class action status**. ... **sudden acceleration** without warning. Tesla said in a statement that it had "conducted a thorough investigation" of ...

<https://londonworldwide.com/teslas-cover-up-is-falling-apart-lawsuits...>

[News About Car Problems and Complaints | CarComplaints.com](#)

2015 news articles about car problems and complaints on ... A Tesla **sudden unintended acceleration lawsuit** is in ... **class-action lawsuit** was **filed** ... Tesla Loses ...

<https://www.carcomplaints.com/news/2017/>


[Tesla Sued Over Model X "Spontaneous Acceleration" - Austrian ...](#)

In the lawsuit filed Friday in **California**, ... for Tesla, the **lawsuit seeks class action status** noting at least ... Over Model X "Spontaneous **Acceleration** ...

<https://austrian.economicblogs.org/zerohedge/2016/durden-tesla-sued-spontane...>

[Tesla Model X Owner Files Sudden Acceleration Lawsuit Against ...](#)

Tesla Model X Owner Files **Sudden Acceleration Lawsuit** Against ... District of **California**, **seeks class action status**. ... previous **sudden acceleration claims**, ...

 insideevs.com/tesla-model-x-owner-files-sudden-accelera...

Tesla car suddenly and unintentionally accelerated into ...

Tesla car suddenly and unintentionally accelerated into ... Before filing his **class action** against Tesla, ... linked to **sudden acceleration**. But **federal** ...

 <https://www.consumeraffairs.com/news/tesla-car-suddenly-and-unintentional...>

SEE MORE, INCLUDING EVIDENCE FILES, AT [HTTP://WWW.SLUSH-FUND.COM](http://www.slush-fund.com)