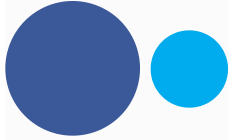


Another Tesla ‘on Autopilot’ slams into parked fire truck on freeway and another into Bay Bridge



 A Tesla rear-ended a fire truck parked to respond to an accident on I-405 in Culver City, Calif. on Jan. 22, 2018, according to the Culver City Fire Department and California Highway Patrol. (Culver City Firefighters Local 1927)

A Tesla rear-ended a fire truck parked to respond to an accident on I-405 in Culver City, Calif. on Jan. 22, 2018, according to the Culver City Fire Department and California Highway Patrol. (Culver City Firefighters Local 1927)

By **ETHAN BARON** | ebaron@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group
PUBLISHED: January 22, 2018 at 4:32 pm | UPDATED: January 22, 2018 at 5:25 pm

A Tesla Model S reportedly on “Autopilot” smashed into the back of a fire truck parked at a freeway accident scene Monday morning, authorities said.

The union representing Culver City firefighters whose truck was hit around 8:30 a.m. on Interstate 405 in Culver City tweeted that the Tesla driver said he had been using Tesla’s Autopilot system, which performs automated driving tasks.

The California Highway Patrol and Culver City Fire Department confirmed the southbound Tesla had struck the fire truck, but could not immediately confirm whether the vehicle had been on Autopilot.

The fire truck had been parked in the left emergency lane and carpool lane, blocking off the scene of a previous accident, with a CHP vehicle behind it and to the side, said Culver City Fire Department battalion chief Ken Powell.

Both emergency vehicles had their lights flashing, Powell added.

The Tesla suffered significant damage, and the fire truck has been taken out of service to have body work done, Powell said.

Had any firefighters been at the rear of the truck rather than in front attending to the earlier crash, there “probably would not have been a very good outcome,” Powell said.

“It was a pretty big hit,” Powell said.

The firefighters union tweet indicated that the Tesla had been traveling at 65 miles per hour before the crash, but it was unclear to what extent the car may have slowed before striking the fire truck.

Because of the force of the impact, firefighters advised the Tesla driver that he should be taken for a medical evaluation, but he showed no significant injuries and refused treatment, Powell said.

Tesla, after the incident, said Autopilot is “intended for use only with a fully attentive driver.” The Model S owner’s manual has numerous warnings that attention to the road is vital while using Autopilot and other Tesla semi-autonomous driving functions.

The Palo Alto electric car maker's Autopilot system made headlines in 2016 after a Model S driver was killed when his car crashed into a semi truck in Florida.

Federal road-safety officials put the blame for the fatal crash on the truck's driver for failing to yield while entering a roadway, on the deceased Tesla driver for relying too heavily on Autopilot, and on Tesla — the National Transportation Safety Board ruled that Autopilot contributed to the crash by allowing lengthy disengagement from the driving process, on a roadway unsuitable for the semi-autonomous-driving system.

Also, the board said, the Autopilot technology that monitors whether a driver has their hands on the steering wheel isn't a good way to tell if the driver is paying attention.

Drunk Tesla Driver Tells Cops Autopi...

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) says a **driver** was found passed out in his **Tesla** with a very high blood alcohol content on San Francisco's Bay Bridge ...

[S fortune.com/2018/01/22/tesla-drunk-driver-...](https://fortune.com/2018/01/22/tesla-drunk-driver-...)

Drunk Tesla Driver Arrested For DUI ...

A **drunk** Bay Area man, passed out at the wheel of a self-driving **Tesla** on the Bay Bridge, was arrested for a DUI.

[S, ibtimes.com/drunken-tesla-driver-arrested-dui...](https://www.ibtimes.com/drunken-tesla-driver-arrested-dui...)

Allegedly passed out **drunk** on Bay Br...

These crime stories from 2017 in the Bay Area were some real head-scratchers, or should we say bread-scratchers? Check out the craziest crimes by clicking through ...

sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Inebriated-Tesla...

Alleged **drunk driver** to cops: Hey, m...

An alleged **drunk driver** found passed out in a **Tesla** on a bridge in California told officers the car was on "autopilot" — an apparent bid to alleviate ...

[foxnews.com/auto/2018/01/22/alleged-drun...](https://www.foxnews.com/auto/2018/01/22/alleged-drun...)

Tesla driver passes out allegedly dru...

There was a period of time over a year ago when accidents in **Tesla** vehicles were often blamed on Autopilot despite **drivers** being told that they are always responsible ...

<https://electrek.co/2018/01/20/tesla-driver-...>

drunk tesla driver | AITopics

Information about AI from the News, Publications, and ConferencesAutomatic Classification - Tagging and Summarization - Customizable Filtering and AnalysisIf ...

[https://aitopics.org/tag/drunk tesla driver](https://aitopics.org/tag/drunk%20tesla%20driver)

Man passes out **drunk** in a **Tesla**, tell...

In a rather bizarre weekend tale, a San Francisco man on Friday evening passed out **drunk** in his **Tesla** Model S while trying to drive across the Bay Bridge ...

[S, https://bgr.com/2018/01/21/tesla-autopilot-...](https://bgr.com/2018/01/21/tesla-autopilot-...)

Drunk Driver in Tesla Tells Police Offi...

Late last week, a **Tesla driver** fell asleep in his car around 5:30pm on San Francisco's Bay Bridge. Spotted by commuters, when police arrived on the scene ...

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/drunk-driver-t...>

CHP: **Driver** passed out **drunk** said hi...

A man was found passed out on the Bay Bridge Friday morning, with more than twice the legal blood alcohol content (BAC) level, according to California ...

wric.com/2018/01/19/chp-driver-passed-ou...

Drunk Tesla Driver Resorts to 'Autopi...

A **Tesla** Model S **Driver** who fell asleep at the wheel on the SF Bay Bridge, claimed that his actions didn't endanger anyone because his car was on autopilot.

<https://beebom.com/drun-k-tesla-driver-auto...>

Suspected Drunk Driver Claims Tesl...

A suspected **drunk driver** found passed out behind the wheel along the Bay Bridge told the California Highway Patrol that his **Tesla** was on autopilot, according to the ...

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/S...>

Allegedly passed out **drunk** on Bay Br...

Police found it a rather conspicuous getaway car and tracked him down in short order, ending Flores' brief stint as the world's least effective delivery **driver**.

[S, https://archive.fo/FVYeu](https://archive.fo/FVYeu)

Tesla's Autopilot Won't Get You Out o...

Self-driving or not, being **drunk** behind the wheel makes you a jerk.

[S, popularmechanics.com/cars/car-technolog...](https://popularmechanics.com/cars/car-technolog...)

Driver passed out drunk on Bay Brid...

The California Highway Patrol says a man found passed out Friday behind the wheel of his **Tesla** on the Bay Bridge told them his car was on autopilot.

[s, sacbee.com/latest-news/article195643064....](https://www.sacbee.com/latest-news/article195643064...)

Report: **Driver** in deadly **Tesla** crash ...

Driver Casey Speckman and passenger Kevin McCarthy had been drinking before the fatal November crash of the **Tesla** Model S, according to investigators.

<https://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/...>

CHP says **drunk** driving suspect on B...

Drunk drivers beware -- do not count on your **Tesla's** high tech features to take you home.

[S, abc7news.com/chp-drunk-driving-suspect-...](https://abc7news.com/chp-drunk-driving-suspect-...)

Can a **drunk** person drive a **Tesla** on ...

Can they? Yes. It's still not safe nor legal, however.

Autopilot is, as the name implies, a **driver's** aid.

The **driver** is still the **driver**, and the car does not ...

[https://www.quora.com/Can-a-drunk-perso...](https://www.quora.com/Can-a-drunk-person-drive-a-Tesla-on-Autopilot)

Can a **driver** get a DUI if the **Tesla** M...

Can a **driver** get a DUI if the **Tesla** Model 3 is running on Autopilot? ... **Tesla Drivers**: Do the autopilot ... If you get **drunk** and get behind the wheel of a **Tesla** you ...

<https://www.quora.com/Can-a-driver-get-a-...>

Police: Drunk driver crashes Tesla in...

An intoxicated Santa Cruz man driving a **Tesla** sedan nearly jumped Coyote Creek in north Morgan Hill this past weekend, according to police.

[S, morganhilltimes.com/news/police-drunk-dri...](https://morganhilltimes.com/news/police-drunk-dri...)

Drunk Tesla Driver Arrested For DUI ...

CHP tweeted a photo of the scene at 10:23 a.m., but did not say exactly what time the encounter took place. Later it was found that his blood alcohol level ...

newburghgazette.com/2018/01/20/drunk-te...

Tesla driver in double fatal crash was...

INDIANAPOLIS --The **driver** of a speeding **Tesla** electric car that crashed and burned in Indianapolis, killing her and a passenger, was too **drunk** to drive ...

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/tesla-drive...>

Tesla owner attempts Autopilot defen...

That's not how it works — **Tesla** owner attempts Autopilot defense during DUI stop Driving **drunk** is still illegal even with a **driver**-assistance system active.

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2018/01/tesla-...>

Report: **Driver** killed in battery-explodi...

The **driver** in a deadly, fiery November crash of a **Tesla** electric vehicle had more than twice the legal driving limit of alcohol in her blood, according to ...

freep.com/story/money/cars/2017/02/08/te...

Tesla's New Autopilot Drives Like It's ...

Tesla's much-touted Autopilot won't be the designated **driver** anytime soon—it drives like it's **drunk**, according to a user on **Tesla's** official forums.

<https://www.thefix.com/teslas-new-autopilot...>

Got T-boned by a **drunk driver** in an ...

Got T-boned by a **drunk driver** in an SUV. Walked away unscathed. Thank you **Tesla** for building the safest production car on the road.

<https://www.reddit.com/r/teslamotors/comm...>

Tesla's Model S autopilot still requires...

Look for a fuller write up from Slate's Will Oremus later this week, but here's what you need to know for now: As one Reddit user noted, your **Tesla** ...

[S, slate.com/blogs/future_tense/2015/10/15/te...](http://slate.com/blogs/future_tense/2015/10/15/te...)

Tesla Model S driver caught sleeping...

Tesla Model S **driver** caught sleeping at the wheel while on Autopilot - Electrek

 <https://www.youtube.com/...>

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