

Trump angrily turns away from Musk's son who picks his nose after being used as prop

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During a joint press conference held by Elon Musk and President Donald Trump from the Oval Office on Tuesday, Trump appeared to turn angrily away from Musk's son after the child turned to him and appeared to say something.

As Musk was addressing reporters with his son in front of him, he appeared to say something else and Trump reached out to him in an apparent attempt to quiet the child while his father was speaking. At one point the child also appeared to pick his nose, this is normal behavior for a child of his age.

Musk had previously made a point of bringing his son, named X Æ A-Xii, but Musk usually refers to him simply as X, to many events during the campaign. Many on social media were quick to criticize Musk for bringing his son along on Tuesday, some even going as far as to claim he is using the child as a "prop."



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"Using his son as a prop. Elon Musk doesn't belong in U.S. government," one user wrote on X.

"My concern is for Musk's little son. Why is he subjected to being a prop for his Dad?," another wrote.

Musk was attending the press conference for the signing of an executive order aimed at reducing the size of the federal workforce.

The Associated Press reviewed a White House fact sheet on the order, which noted that "agencies will undertake plans for large-scale reductions in force and determine which agency components (or agencies themselves) may be eliminated or combined because their functions aren't required by law."

It also said that agencies should “hire no more than one employee for every four employees that depart from federal service.” There are plans for exceptions when it comes to immigration, law enforcement and public safety.

Trump has charged Musk's Department of Government Efficiency or DOGE with uncovering wasteful government spending within the federal agencies.

Musk has already begun to see pushback from the federal courts with regard DOGE's access to sensitive Treasury Department records as well as attempts to place thousands of USAID employees on leave.

U.S. District Judge Carl Nichols, a Trump appointee, issued the order on Friday and also agreed to block an order that would have given the thousands of overseas USAID workers the administration wanted to place on abrupt administrative leave just 30 days to move families and households back to the U.S. on government expense.

The next day U.S. District Judge Paul A. Engelmayer blocked DOGE from accessing Treasury Department records that contain sensitive personal data such as Social Security and bank account numbers for millions of Americans.



Musk was attending the press conference for the signing of an executive order aimed at reducing the size of the federal workforce. (Image: Getty Images)

Less than an hour after Musk and Trump concluded their joint press conference on Tuesday, a federal appeals refused to halt a judge's order requiring the Trump administration to release billions of dollars in federal grants and loans. States say the money remains frozen even after a court blocked a sweeping pause on federal funding.

The Boston-based 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals turned back the emergency appeal, though it said it expected the lower court judge to act quickly to clarify his order.

The Justice Department argued the sweeping lower court order to keep all federal grants and loans flowing was "intolerable judicial overreach."

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