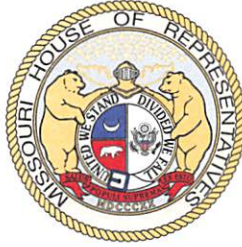


CAPITOL OFFICE

State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 404-A
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: (573) 751-4039
Fax: (573) 522-0570
Todd.Richardson@house.mo.gov

DISTRICT ADDRESS

123 South Second Street
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Tele: (573) 686-7281



Missouri House of Representatives
TODD RICHARDSON
State Representative
District 152

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April 23, 2014

Mr. John R. Mollenkamp, Acting Director
Missouri Department of Revenue
Harry S Truman State Office Building
301 West High Street Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: Dealer Licensing Inquiry

Dear Mr. Mollenkamp:

It has come to my attention that Tesla Motors, Inc. was granted a license to operate as a "new motor vehicle franchise dealer" in the St. Louis area, for all or a portion of the 2013 license/calendar year, and that such license was renewed for the 2014 license/calendar year.

Within seven (7) days hereof, please respond to the following questions:

1) Why was Tesla Motors, Inc., originally granted a license to operate a dealership in Missouri when they did not/could not produce a valid "franchise agreement" applicable to the St. Louis business location, pursuant to the requirements set forth in Section 301.559.3(3), RSMo. (as amended) and in Rule 12 CSR 10-26.020 (5)?

2) Why was the Missouri dealer license of Tesla Motors, Inc. renewed for license/calendar year 2014 when the company did not/could not produce a valid "franchise agreement", pursuant to the requirements of Missouri law?

3) Why was Tesla Motors, Inc. originally granted a license, and then allowed to renew its license, to operate a dealership in Missouri when the provisions of Section 407.826, RSMo. substantially prohibit direct sales of motor vehicles by a manufacturer to retail customers in Missouri, except under very narrow circumstances not present in Tesla's business model?

4) Upon initial application for license and for renewal of same, did Tesla Motors, Inc. meet all requirements of Section 301.560, RSMo. (as amended), and applicable administrative rules, concerning the establishment and maintenance of a “bona fide place of business”? Did such “place of business” receive the signed approval of either a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, or local law enforcement official, as required by law (Section 301.560, RSMo.)?

5) Given the failure of Tesla Motors, Inc. to meet the basic requirements for issuance of a dealer’s license, as set forth above, is it the intent of the Department of Revenue to renew this license for the 2015 license/calendar year?

6) The public policy of the Missouri Motor Vehicle Franchise Practices Act includes this statement: **“It is further declared to be the policy of the state to protect the public interest in the purchase and trade of motor vehicles so as to ensure protection against irresponsible vendors and dishonest or fraudulent sales practices and to assist, provide, and secure a stable, efficient, enforceable, and verifiable method for the distribution of motor vehicles to consumers in the state.”** (Section 407.811, RSMo. Supp. 2013). Does the Department of Revenue believe that the issuance of a new motor vehicle dealer’s license to Tesla Motors, Inc., given its business model which is clearly designed to circumvent the traditional franchise model for the distribution and sale of new motor vehicles, furthers the public policy as expressed by the Legislature in Section 407.811, RSMo?

I look forward to your prompt response to the above questions. Thank you,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd Richardson', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Todd Richardson
State Representative
District 152