JOSH HAWLEY MISSOURI

381 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING TELEPHONE: (202) 224–6154 FAX: (202) 228–0526 WWW.HAWLEY.SENATE.GOV



WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2509

COMMITTEES

JUDICIARY

HOMELAND SECURITY

AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

SMALL BUSINESS
AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

May 28, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi,

I write to urge the Department of Justice to open a formal investigation into TuSimple Holdings Inc., a Chinese autonomous trucking company, for potential violations of U.S. export controls, unauthorized transfers of sensitive technology to the People's Republic of China, and any associated breaches of national security.

According to recent investigative reports, TuSimple systematically shared proprietary data, source code, and autonomous driving technologies with Chinese state-linked entities, in blatant disregard of a 2022 national security agreement with the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS). These reports also revealed communications from TuSimple personnel inside China requesting the shipment of sensitive Nvidia AI chips and detailed records showing "deep and longstanding ties" with Chinese military-affiliated manufacturers. To date, TuSimple has not faced serious consequences for sharing American intellectual property with China.

If the reports about TuSimple are accurate, they represent not just a violation of export law, but a breach of national trust and a direct threat to American technological leadership. The American people deserve to know how and why a supposedly U.S.-based company was allowed to serve as a conduit for the transfer of sensitive innovations to the Chinese Communist Party. I urge the Department to act swiftly and without hesitation. Any individual or entity found to have violated our laws must be held fully accountable.

As you conduct your investigation, please consider the following questions:

- 1. Did TuSimple provide protected information to Hydron, Foton, BAIC Group, or any other affiliated Chinese entity?
- 2. What steps has the Department of Justice taken to ensure that Bot Auto—a new, Texas-based self-driving truck company staffed with former TuSimple employees and backed by Chinese capital—does not engage in similar behavior?
- 3. What activities were covered by TuSimple's national security agreement with CFIUS?
- 4. What were the infractions of this agreement for which TuSimple paid a \$6 million settlement?
- 5. Are CFIUS-brokered national security agreements adequate mechanisms for controlling high-risk companies with known ties to the Chinese Communist Party?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Josh Hawley

United States Senator

¹ https://www.wsj.com/tech/china-self-driving-trucks-tusimple-c20255e1?st=gk9dV4&reflink=article_imessage_share