

NLPC Calls Indictment of Donald Trump a 'Nothing Burger' and Political Prosecution by George Soros-Backed Prosecutor

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, April 4, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, former President Donald Trump appeared in a Manhattan courtroom and firmly pleaded "not guilty" to a 34-count indictment sought by District Attorney Alvin Bragg, alleging that "hush payments" for alleged affairs with two women constituted falsifying business records.



"This unprecedented indictment of a former president is a nothing burger brought by an unscrupulous George Soros-supported prosecutor who campaigned to get Trump," said Paul Kamenar, Counsel to [National Legal and Policy Center](#). "The case should be dismissed for selective prosecution and sadly follows the motto of Joseph Stalin's Soviet Secret Police chief, 'Show me the man, I'll show you the crime,'" Kamenar added.

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The ostensible "crime" is that the payments to two women in 2016 arranged by Trump attorney Michael Cohen, both of whom signed a Nondisclosure Agreement (NDA), which is totally legal, were allegedly misreported as legal fees,

normally a minor misdemeanor with a two-year statute of limitations, which has long expired.

In order to bootstrap that paperwork offense into a felony, the indictment alleges related state tax violations and that the payments were in effect an in-kind campaign contribution, a federal offense. That [campaign charge is defective](#) for many reasons:

1. The felony statute has a five-year statute of limitations which has also expired.
2. The theory that this was a federal campaign contribution is not only outside the jurisdiction of the local New York authorities but also both the Federal Election Commission (FEC) and the U.S.

Department of Justice, which has jurisdiction over any such offense, have declined to bring any such campaign charges, for good reason: the payment was for personal reasons to avoid embarrassment to Trump's family irrespective of the campaign.

3. The Justice Department brought similar charges against former Democratic Senator John Edwards who received \$900,000 from a major donor to pay off his mistress and love child while Edwards was still married in

2011. The jury acquitted Edwards on one count and was hung on the other four charges. The Justice Department wisely declined to retry Edwards. Here, Trump repaid Cohen with his personal funds and hence, there was no chance of an outside donor influencing an election.

4. The fact that Michael Cohen, former Trump lawyer, pled guilty in 2018 to a campaign violation does not mean that it was a crime but was a result of Cohen being pressured to plead guilty to get a lighter sentence.

5. Finally, even if the payments were illegal campaign in-kind contributions, FEC rules require that the campaign repay the source of the contribution with campaign funds, which Trump could have done but did not do. If he had used campaign funds, he would have been charged with misusing campaign funds for personal purposes in a Catch-22. Instead, he repaid the payments with his personal funds. No one was defrauded.

"District Attorney Alan Bragg ran on a campaign supported by George Soros to get Trump, yet waited until after Trump announced he was running for President to seek an indictment. It was wrong to go after Senator Edwards in 2011 and wrong to go after Trump now," said Peter Flaherty, NLPC Chairman

For more information or to schedule an interview with Paul Kamenar, contact Dan Rene at drene@nlpc.org.

Please visit <http://www.nlpc.org>

Founded in 1991, NLPC promotes ethics in public life and government accountability through research, investigation, education, and legal action.

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