

Trump is facing a probe for allegedly paying a hush-money to adult film star Stormy Daniels and suggests that he may be arrested by next week.

It relates to a \$130,000 payment made by Trump's then-personal attorney Michael Cohen to Daniels in late October 2016, 2 weeks before the 2016 presidential election, to silence her from going public about her alleged affair with Trump a decade earlier. Trump has denied the affair. The crux of the investigation is the payment made to Daniels and the Trump Organization's reimbursement to Cohen.

May 18, 2021 Bragg's predecessor Cyrus Vance initiated criminal investigations into Trump. He's another special piece of work, in this time the crime rate has risen by 50%.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyrus_Vance_Jr.)

- 2011 argued on behalf of billionaire and sex offender [Jeffrey Epstein](#), to New York Supreme Court Judge Ruth Pickholtz, asking for Epstein's sex offender status to be reduced. He denied it in 2019
- In 2009, [Abacus Federal Savings Bank](#) After Vance spent five years and \$10 million prosecuting the bank for larceny, the bank and its employees were found not guilty on all 80 charges.
- On March 13, 2019, Vance filed 16 indictments charging [mortgage fraud](#) against [Paul Manafort](#), former chairman of [Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign](#). Vance said the charges stemmed from an investigation launched in March 2017.^[74] These charges were subsequently dismissed by a judge
- Vance and his investigators, who he believed were working to discredit Battilana. Osgood believed Vance would undermine the case, given that he had previously dropped a similar case against [Dominique Strauss-Kahn](#).^[81] David Boies, an attorney who has represented Weinstein, had donated \$10,000 after Vance's office refused to prosecute on the Gutierrez case.
- In an unsigned opinion issued on February 22, 2021, the Supreme Court denied the stay, and Vance's office received the documents by February 25.

Jan 1st 2022 New York County District Attorney Alvin Bragg took over, a man on a mission! Bragg proudly claims to have participated in suing the Trump administration more than 100 times, led a team that sued the Donald J. Trump Foundation, which resulted in the former president paying \$2 million to a number of charities, Alvin is of course a Democrat

Bragg stated: "It's important regardless of who the defendant is, because it's cheating and greed and cheating the taxpayers. It obviously becomes more consequential given that it involved the former president's corporation and CFO. It sends a message – I hope it sends a message to New Yorkers that you know we're one system of justice and that this kind of conduct, regardless of who you are, won't be countenanced in Manhattan."

So, who funded Bragg?

- [\\$1 million donation](https://nypost.com/2022/01/09/bill-bratton-slams-da-alvin-bragg-blames-soros-for-election/) Soros gave to the Color of Change political action committee who allegedly funnelled the support to Bragg. (<https://nypost.com/2022/01/09/bill-bratton-slams-da-alvin-bragg-blames-soros-for-election/>)
- Soros (Democratic Parties largest donor) invested more than \$40 million in 75 district attorneys like Bragg now representing 20% of the American population
- Los Angeles DA George Gascon, Philadelphia DA Larry Krasner, Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg, Loudoun County DA Buta Biberaj and Cook County DA Kim Foxx are a few (<https://www.foxnews.com/media/george-soros-funded-das-represent-20-americans-40m-funneled-races-report-finds>)
- George Soros funds more than 253 Lobbying and influence organizations: <https://www.foxnews.com/media/george-soros-influence-global-media-least-253-organizations-study-finds>

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Chairman Gary Gensler, covered up a meet with Soros and Hillary Clinton, and Pelosi in Aug 2021. (George said he wanted to write a story for the Wall Street Journal)

- Gensler is a former Goldman Sachs executive and Obama administration official, was the chief financial officer for Clinton's presidential campaign in 2016. The Senate confirmed him to lead the SEC in April 2021, shortly after President Joe Biden selected him for the high-profile position.
- Soros is tied to more than 250 influence organizations like (The Marshall Project, Bidens Disinformation Governance Board, Project Syndicate, openDemocracy (based in the United Kingdom), the Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking Network, NPR, ProPublica, Free Press
- Fact-checker Poynter Institute, funded by George Soros

February 23, 2022, [Carey R. Dunne](#) and [Mark F. Pomerantz](#), the lead prosecutors in the New York County District Attorney's investigation into [Donald Trump](#) and his businesses, resigned after Bragg "indicated to them that he had doubts about moving forward with a case against Mr. Trump

- On November 21, 2022, *The New York Times* the district attorney's office "has moved to jump-start its criminal investigation" into Trump's reported "hush-money payment
- On September 6, 2022, *The Washington Post* reported that [Steve Bannon](#) would be indicted on September 8 by Bragg's prosecutors on the same charges of fraud that he was federally pardoned for by then-President Trump

- According to court filings in Cohen's own federal prosecution, Trump Org. executives authorized payments to Cohen totaling \$420,000 to cover his original \$130,000 payment and tax liabilities and reward him with a bonus.
- On January 30, the office presented evidence to a grand jury regarding Trump's role in the payment.^[21]
- Hush money payments aren't illegal.
- Prosecutors are deciding whether to charge Trump with falsifying the business records of the Trump Organization for how it reflected the reimbursement of the payment to Cohen, who said he advanced the money to Daniels
- Falsifying business records is a misdemeanor in New York.
- But, prosecutors want to charge Trump with falsifying business records in the first degree for falsifying a record with the intent to commit another crime or to aid or conceal another crime, which in this case could be a violation of campaign finance laws. That is a Class E felony and carries a sentence of a minimum of one year and as much as four years. To prove the case, prosecutors would need to show Trump intended to commit a crime.

- Trump spokesperson said. "We did nothing wrong and we will appeal this verdict." Trump has previously denied knowledge of the payment. The Trump Organization noted the reimbursements as a legal expense in its internal books. Michael Cohen was sentenced to three years in prison after pleading guilty to eight counts, including two counts of campaign-finance violations for orchestrating or making payments during the 2016 campaign

The focus of the DA's investigation has returned to the Trump Organization's handling of the hush money payment.

Cohen, Trump's onetime fixer, played a central role in the hush money episode

- He has admitted to paying \$130,000 to Daniels to stop her from going public about the alleged affair with Trump just before the 2016 election. He also helped arrange a \$150,000 payment from the publisher of the National Enquirer to Karen McDougal to kill her story claiming a 10-month affair with Trump.

The 2016 presidential campaign had just ended, and Michael Cohen was fresh off handling hush money for Donald Trump. Now he was working on behalf of Chatham Asset Management owned by one Anthony Melchoirre, a \$4.3 billion hedge fund that owns the National Enquirer. Chatham and the Enquirer's publisher, David Pecker, had turned to Trump's fixer as a mediator. They wanted to kill a lawsuit by the former head of another Chatham company. Before long, the Chatham camp would make good on its threat against that executive, unleashing a tale of sex and money worthy of the Enquirer, Carl Grimstad, the recently fired CEO of payments processor iPayment Holdings. Sue, Chatham lawyers warned, and we'll drag your family into this, according to court testimony. That's exactly what happened. After Grimstad filed his suit, the

Chatham camp countered, claiming Grimstad had used company money to pay a Las Vegas escort \$4,000 for “sexual activities” and later hired her and her mother. The New York Post put the story on its front page under the headline “Frisky Business.” (Grimstad has called those allegations “false and meritless”) The ugly litigation with the tech executive was resolved with a less-than-remorseful apology and a multimillion-dollar payday for Grimstad.

For the low-profile Chatham, American Media has become a high-profile headache. After sparking federal prosecutors’ ire for its role in burying Trump’s secrets shortly before the 2016 election, the company has also drawn international attention for its war with Jeff Bezos over its exposé of his extramarital affair. In December, prosecutors in the southern district of New York gave AMI immunity from prosecution for its cooperation in the investigation into Trump’s presidential campaign and alleged hush payments to a Playboy model. AMI admitted the company had coordinated with Trump’s presidential campaign to “catch and kill” – to buy but not publish – the story of Karen McDougal, the model who claimed she had an affair with Trump. AMI admitted it had worked “in concert” with the campaign to pay McDougal \$150,000 for her story and then suppress it. Bezos noted in the blogpost that AMI had entered into the immunity deal. Bezos claims that American Media tried to blackmail him. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/feb/07/jeff-bezos-national-enquirer-blogpost-blackmail-claim>

Chatham investors say that even if authorities go after the National Enquirer for allegedly extorting Bezos or for catch-and-kill tactics, American Media is a valuable company, (<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/at-hedge-fund-that-owns-trump-secrets-clashes-and-odd-bond-math-1.1230399#:~:text=Playing%20tough%20is%20the%20Chatham,reputation%20for%20hard%2Ddedged%20business.>)

Pecker, the then-chairman of American Media Inc., which publishes the Enquirer, was a central player in the hush money payment scheme. He took on a new role as executive adviser in August 2020 after he and AMI came under scrutiny for campaign finance. AMI signed a [non-prosecution agreement](#) with prosecutors. Pecker and another associate [received immunity](#) in the federal investigation into the hush money payments in exchange for their testimony before a grand jury. He previously met with prosecutors with the district attorney’s office as far back as 2019.

In October 2016, an agent for Daniels contacted AMI and said she was willing to go public with her allegations of an affair with Trump. Pecker then contacted Cohen, who in turn negotiated with Daniels’ attorney to “purchase [her] silence” for \$130,000. With fewer than two weeks to go before the election, Cohen had failed to either execute the agreement immediately or pay Daniels so she threatened to take her story to another publication. Pecker informed Cohen, in part by calling him on an encrypted phone app. He told Cohen that the deal needed to be completed “or it could look awfully bad for everyone. Cohen agreed to make the payment and finalize the deal. After Cohen made the \$130,000 payment to Daniels, he was reimbursed, federal prosecutors said in court

filings, by the Trump Organization. The company's executives authorized payments to him [totaling \\$420,000](#) to cover his original payment and tax liabilities, and reward him with a bonus, according to federal prosecutors. Prosecutors alleged the company falsely recorded those payments as legal expenses in their corporate books. Cohen said in court that hush-money payments were made at Trump's direction, and federal prosecutors said that in executing the payments, Cohen "acted in coordination with and at the direction of" Trump.

Pecker's meeting with prosecutors is scheduled for this week. Earlier this month they met with Michael Cohen, for the first time in over a year. Cohen pleaded guilty to federal campaign finance charges for facilitating the \$130,000 payment to Daniels

Coincidentally:

Democratic New York Attorney General Letitia James' \$250 million civil lawsuit,

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letitia_James

James is seeking to permanently bar Trump and the children named in the lawsuit from serving as a director of a business registered in New York state. She is also seeking to cancel the Trump Organization's corporate certificate, which if granted by a judge, could effectively force the company to cease operations in New York state.

- Committee on Economic Development
- former New York Governor [Mario Cuomo](#)'s Task Force on [Diversity](#)
- Committee on Technology in Government
- In August 2020, James filed a civil lawsuit in [New York Supreme Court](#) against the [National Rifle Association](#)
- endorsed by many of the city's important labor unions, [NOW](#), [Planned Parenthood](#), Democracy for NYC, [League of Conservation Voters](#), [Amsterdam News](#) and [El Diario](#).
- The judge overseeing the lawsuit put an independent monitor in place to review the Trump Organization's financial statements and business decisions. He recently denied motions to dismiss the case and said he considered sanctioning Trump's attorneys. The trial is set for October.
(<https://www.cnn.com/2023/01/13/politics/trump-org-sentencing/index.html>)

Trump has denied wrongdoing and said the lawsuit is politically motivated.

Also... In a monumental ruling Friday, a federal judge ordered Donald Trump attorney Evan Corcoran to provide additional testimony as part of an investigation into the former president's handling of classified documents District Judge Beryl Howell said in an order under seal that Justice Department prosecutors have met the threshold for the crime-fraud exception for Corcoran, the source said. She'll be succeeded by James "Jeb" Boasberg, a fellow Barack Obama appointee

A Trump spokesperson said the ruling is a “violation of due process.”

- “Whenever prosecutors target the attorneys, that’s usually a good indication their underlying case is very weak. If they had a real case, they wouldn’t need to play corrupt games with the Constitution. Corcoran, an attorney-turned-witness, had previously testified to the grand jury but declined to answer some questions, citing attorney-client privilege. The department argued to the judge he should not be able to avoid answering, because his discussions with the former president may have been part of an attempt to plan a crime (<https://www.cnn.com/2023/03/17/politics/evan-corcoran-testimony-trump-lawyer/index.html>)

Speaker Kevin McCarthy, echoing calls from inside his conference, has instructed GOP-led committees to investigate whether the Manhattan DA used federal funds to probe a [payment made by Trump's then-personal attorney Michael Cohen](#) to adult film star Stormy Daniels days before the 2016 presidential election.

McCarthy said Sunday that he already talked to House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan, a Republican from Ohio, about an investigation into the matter, and hinted that there could be more developments on that front soon.

“Remember, we also have a select committee on the weaponization of government, this applies directly to that. I think you’ll see actions from them,” McCarthy told reporter

By all available public information it would appear that Trump is correct in his allegations that his persecution is entirely politically motivated and being performed by many of the usual suspects, StillObama's, Democratic cronyism and foreign actors are again and still colluding to fraud the American people and destroy the man they fear most on earth Donald Trump

Legal clouds currently or still hanging over Donald Trump

Tracking Trump's legal entanglements

● 2020 Election ● National Security ● Trump's Finances ● Pending Individual Lawsuits

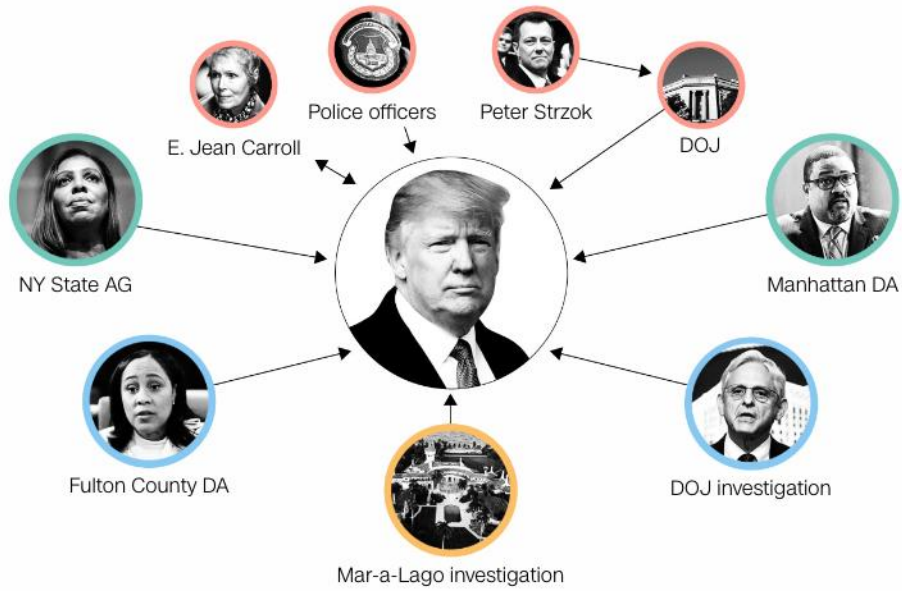


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Graphic: Will Mullery, CNN

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/11/15/politics/donald-trump-investigations-lawsuits/index.html>