



OFFICIAL MEMO

To: County Chairs, Interested Parties
From: Ed Cox, Chair, New York Republican State Committee
Date: June 27, 2024
Subject: The American People's Verdict is in —Trump is Not Guilty

The American People's verdict is in: President Trump is not guilty.

Polls taken in the wake of the politically contrived conviction of President Trump have shown no meaningful change in his lead over Joe Biden (see [this summary](#) by President Clinton's pollster Doug Schoen and [this column](#) by Michael Barone).

The Biden Administration's lawfare against President Trump has had no impact on polls precisely because its political nature was so obvious to even the most passive observer.

Consider the timeline leading up to the indictment:

- November 15, 2022: President Trump announces his campaign
- December 5, 2022: Less than a month later, the DOJ's Matt Colangelo joins New York County (Manhattan) District Attorney Alvin Bragg's office
- April 4, 2023: President Trump is indicted in New York County

Matt Colangelo is a career Democratic political operative. He was awarded with his role in Joe Biden's Department of Justice for his work with New York State Attorney General Letitia James to devise a creative lawsuit to go after President Trump's business dealings.

His arrival in DA Bragg's office represented a pay cut and a major step down from his role as the third-most senior official in the DOJ. (For more on Colangelo's history as a Democratic operative, see [this piece](#) in the New York Post.)

The press release (accessible [here](#)) announcing his arrival incredulously lead by attributing his presence to a focus on "housing and tenant protection and labor and worker protection."

This maneuver only makes sense if we assume Colangelo's mission was political in nature: to indict and convict President Trump by any means necessary.

Indeed, Matt Colangelo crafted the indictment, which centered around charges that were:



- Not pursued after investigation by Alvin Bragg's predecessor;
- Not pursued by Alvin Bragg before the arrival of Colangelo;
- Not pursued after investigation by prosecutors in the Southern District of New York;
- Not pursued after investigation by the Federal Election Commission.

Colangelo's indictment failed to even cite an underlying crime, a crucial prerequisite for the charge of falsifying business records brought against President Trump. (See Jonathan Turley's comprehensive breakdown of this flawed legal logic [here](#).)

The importance of this Harvard-trained lawyer to conceiving the indictment was clarified when he was called upon to make the opening argument for Bragg.

As Elie Honig wrote for New York Magazine, hardly an outlet sympathetic to President Trump:

"...this case was an ill-conceived, unjustified mess. Sure, victory is the great deodorant, but a guilty verdict doesn't make it all pure and right. Plenty of prosecutors have won plenty of convictions in cases that shouldn't have been brought in the first place. 'But they won' is no defense to a strained, convoluted reach unless the goal is to 'win,' now, by any means necessary and worry about the credibility of the case and the fallout later."

Prosecutors got Trump – But they Contorted the Law, New York Magazine, May 31, 2024 ([Source](#))

The trial was presided over by a partisan judge, Juan Merchan, who had been reprimanded by a state ethics panel for donating to an anti-Trump cause.

Honig again:

"The judge donated money — a tiny amount, \$35, but in plain violation of a rule prohibiting New York judges from making political donations of any kind — to a pro-Biden, anti-Trump political operation, including funds that the judge earmarked for 'resisting the Republican Party and Donald Trump's radical right-wing legacy.' Would folks have been just fine with the judge staying on the case if he had donated a couple bucks to 'Re-elect Donald Trump, MAGA forever!'? Absolutely not."

Merchan was assigned to the case by a court system overseen by an overtly progressive Chief Judge, Rowan Wilson, installed by the partisan whim of the progressive leadership of the New York State Senate.



The liberal Manhattan jury followed the roadmap instructions laid out by Judge Merchan, which specifically and deliberately undermined President Trump's legal defense. As Andrew McCarthy wrote for the National Review, another outlet that has been historically critical of President Trump, Merchan's jury instruction "is one of the many insidious ways he is putting his thumb on the scale to get Trump convicted." (See the full article [here](#).)

The indictment of President Trump was political from the start, crafted by a political operative for a partisan District Attorney and overseen by a partisan judge assigned by a corrupted court system.

The real jury – the American People – have resoundingly returned a 'Not Guilty' verdict, as evidenced by President Trump's continued lead over Joe Biden. An NPR poll conducted following the conviction showed President Trump had gained a point from the previous month's poll ([source](#)).

The entire Democratic apparatus – from Joe Biden's DOJ to county officials – mobilized to wage lawfare against President Trump in a blatantly political scheme to smear, tear down and demean President Trump ahead of the November general election. It hasn't worked. (See Professor Alan Dershowitz's breakdown of Juan Merchan's "outrageous, unethical, unlawful and petty" behavior [here](#).)

In November, Americans will vote on the real issues: inflation, crime, and immigration. On each of these, President Trump holds a lead over Joe Biden of over ten points according to recent polling from Rasmussen ([source](#)).

When the American People have their final say in November, President Trump will win on the real issues in a landslide.