

## **RPNM Statement on Trump Verdict**

**MAY 30**—Today, a biased Manhattan jury found former President Trump guilty on charges associated with "hush money" payments made to Stormy Daniels.

The Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Steve Pearce issued the following statement:

"From the beginning, we've contended this trial was a witch hunt against President Trump and countless legal experts have concluded this trial was a sham and politically motivated. Through a leftist prosecutor and judge with a political vendetta, the Biden administration and Democrats have dangerously weaponized the judiciary against their biggest political opponent to detract from the mess President Biden has made of our country. That is a dangerous precedent to set for democracy that should concern every American. Meanwhile, New Mexicans are struggling to afford to feed their families, buy gas, and cope with the crime and drugs flowing through our open border, all as a result of the Biden administration's policies. New Mexicans will decide if a prosperous and secure future for their families is more important than a witch hunt trial in November."

Pearce concludes, "Ask Democratic leadership in NM why an equal investigation has not been brought against Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, and her <u>alleged hush money</u> <u>payments</u> made from her campaign funds."

Here are just a few of the quotes from experts who found the Trump case to be baseless:

<u>Wall Street Journal Editorial Board</u>: "New York prosecutors rested their hush-money case against Donald Trump this week, but after 20 days in court and a trial transcript of 4,000 pages, the missing piece is still missing. The question is whether Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg presented the evidence necessary for a conviction, and if we were in the jury room, we'd say no."

<u>George Washington University law professor Jonathan Turley</u>: "Even a cursory review of the evidence shows this case does not have a leg to stand on."

<u>Former federal prosecutor Andrew McCarthy</u>: "Trump ought to be acquitted for the simplest of reasons: Prosecutors can't prove their case"

<u>Criminal defense attorney David W. Fischer</u>: "The prosecution has not established that a criminal offense took place."

<u>Criminal defense attorney James Trusty</u>: "That is unlike any trial I could ever think of that you go through the entire trial and it's still an open question of how this is a felony case."

<u>Attorney Will Chamberlain</u>: "No reasonable juror can rely solely on Cohen to prove anything beyond a reasonable doubt, and [Judge Juan] Merchan should have dismissed the case outright."

<u>Fox News legal analyst Gregg Jarrett</u>: "In reality, none of the essential elements of the alleged crimes in the indictment have been met by prosecutors. There is no credible evidence that Trump engineered or even knew about booking entries by accountants that were not false at all. Nor is there any plausible evidence that he willfully violated campaign laws that were not violations at all. Where is the fraud that prosecutors argued in their opening statement? Like Bigfoot, it's a fictitious missing link in the case. This has always been a trial in search of an imaginary crime and a disgraceful charade."

<u>Attorney Scott Johnson</u>: "Under New York's state constitution, the felony statute invoked gives insufficient notice of what it is criminalizing. The indictment fails to explain what laws Trump is alleged to have broken. Bragg purports to enforce federal law over which he has no enforcement jurisdiction. To top it off, Bragg's version of federal campaign-finance law — over which he has no authority — diverges from the interpretations followed by the two federal agencies with exclusive jurisdiction over that law (the Justice Department and the FEC)."