

# [***Nikki Haley Plays Eye Of The Tiger To Kick Off Her Presidential Campaign. That Could Be A Problem.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:67JT-JM41-DXVP-50MK-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Highlight:** This probably isn t the buzz Nikki Haley wanted to generate. The biggest talking point after her campaign announcement has to do with a song.

**Body**

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Nikki Haley kicked off her presidential campaign Wednesday. One problem: her theme song has a history of arousing lawsuits. (Photo by John Lamparski/Getty Images)

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This probably isn t the buzz Nikki Haley wanted to generate.

On Wednesday, the former South Carolina governor and UN ambassador took to the stage in Charleston to spoil the not-so-well-kept secret that she s running for President in 2024.

But what s got everyone talking is the song she was playing to kick off the event that 80 s soft rock staple Eye of the Tiger by Survivor. It s no mystery why Haley chose the song. She s a graduate of Clemson University (Go Tigers!).

Just one problem. The tune, which is best known as the theme for Rocky III, has gotten more than one Republican politician into a bit of hot water.

Former Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee settled a lawsuit with Survivor guitarist Frankie Sullivan in 2016 at a cost of$25,000.

I do not like mixing rock and roll with ***politics***; they do not go hand in hand, Sullivan told Rolling Stone magazine at the time. What upset me most [about Huckabee s use] was that, once again, my song was being used to further a political agenda and no one even bothered to ask for permission.

Also, in 2012, both Newt Gingrich and Mitt Romney aroused the band s anger when they both chose the song for their events. Romney agreed to stop using the song at his rallies, while Gingrich was sued and latersettledout of court.

Haley s campaign didn t immediately respond to a request about whether they were given permission to use the song.

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