

# [***Kristi Noem Absent From Donald Trump Mar-a-Lago Picture***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BYH-1441-DY68-11F1-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 420 words

**Byline:** Kate Plummer

**Highlight:** The South Dakota governor was not pictured at an event with the presumptive Republican nominee for the presidential election.

**Body**

South Dakota Governor [*Kristi Noem*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/kristi-noem?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) was not pictured at a [*Republican*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republican?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) donor event with [*Donald Trump*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) in Mar-a-Lago, Florida.

According to [*Politico*](https://www.politico.com/news/2024/05/04/noem-dog-attack-00156153), Noem did attend the event hosted by Trump's campaign and the Republican National Committee (RNC) on Saturday and gave a 30-minute speech.

However, she was not among those pictured on stage with the presumptive Republican nominee for the presidential election. Instead, Trump was pictured with other high-profile [*Republicans*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republicans?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), including his daughter-in-law and RNC co-chair Lara Trump, ally and New York Representative [*Elise Stefanik*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/elise-stefanik?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), and Speaker of the House [*Mike Johnson*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/mike-johnson?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships).

*Newsweek* contacted Noem's office via the contact form on her official website outside of usual business hours to comment on this story.

It comes after Noem came in for criticism after she revealed she [*killed her dog*](https://www.newsweek.com/kristi-noem-fatally-shot-dog-donald-trump-vp-book-south-dakota-1894523?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) Cricket because it was "untrainable." Writing in her upcoming book, *No Going Back: The Truth on What's Wrong with* ***Politics*** *and How We Move America Forward* she explained how she thought the dog was "dangerous to anyone she came in contact with," leading her to shoot the dog in a gravel pit.

Noem, a close ally of[*Trump*](https://www.newsweek.com/trump-may-already-looking-his-own-successor-1885500?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), had been widely speculated to be a [*potential vice president pick*](https://www.newsweek.com/kristi-noem-dodges-question-certifying-joe-biden-win-1892593?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) for him. Trump previously indicated that the Republican governor was a possible choice in an [*interview with Fox News*](https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-vice-president-update-tulsi-gabbard-1881853?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) on February 20. He said Noem and six others were being considered as his potential running mate.

But the news of her shooting her dog has resulted in a [*sharp fall in the odds*](https://www.newsweek.com/kristi-noem-killing-dog-trump-running-mate-odds-1894844?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) on Noem being chosen as a prospective vice president.

Writing on X, formerly [*Twitter*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), Trump critic and attorney Ron Filipkowski speculated about her absence from the picture, writing: "The news here is that Kristi Noem was originally on the list for this tonight, but no Kristi here."

Noem spoke about "going through hard things" in what was called a "breakfast conversation" with North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum at the retreat, according to an audio recording obtained by Politico.

"Listen, going through hard things, and I've been through a few of them—I'm going through one right now, I mean they're just attacking me like crazy right now," Noem said.

"But listen, that's a good thing. It's a good thing because it makes you stronger, and it teaches you really what you're up against, and it makes you recognize how much they lie, how much they will twist, how much they will manipulate. And you just have to be strong and be happy warriors."

*Newsweek* has not been able to verify the recording Politico cited.

[*Link to Image*](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2388290/kristi-noem.jpg)

**Graphic**

Kristi Noem

Photo by Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images

South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem speaks at the Calvin Coolidge Foundation conference at the Library of Congress on February 17, 2023 in Washington, DC. The South Dakota Governor was not pictured at an event with the presumptive Republican nominee for the presidential election.

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