The Closing Arguments in the Trump Trial

0:03

first

0:05

floor it's Tuesday it's 6:09 a.m.

0:10

walking out of my

0:12

apartment to return to the

0:17

courthous

0:18

today we get closing

0:23

arguments to some extent we know what

0:25

the prosecution is going to say we know

0:27

their case the prosecution has a

0:30

coherent story but we haven't heard an

0:34

alternative

0:35

Theory so this

0:37

morning Todd blanch Trump's lawyer is

0:40

going to try and give that alternate

0:45

Theory you see doubt with a good

0:48

story what's that story going to

0:51

be we'll find out pretty soon

0:56

[Music]

1:03

from The New York Times I'm Michael

1:05

boaro this is the

1:08

daily on Tuesday lawyers for the

1:11

prosecution and the defense delivered

1:14

their final arguments to the jury in the

1:17

criminal case of the people of the state

1:20

of New York versus Donald J

1:24

Trump as always my colleague Jonah

1:27

bramwit was there

1:31

it's Wednesday May

1:35

[Music]

1:42

29th hello hello how's it

1:46

going oh look at that yes we have a we

1:49

have a modest dinner prepared for you

1:51

beautiful I know well you've

1:53

been you've been at it since 6:00 a.m.

1:55

court ran till 8: what's a guy to do for

1:58

dinner thank you

2:01

are you ready I'm ready shall we start

2:03

let's

2:07

start Jonah this was a very big day in a

2:13

very big trial yeah this trial has been

2:15

happening for about a month and a half

2:17

at this point and it feels like every

2:20

time I come in here or in any way

2:22

communicate with the readers and

2:23

listeners and viewers of the New York

2:24

Times we talk about what a remarkable

2:26

day it was but of course this is

2:28

closings I mean this is a huge huge day

2:30

it's the last time the lawyers get to

2:32

address the jury and for the defense

2:34

lawyers in particular it's a day that

2:36

comes with really serious Stakes because

2:38

this case has been really prosecution

2:40

driven right they've charged Donald

2:43

Trump with falsifying business records

2:45

34 times and they've charged Trump with

2:48

a conspiracy to suppress negative news

2:52

about himself to Aid his path to victory

2:54

in the 2016 election and the falsified

2:56

documents were meant to cover up

2:58

prosecutors say that conspiracy to

3:00

suppress that negative news so we've

3:02

heard about all that 20 Witnesses from

3:04

the prosecution only two from the

3:06

defense and the prosecution I think it's

3:08

safe to say is put together this really

3:10

tight understandable script they have a

3:12

story that the jurors know well at this

3:15

point M and so the defense of course has

3:17

questioned the prosecution's witnesses

3:19

and they've talked about some of the

3:20

prosecution's evidence but they really

3:23

are working off a script that they

3:24

didn't themselves write and so on

3:26

Tuesday the defense finally got a chance

3:28

to take that script and rewrite as they

3:30

seek during their closing argument to

3:33

convince the jurors that they should not

3:35

convict Donald Trump so take us into the

3:38

courtroom for this closing argument from

3:41

the defense and how it was that they

3:43

tried finally to rewrite this script so

3:46

let me just make one point before I do

3:48

that so the defense has a different

3:50

burden in the prosecution the

3:51

prosecution has to prove their case

3:53

Beyond A Reasonable Doubt and the

3:55

defense only has to pick off really

3:57

realistically one juror convinc that

3:59

that he or she should not convict so one

4:01

of the reasons we haven't seen a

4:02

coherent story from the defense is

4:04

because they don't have that burden

4:05

right still closing arguments are this

4:07

really important point where the defense

4:09

can mount exactly that a story that will

4:12

be remembered by the jurors so in the

4:14

courtroom today Todd blanch the lead

4:16

lawyer and for Donald Trump goes up the

4:19

lecturn and he begins in the same place

4:21

where he began his opening statement

4:24

weeks and weeks ago he says quote

4:27

president Trump is innocent he did not

4:29

commit any crimes and the district

4:31

attorney has not met their burden of

4:33

proof

4:34

period and from there he begins to

4:36

expand and to introduce it seems like at

4:39

that point What's going to be a pretty

4:41

structured defense closing and it has

4:44

these three distinct pillars which are

4:46

the first is that for all the Flash and

4:49

Sizzle of the prosecution case which is

4:52

about a porn star and a presidential

4:56

election blanch reminds yours this is a

4:58

documents case this is about falsifying

5:01

business records so he seems to be

5:03

saying ignore that flash that's not what

5:05

this is about second he says Trump had

5:08

nothing to do with those documents the

5:10

documents were first produced by Michael

5:12

Cohen who sent invoices to the Trump

5:14

organization in order to be as a

5:16

reminder reimbursed for the hush money

5:19

payment he made to sty Daniels in order

5:21

to keep the relationship she says she

5:22

had with Trump secret from the voting

5:25

public yes and so the defense says that

5:29

Trump was in DC this whole time while

5:31

these documents were being generated

5:33

because of course Donald Trump was the

5:35

president of the United States he was

5:37

doing that job how could he have found

5:39

the time the defense argues to produce

5:43

what prosecutors say are false documents

5:46

and have any significant interaction

5:48

with them and then finally the third

5:51

pillar of the defense closing argument

5:53

and the one that we've seen throughout

5:54

the trial is attack Michael Cohen

5:57

because you can't trust Michael Cohen

5:59

when he test testified for instance that

6:02

Trump directed him to make the hush

6:03

money payment and you can't trust

6:05

Michael Cohen when he testified that in

6:07

January 2017 Trump signed off on the

6:10

scheme to disguise the reimbursements as

6:13

reimbursements for Legal Services rather

6:15

than what they really are which is a

6:16

reimbursement for a hush money payment

6:18

to a porn star then you can't trust the

6:21

defenses arguing the prosecution's case

6:23

and the whole thing falls apart like

6:24

alarts H okay those sound like three

6:28

highly logical pillars of a defense

6:30

closing argument so how does the defense

6:33

try to lay those three pillars out and

6:36

how do they actually end up laying them

6:38

out in this closing argument so on that

6:40

first pillar that blanch identified

6:42

where he's saying that it's a paper case

6:44

he refers to the documents that

6:45

prosecutors say are false and what

6:47

blanch says is no Michael Cohen was

6:51

being paid for legal services this

6:53

wasn't a reimbursement this wasn't

6:55

anything shady this was a personal

6:56

lawyer to Donald J Trump who in 2017 was

7:00

paid for being a personal lawyer to

7:02

Donald J Trump interesting so that's the

7:04

first pillar so then he moves to the

7:06

second pillar and blanch just distances

7:09

Trump from these documents he says that

7:11

Trump was busy running the country being

7:13

the leader of the Free World and that

7:15

most of these documents really didn't

7:18

have anything to do with him they were

7:19

being generated by Michael Cohen or they

7:20

were being generated by the Trump

7:22

organization there's even this issue of

7:24

the nine checks that Trump signed

7:26

himself and blanch dismisses those

7:29

because Trump was President as well he

7:30

says well Trump may have signed those

7:32

but he was doing lots of stuff meeting

7:35

with heads of state he may not have paid

7:38

close attention to those checks that he

7:39

signed H this is meant to go toward

7:42

Trump's intent and the fact that jurors

7:44

can't really know what Trump was

7:46

thinking but this is where this closing

7:49

argument I think starts to go a little

7:50

bit off the rails because the

7:52

prosecutors have introduced a lot of

7:54

evidence including evidence from books

7:56

that Trump himself wrote that Trump pays

7:59

very close attention to the inflow and

8:01

outflow of money both from the Trump

8:03

organization and from his personal

8:05

accounts he even wrote in his books that

8:08

he likes signing his own checks because

8:11

he likes to pay close attention to them

8:13

and mateline westerhout who was an

8:15

executive assistant to Trump at the

8:16

White House has also testified that

8:19

Trump dealt with his personal finances

8:21

even from the Oval Office so even as

8:24

blanch is working on that second pillar

8:26

the jurors may be thinking to themselves

8:27

hm this doesn't quite match what I've

8:30

heard in this trial so far interesting

8:32

then he moves on to the third and final

8:34

pillar and this is his comfort zone

8:36

attacking Michael Cohen is where Todd

8:38

blanch likes to live the jurors have

8:40

heard him do that throughout the trial

8:42

and they're going to hear him do it

8:43

again he tells him they can't trust

8:46

Michael Cohen that he's lied in the past

8:48

and then there's this one phone call

8:51

that they say Cohen has lied about that

8:52

they really harp on Cohen says that he

8:55

called Trump on October 24th through the

8:58

phone of trump tr's bodyguard Keith

9:00

Schiller and on that call Cohen has

9:03

testified he told Trump that he had

9:04

dealt with some arrangement related to

9:06

the hush money payment to Stormy Daniels

9:08

but the defense has already tried to

9:10

convince the jury during testimony that

9:12

Cohen was talking to Schiller not Trump

9:14

and that he was talking to Schiller not

9:17

about the hush money payment but about

9:18

being bullied by a teenager there was

9:20

some 14-year-old harassing and prank

9:22

calling Cohen and he called Schiller to

9:24

complain about it weird and so Cohen has

9:26

claimed no no no I talked to them both

9:29

and just said no the call was too short

9:31

you're lying and he says that again in

9:33

closing arguments he reminds the jurors

9:35

of this sequence and he says Michael

9:37

Cohen lied to you about talking to Trump

9:40

that evening through Keith Schiller's

9:42

phone and committed perjury at this very

9:44

trial H and then he kind of veers into

9:47

this Sports metaphor world first he

9:50

calls Cohen the MVP of liars that's the

9:53

most valuable player of liars and

9:56

apparently liking that line he then

9:58

introduces another one so a newer Sports

10:01

term than MVP is goat greatest of all

10:03

time right greatest of all time and so

10:06

blanch introduces that concept he says

10:08

Tom Brady for instance is the goat and

10:10

he says Michael Cohen is the gloat he's

10:13

the greatest liar of all time H so

10:17

blanch here coins the phrase gloat and

10:20

seems to be kind of gloating about it

10:22

yeah but it's really important that Todd

10:25

blanch do this and there's a reason that

10:26

he's attacking Co in all these different

10:28

ways he's trying to use humor humor he's

10:30

trying to use argument and the reason

10:32

this is so important is something that

10:34

blanch just says straight out in the

10:36

middle of his closing argument he tells

10:38

the jurors that they cannot convict

10:40

president Trump of any crime Beyond A

10:43

Reasonable Doubt on the word of Michael

10:45

Cohen Michael Cohen is the only witness

10:48

Who provided direct testimony that Trump

10:51

had signed off on disguising

10:53

reimbursements to him as legal payments

10:57

right so without that evidence the

10:59

prosecution is in a bit of a tougher

11:01

spot and it behooves the defense to

11:04

drive home as hard as they can and to

11:06

really Bear Down on Michael Cohen's

11:08

importance to the case right I mean

11:10

they're literally saying if he's the

11:11

gloat if he's the greatest liar of all

11:13

time then the prosecution has no case

11:17

yeah okay so Jonah how is this all

11:19

Landing with the jury pillars one two

11:22

and three well we had initially thought

11:24

that those were going to be the tent

11:27

Poes of this argument but pillar one and

11:31

pillar two those seem to kind of slide

11:33

away and what we're left with is these

11:35

attacks over and over again on Michael

11:38

Cohen and so by the end of the defense's

11:42

closing argument the jurors are really

11:44

left with not the cohesive narrative

11:47

from the defense that we might have

11:48

expected that they would provide in

11:50

their closing argument but with this

11:52

single idea you can't trust Michael

11:55

Cohen right it's not a fullsome rich

11:58

alternative story which as you said

12:00

earlier was the opportunity the defense

12:02

really had here why do you think the

12:04

defense didn't Avail itself of the

12:06

opportunity to tell such a story that's

12:08

a really good question and I think it's

12:10

a hard question to answer when I think

12:12

about Todd blanch and the job he has to

12:15

do in this trial I think about these

12:17

four points that he has to focus on

12:19

every time he's in the courtroom there's

12:20

the judge in front of him there's the

12:22

jury to his right there's the

12:24

prosecution his opponents a little

12:25

closer to his right and then sitting

12:27

right to his left is former president

12:29

presid Donald Trump and as Todd blanch

12:31

tries to Pivot between convincing the

12:33

jurors contesting the prosecution

12:35

appeasing the judge and making sure that

12:37

his client notoriously difficult client

12:41

Donald Trump is happy I think it's

12:43

possible that he might just be

12:44

hamstringing himself because one

12:46

argument works for Trump but it doesn't

12:48

work for the jury or one argument

12:49

contests The prosecution really well but

12:51

the judge wants nothing to do with it so

12:53

it's really hard to kind of navigate

12:56

these four points it's not even

12:58

triangulate it's you know quadrangula or

13:00

something like that that's maybe to me

13:03

why blanch doesn't really have this

13:05

coherent narrative instead he settles on

13:07

something that for him seems to solve

13:10

all four problems the judge will let him

13:12

attack Cohen Trump loves when he attacks

13:14

Cohen right the prosecution is angry

13:17

when he attacks Cohen because he is a

13:18

key witness for them and hopefully

13:20

blanch thinks the jury will be convinced

13:22

by these attacks on

13:23

[Music]

13:26

Cohen but Michael Cohen is just one

13:28

witness

13:29

and the problem with focusing on him

13:31

with having this kind of oneline

13:32

argument Michael Cohen is a liar and you

13:34

can't trust him is that when the

13:37

prosecutors are about to tell this long

13:39

story that they're going to back up with

13:41

tons of documentary evidence and tons of

13:43

testimony that didn't come from Michael

13:45

Cohen will that single attack on Michael

13:47

Cohen will that stick in juror's heads

13:49

and produce the reasonable doubt that

13:52

the defense needs to do everything it

13:54

can to get

13:56

[Music]

14:06

we'll be right

14:07

[Music]

14:23

back Jonah you just said that the

14:25

thinness of the defenses argument

14:28

relying so much on Michael Cohen's

14:31

veracity left it vulnerable to a strong

14:34

closing argument from the prosecution

14:35

what was that

14:37

closing the prosecution namely Joshua

14:40

steinglass the prosecutor is going to

14:42

deliver this closing he steps to the

14:44

lectern and what he essentially tells

14:47

the jury is you don't have to rely on

14:49

Michael Cohen we have 19 other Witnesses

14:53

and these are not random people we

14:54

summoned off the street these are people

14:56

who are in Trump's orbit many of them

14:57

are still loyal to Donald Trump Trump

14:59

and yet bit by bit piece by piece they

15:02

also offer testimony that is really

15:05

damning to Donald Trump so one witness

15:07

that he really sticks with for a long

15:10

time is David pecker who in 2015 is the

15:13

publisher of the national inquire and

15:15

you'll remember is one member of what

15:17

prosecutors say was a conspiracy to

15:19

suppress negative stories about Trump

15:20

during the election that involved Trump

15:22

Cohen and David Becker right so David

15:25

pecker he says clearly implicates Trump

15:29

in fact David pecker says that he had

15:30

multiple conversations with Trump and

15:33

there was at least one of those

15:34

conversations in which Trump just

15:36

acknowledges having known about this

15:39

scheme to pay hush money to people who

15:41

had damaging stories so David pecker is

15:44

a great witness for prosecutors to

15:46

identify and say ignore Cohen look at

15:48

this guy another witness that

15:51

prosecutors gesture at you know don't

15:53

look at Michael Cohen look at this other

15:54

witness over here is hop hick and H hick

15:57

was Trump's campaign spokeswoman and

15:59

later spokeswoman for him when he was in

16:01

the white house and there's a couple of

16:02

pieces of hicks testimony that they draw

16:04

on now Hicks is still loyal to Trump she

16:07

teared up on the stand right and yet

16:10

prosecutors say she still gave damning

16:12

evidence against her former boss so one

16:15

thing that she testifies about is Trump

16:17

having told her at one point that it's a

16:18

good thing that the news of the hush

16:20

money payment to Stormy Daniels did not

16:22

come out during the 2016 election now

16:26

this is kind of gold for the prosecution

16:28

because the defense has tried to argue

16:30

oh Trump may have wanted to hide the

16:31

stormy Daniel story but if he did it was

16:34

just to protect his family but Joshua

16:36

Ste glass the prosecutor says that by

16:38

saying to Hope hick that he's happy that

16:40

it at least did not come out during the

16:42

election Trump is making his motivation

16:44

plain and reinforcing what prosecutors

16:47

say was his reason for entering that

16:49

conspiracy with David pecker and Michael

16:50

Cohen in the first place this would seem

16:52

to do a lot of work to state of a jury

16:55

you don't have to rely on Michael Cohen

16:57

but as we've established through out the

16:59

coverage of this trial with you Jonah

17:00

Cohen is very important to the

17:02

prosecution so how does the prosecution

17:05

rebut the idea that the defense has said

17:07

in its closing that you simply cannot

17:10

trust anything Cohen has said well I

17:12

think the best illustration of it

17:14

actually has to do with that phone call

17:16

that Michael Cohen placed to Keith

17:18

Schiller to talk to Donald Trump about

17:21

arranging some detail of the hush money

17:23

payment to stormmy Daniels right which

17:25

was too short the defense said to have

17:28

actually happened right Cohen says that

17:29

he talked to Schiller about the kid

17:31

bullying him and then he also talked to

17:33

Trump and the defense says yeah that

17:35

there's no way that happened but the

17:37

prosecutor Joshua Stein glass he doesn't

17:40

just argue against that what he does is

17:42

he takes a cell phone and he hits the

17:45

timer on that cell phone so that the

17:47

stopwatch is running mhm and then he

17:50

pretends to be Michael Cohen and he

17:53

pretends to call Keith Schiller and then

17:55

with plenty of silences with plenty of

17:57

pauses ask asks Keith Schiller to hand

18:00

the phone to Trump and Joshua Stein

18:03

glass playing Michael Cohen tells Trump

18:04

that he has dealt with this hush money

18:07

Arrangement that Cohen says that he had

18:10

dealt with and then finally Stein class

18:12

is done he hangs up the phone and he

18:14

stops the stopwatch and it's somewhere

18:16

around like 45 seconds H and the records

18:20

for the phone call that Cohen had with

18:22

Schiller are almost twice as long wow as

18:26

what Stein glass has just done so what

18:28

Stein glass has clearly just shown the

18:29

jury is there was plenty of time for

18:32

Michael Cohen to have called Trump's

18:34

bodyguard had a weird conversation about

18:36

a pranking 14-year-old and then also

18:39

gotten Trump on the line to talk about

18:41

paying off Stormy Daniels in fact it

18:43

seems like there was still time to spare

18:45

so this is a very clever and Theatrical

18:48

way of cening what the defense has said

18:51

about this call yeah he doesn't just

18:52

argue it he shows it and he shows it in

18:54

this memorable funny way that I think

18:58

could really help to dismantle what the

19:00

defense has clearly seen as one of its

19:03

best arguments everything you're

19:05

describing so far sounds like the

19:07

prosecution being pretty responsive to

19:11

the defense closing argument how if at

19:14

all is the prosecution selling its own

19:16

story and its own testimony that it

19:19

gathered during this trial what they do

19:22

is they just put together this very

19:26

structured very organized timeline that

19:29

Joshua Stein glass is talking about as

19:32

he's making this closing argument and so

19:34

he proceeds from August 2015 when

19:37

prosecutors say the conspiracy was

19:39

formed into 2016 October 2016 when the

19:43

hush money payment to Daniels was made

19:45

and in that October section in

19:46

particular he slows way down and we just

19:50

see reams of documentary evidence phone

19:53

calls between all the main players Trump

19:56

pecker Michael Cohen Keith Davidson who

19:59

was stormy daniels's lawyer at the time

20:01

Dylan Howard who was an editor at the

20:03

national inquire not only are we seeing

20:05

these people talking to each other but

20:07

we're seeing events play out in real

20:09

time so something happens in the

20:11

campaign for instance the Access

20:13

Hollywood tape gets released this is a

20:15

problem for the Trump campaign and

20:17

suddenly stormy daniels's Story another

20:19

potential sex scandal in Waiting is a

20:22

lot more urgent for them to deal with

20:24

and so as Joshua Stein glass is telling

20:26

us about this all of which took place in

20:28

October 2016 we're seeing all the

20:30

related phone calls between those key

20:32

players as Cohen realizes he has to deal

20:34

with the story and he starts contacting

20:36

heith Davidson and he starts contacting

20:38

Donald Trump everything that Joshua

20:40

Stein glass is arguing here is not just

20:43

relying on Cohen's testimony Cohen's

20:45

testimony is this one strand of a really

20:50

intricate colorful detailed packed

20:54

sequence that the prosecutors lay out

20:56

sometimes could feel almost overwhelming

20:58

and I just want to make sure that I'm

21:00

highlighting the contrast here because

21:01

it was really Stark in the

21:03

courtroom Todd blanch tried to structure

21:06

his argument in a somewhat similar way

21:08

with those three pillars but his

21:11

argument soon melted into this that and

21:13

the other thing the prosecutions

21:15

argument is really structured they're

21:18

scaffolding throughout it and so when

21:20

you try and remember a certain piece of

21:23

evidence it makes it easier to remember

21:26

where each detail is kept you know where

21:28

the stormmy Daniel's payment is because

21:31

it's at the end of that long sequence in

21:33

October you know when the election was

21:35

November 8th

21:36

2016 all those things are Anchored In

21:39

Time in the prosecution's argument and

21:42

so when the jury begins to deliberate

21:44

they'll be able to refer back to that

21:46

timeline as they seek to bring up and

21:49

discuss these all important points of

21:51

the case but when they refer back to the

21:54

defense closing other than Michael Cohen

21:57

is a liar it's it's not really clear

21:59

what they'll remember what you're

22:01

clearly saying here is prosecution was

22:03

telling a better more coherent more

22:06

compelling story than the defense but

22:09

I'm curious as you're in the courtroom

22:11

listening to the prosecution which gets

22:13

the last word with its closing how

22:16

they're signaling to the jury that this

22:19

is a case worth convicting a former

22:22

president and current Republican nominee

22:25

for president of having committed

22:28

because that's that seems like in a

22:29

somewhat different kettle of fish than

22:31

simply referring to a bunch of evidence

22:33

well this is the reason we're talking

22:35

about this case right it's significant

22:37

not because it's a random defendant in

22:39

New York charged with 34 counts of

22:41

falsifying business records but because

22:43

it's Donald Trump and prosecutors aren't

22:45

just arguing that he falsified records

22:47

they're arguing that he did so to cover

22:49

up an election conspiracy in which he

22:52

defrauded the American people by keeping

22:54

the truth about his candidacy from them

22:57

mhm and Josh Stein glass draws on that

22:59

here he says that after the Access

23:02

Hollywood tape was

23:04

released the campaign between Trump and

23:07

Hillary Clinton was extremely close he

23:09

even plays video of trump talking about

23:11

how he needs every last percentage point

23:14

he can get because the race is so close

23:16

and what Stein glass says is we can't

23:18

even know whether the publication of

23:19

Stormy daniels's story would have swung

23:22

the election but regardless Americans in

23:26

2016 deserve to know they deserve

23:28

deserve to know this thing that Donald

23:31

Trump prosecutors say intentionally hid

23:34

from them intentionally suppressed this

23:37

in doing so he really robbed Americans

23:39

of our right to evaluate candidates as

23:43

fully as we can the prosecutors are

23:45

arguing here so given everything that

23:48

you've just laid out I want to now and

23:50

finally turn to the jury's deliberations

23:53

which are about to get underway you are

23:55

of course a reporter you're not a juror

23:58

but you sat in this courtroom for the

23:59

entirety of the trial you didn't miss a

24:02

moment of it so I'm curious how you're

24:05

thinking about what those deliberations

24:07

are likely to kind of look

24:10

like the jurors have a lot to discuss I

24:15

really keep thinking over and over about

24:18

what it's going to be like for them

24:20

because the jury is barred from

24:22

discussing the case until this exact

24:25

moment until they're actually given the

24:27

chance to deliberate it m so these

24:29

people have been hanging out with each

24:30

other for weeks seeing the same stuff

24:33

making small talk but never comparing

24:35

notes about what they actually make of

24:37

the testimony yeah exactly so now they

24:39

get to talk for the first time they will

24:42

deliberate it can take hours it can take

24:45

days it can take

24:47

weeks now there are 34 charges here and

24:50

there are three options really for each

24:53

charge M the jurors can find Trump

24:56

guilty they can find him not guilty and

24:58

they could just not come to an agreement

25:00

at all and hang on the charge and so if

25:04

we hear a verdict it could be guilty on

25:07

all 34 counts it could be not guilty on

25:10

all 34 counts it could be some

25:12

combination what's called a mixed

25:14

verdict where Trump is found guilty on

25:16

some of the accounts but not others and

25:18

it also could be that even though we've

25:20

said that the prosecution's case has

25:22

come in really strong there's one juror

25:25

who really doesn't trust Michael Cohen

25:27

and really agrees and believes that the

25:29

case hinges on Cohen and that juror if

25:32

they decide I can't find this guy guilty

25:35

on any one of these charges because I

25:37

have to rely on Cohen to do so then

25:40

there's no chance of getting any

25:42

convictions on any one of the charges

25:44

because all the jurors and this is the

25:46

key Point all the jurors have to agree

25:49

they have to be unanimous MH and so what

25:53

you have at the end of this trial that

25:56

is about defrauding the American people

25:59

according to prosecutors is this chance

26:01

for 12 people in a room to come

26:06

together

26:07

talk and try to decide whether the first

26:11

former American president ever to go on

26:13

trial is guilty or

26:17

[Music]

26:20

not well Jonah as always thank you very

26:24

much thanks so much for having me

26:31

[Music]

26:32

the trial is expected to resume at 10:00

26:34

a.m. this morning when the judge will

26:36

issue instructions to the jury after

26:39

that jury deliberations will officially

26:51

begin we'll be right back

26:58

here's what else you need to know today

27:01

on Tuesday the White House said that the

27:03

Israeli strike that killed dozens of

27:05

Palestinian civilians in Rafa did not

27:08

violate President Biden's recent threat

27:11

to cut off armed shipments to Israel if

27:14

it carried out a major military

27:16

operation in the city how does this not

27:18

violate the red line the president laid

27:20

out as I said we don't want to see a

27:23

major ground operation we haven't seen

27:25

that at this point during a news

27:27

conference reporters pushed a White

27:29

House spokesman John Kirby to explain

27:33

the president's thinking how many more

27:36

charred corpses does he have to see

27:40

before the president considers a change

27:41

in Poli we don't want to see a single

27:43

more innocent life taken and I kind of

27:46

take a little offense at the question no

27:48

civilian casualties is the right number

27:50

of Civilian

27:52

casualties and Democratic Party leaders

27:55

say they will nominate President Biden

27:57

for a second term in office via a

28:00

virtual roll call of delegates in order

28:03

to avoid an Ohio law that has threatened

28:06

to keep Biden off the state's ballot in

28:10

November Ohio law requires that all

28:13

candidates be legally certified by

28:15

August 7th but Biden is not scheduled to

28:18

be officially nominated until weeks

28:21

later during the Democratic National

28:23

Convention the virtual roll call solves

28:26

that problem because it will be

28:28

completed before the Ohio

28:33

deadline today's episode was produced by

28:36

Eric krupky and CLA tennis ketter it was

28:39

edited by Rachel quer contains original

28:42

music by Marian lazano and was

28:45

engineered by Alyssa Moxley our theme

28:48

music is by Jim brunberg and Ben

28:49

lansberg of wily special thanks to Nick

28:53

Pitman

28:55

[Music]

29:02

[Music]

29:04

that's it for the daily I'm Michael raro

29:07

see you tomorrow

29:12

[Music]