



34 CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS

COUNT 1	COUNT 2	COUNT 3	COUNT 4	COUNT 5	COUNT 6	COUNT 7	COUNT 8	COUNT 9	COUNT 10	COUNT 11	COUNT 12	COUNT 13	COUNT 14	COUNT 15	COUNT 16	COUNT 17
GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY
COUNT 18	COUNT 19	COUNT 20	COUNT 21	COUNT 22	COUNT 23	COUNT 24	COUNT 25	COUNT 26	COUNT 27	COUNT 28	COUNT 29	COUNT 30	COUNT 31	COUNT 32	COUNT 33	COUNT 34
GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY	GUILTY

Trump found guilty

HISTORIC VERDICT IN SCHEME TO ILLEGALLY INFLUENCE 2016 ELECTION

Campaign readies a script of martyrdom: ‘Very innocent’

BY ISAAC ARNSDORF, JOSH DAWSEY AND MARIANNE LEVINE

NEW YORK — Around 4:15 p.m. Thursday, Donald Trump strode into a Manhattan courtroom, looking cheerful with his usual entourage of lawyers and advisers as he took his seat at the defense table. The judge said he would soon dismiss the jury for the day, and Trump sat whispering, smiling and laughing with attorney Todd Blanche, seemingly enjoying himself.

Then the judge revealed that the jury didn’t want to go home: They had reached a verdict, they just needed a few more minutes to finish filling out the lengthy form with all 34 counts. Instantly Trump’s demeanor changed: He crossed his arms, knitted his brow, puckered his lips, and prepared for judgment.

The sudden turnabout made for a dramatic end to the seven-week criminal trial that stands to define the current campaign and this entire chapter in American history, at once making Trump the first former president con-

SEE TRUMP ON A9



SETH WENIG/POOL/REUTERS

Donald Trump, found guilty on 34 counts of falsifying business records in a scheme that prosecutors said was designed to illegally aid his 2016 campaign, became the first former president convicted of a felony. “We’ll fight till the end and we’ll win,” he said after the verdict.

Despite outcome of trial, attacks deal a ‘body blow’ to judicial system

BY SARAH ELLISON AND JOSH DAWSEY

For months, top advisers to Donald Trump expected that he would be convicted by a New York jury on all 34 felony counts. So Trump and his team waged an all-out war against the judicial system before the verdict came in, hoping to blunt the political damage and position him as a martyr.

They sent hundreds of fund-raising appeals attacking the prosecutors and the system, raising millions of dollars on false claims. They lined up allies outside the courthouse almost every day to question the fairness of the proceedings. Trump attacked the judge, the judge’s daughter and,

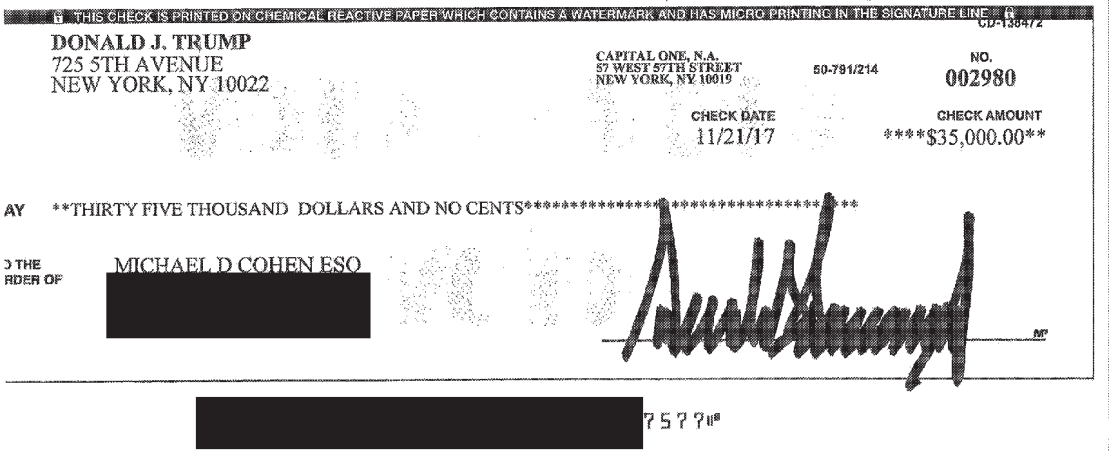
finally, even the jury — ordinary, anonymous New Yorkers called to perform their basic civic duty.

On Thursday, that jury convicted Trump, and the foundational democratic principle that no one is above the law withstood the first-ever criminal trial of a former American president. Despite the attacks, the system worked as designed, analysts said.

“Human beings have their weaknesses and our institutions have their weaknesses, but a jury trial is as good as we can do,” Nancy Marder, a Chicago-Kent College of Law professor who studies jury trials, said in an interview.

But amid the relentless offensive by Trump and his allies on

SEE DEMOCRACY ON A8



CONFIDENTIAL

Prosecutors said Trump’s payments to Michael Cohen, which his company classified as legal fees, were in fact compensation for hush money paid to Stormy Daniels. See A7 for a breakdown of the payouts.

An unchanging race

Biden’s operational advantage over Trump hasn’t moved the polls. A4

For jurors, challenges await

They now face a choice about how much to say about deliberations. A8

The Critique

In an extraordinary case, 12 Americans did their civic duty. A9

Biden to let Ukraine use U.S. arms to strike inside Russia

BY MICHAEL BIRNBAUM, JOHN HUDSON, EMILY RAUHALA AND ELLEN NAKASHIMA

President Biden will allow Ukraine to use U.S.-provided weaponry against limited military targets inside Russia, officials said Thursday, a dramatic reversal of a long-standing precautionary measure that comes as Kyiv struggles to defend its second-largest

city from a withering onslaught.

The policy shift, disclosed by U.S. officials on the condition of anonymity to discuss the president’s decision, authorizes Ukrainian commanders to “hit back against Russian forces that are attacking them or preparing to attack them” in and around Kharkiv, near the border in northeast Ukraine. President Volodymyr Zelensky and other top officials in his government have cam-

paigned for the shift with increasing urgency as Russia has pressed its assault there, emboldened by the Kremlin’s knowledge of Washington’s red lines, officials in Kyiv say.

The decision draws Biden even deeper into a war in which Russian President Vladimir Putin has

SEE UKRAINE ON A5

Frayed ties: Views on NATO and fraud divide Kyiv and the West. A13

OpenAI finds that its tech fuels global propaganda

BY GERRIT DE VYNCK

SAN FRANCISCO — ChatGPT maker OpenAI said Thursday that it caught groups from Russia, China, Iran and Israel using its technology to try to influence political discourse around the world, highlighting concerns that generative artificial intelligence is making it easier for state actors to run covert propaganda campaigns as the 2024 presidential election nears.

OpenAI removed accounts associated with well-known propaganda operations in Russia, China and Iran; an Israeli political campaign firm; and a previously unknown group originating in Russia that the company’s researchers dubbed “Bad Grammar.” The groups used OpenAI’s tech to write posts, translate them into various languages and build software that helped them automatically post to social media.

None of these groups managed to get much traction; the social media accounts associated with them reached few users and had just a handful of followers, said Ben Nimmo, principal investigator on OpenAI’s intelligence and investigations team. Still, OpenAI’s report shows that propagandists who’ve been active for years on social media are using AI tech to boost their campaigns.

SEE OPENAI ON A5

IN THE NEWS

Gaza pier’s operations suspended The Biden administration insisted that it can salvage the aid delivery structure despite mishaps, including a section floating away. A11

A perplexing charge D.C.’s dining industry has been upended by service fees added to comply with the city’s minimum wage law. B1

THE NATION

The IRS announced that it will make its free online tax-filing platform permanent. A2
The Supreme Court ruled unanimously in favor of the NRA in a free speech case. A3

THE WORLD

A Hong Kong court found pro-democracy activists guilty of subversion. A10
Britain’s Parliament was dissolved, and the election campaign drama got underway. A11

THE ECONOMY

Families of victims of two 737 crashes hailed a decision saying Boeing breached a deferred prosecution deal. A14

OBITUARIES

Albert S. Ruddy, 94, won Academy Awards for producing “The Godfather” and “Million Dollar Baby.” B4

THE REGION

The mother of former D.C. police officer Michael Fanone was “swatted” at her home hours after her son criticized Donald Trump. B1
The trial of a D.C. lawyer opened with emotional testimony from the woman accusing him of sexual assault. B1

STYLE

From an array of conservatives, an Olympian effort is underway to curry favor with Donald Trump. C1

WEEKEND

Looking for a laugh in the D.C. area? We find places where you can find humor in increasingly unfunny times.

BUSINESS NEWS.....	A14
COMICS.....	C5
OBITUARIES.....	B4
OPINION PAGES.....	A15
TELEVISION.....	C4
WORLD NEWS.....	A10

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