# Senator Robert Menendez’s Bribery Trial Begins Amid Wife’s Cancer Battle



**Senator Robert Menendez’s Bribery Trial Underway Amid Personal Challenges**

**New York, May 16, 2024** – Senator Robert Menendez's bribery trial commenced this week in Federal District Court in Manhattan, marked by significant developments both in and out of the courtroom. Amid the trial proceedings, Menendez revealed on Thursday that his wife, Nadine Menendez, is being treated for breast cancer and will undergo a mastectomy.

Senator Menendez, aged 70, is facing charges for allegedly accepting substantial bribes in the form of gold bars, cash, and other valuables in exchange for political favors intended to benefit Egypt and certain New Jersey businessmen. During opening statements, his defense suggested that Nadine, aged 57, played a significant role in the scheme.

The announcement regarding Mrs. Menendez's health was made in response to persistent media inquiries and coincided with the first week of the trial. Citing advanced disease concerns, Senator Menendez requested privacy for his wife as she battles the illness.

Mrs. Menendez has been granted a separate trial in July due to her medical condition. Originally scheduled to stand trial alongside her husband, she has not appeared in court. Both Robert and Nadine Menendez have pleaded not guilty.