# Former President Trump Faces Trial for Falsifying Business Records in Hush Money Scheme



Former President Donald Trump is on trial in Manhattan, New York, accused of falsifying business records related to a hush money scheme involving adult film actress Stormy Daniels. The trial, which began on April 22, 2024, revolves around allegations that Trump directed a $130,000 payment to Daniels to prevent her from disclosing a claimed affair before the 2016 presidential election.

Michael Cohen, Trump's former attorney and fixer, is the prosecution's key witness. He testified that he arranged the payment at Trump’s instruction and was later reimbursed through falsified business records that misrepresented the payments as legal expenses. Cohen's testimony aims to demonstrate Trump's direct involvement and approval of the payment and reimbursement process.

Trump faces 34 counts of falsifying business records, with each count linked to specific financial documents including checks, invoices, and ledger entries. The defense is expected to challenge Cohen's credibility, highlighting his previous legal issues and alleging motivations of revenge against Trump.

Among those attending the trial are political figures aligned with Trump, some of whom are speculated to be potential running mates in his further political endeavors. The trial continues to draw significant media attention, reflecting the high stakes and public interest surrounding the first criminal trial of a former U.S. president. Trump has pleaded not guilty to all charges.