# John Eastman Pleads Not Guilty to Election-Related Charges in Arizona



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Phoenix, May 17, 2024—Former lawyer for Donald Trump, John Eastman, has pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiracy, fraud, and forgery in connection with efforts to overturn the 2020 election results in Arizona. Eastman, who appeared in court Friday, is the first among 18 defendants in this case. Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes brought the charges, which relate to a scheme involving fake electors designed to alter the election outcome in favor of Trump.

Eastman devised a strategy intending to disrupt the certification of election results by Congress on January 6, 2021. He purportedly advised fake electors in multiple states and pressured officials to alter election outcomes. While Trump is not charged in this case, documents refer to him as "Unindicted Coconspirator 1."

Other notable figures facing arraignment include Mark Meadows, Rudy Giuliani, and Boris Epshteyn. Eastman’s attorney maintains his client’s innocence, asserting that no direct communication occurred between Eastman and Arizona's fake electors. Eastman is also involved in similar legal proceedings in Georgia, where he faces racketeering charges.

The 2020 election saw Biden winning Arizona by over 10,000 votes. Subsequent legal challenges to this result were unsuccessful. The case highlights the ongoing legal ramifications of attempts to overturn the election results in several states.