

New  
print subs  
offer

Get this newspaper **40p**  
**FOR ONLY**

SEE PAGE TWO

Subscribe at [mailsubs.co.uk/time](https://mailsubs.co.uk/time) or call **0800 083 5000** TERMS APPLY

# Daily Mail

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023

£1

**CORONATION PORTRAIT**



**As she becomes simply 'Queen'...**

*At the stroke of a pen, the last vestige of Camilla's former status becomes a historical footnote*

**RICHARD KAY** SEE PAGES 5-7

**Day of drama as ex-president pleads not guilty to 34 charges**

From **Tom Leonard** and **Daniel Bates** in New York

**THE full extent of hush money charges against Donald Trump was laid bare last night after he handed himself in to a New York court.**

Prosecutors said the former US president – the first in history to face criminal charges – tried in the run-up to the 2016 election to silence tryst claims by porn star Stormy Daniels.

On a day of extraordinary drama they also accused him of using 'catch-and-kill' operations to bury allegations about another affair and having a child out of wedlock.

According to Manhattan's district attorney, the National Enquirer, whose owner was reportedly a Trump ally, made two payments, the first to Karen McDougal, an ex-Playboy model who said she'd been his lover. The second was

Turn to Page 2

# TRUMP'S 'HUSH MONEY PLOT TO BURY SCANDALS'

**RUPERT MURDOCH, 92, BREAKS OFF ENGAGEMENT** PAGE THREE



# BACK TO 2003

Take out a print subscription today and you'll pay the same price as

**20 YEARS AGO...**



MON - FRI

~~£1~~

**40p**

**SAVING YOU £164 A YEAR, THAT'S BETTER THAN HALF PRICE!**

Turn back time today when you subscribe at [mailsubs.co.uk/time](http://mailsubs.co.uk/time) or call **0800 083 5000**

# SUBSCRIBE TODAY AND GET YOUR DAILY MAIL FOR JUST 40p

The Mail is turning back time as we take the price you can pay for our newspapers all the way back to 2003. The first 10,000 readers who take up our new seven-day print subscription will get the Daily Mail for just 40p, the Saturday Daily Mail for just 60p and The Mail on Sunday for just 90p for the next six months. This offer is open to new seven day print subscribers only.

## SUBSCRIBE FOR £15.16 A MONTH AND SAVE £164 A YEAR

The first 10,000 readers to take up this amazing new seven-day subscription offer will be sent vouchers to get their Mail newspaper every day at their local shop for the next 13 weeks. At the end of the 13 weeks we will send them a voucher booklet for the next 13

weeks. If you secure this offer, for the first six months, you will only pay £15.16 a month - that is your Mail newspaper for half price plus an extra 10p off every day. After six months you will get 20p off the normal price of your Mail newspaper every day, which means you will only pay £30.33 a month. In total that is a saving of £164 in the first year!

Continued from Page One

said to be a doorman who made the paternity allegations. With a face like thunder, Trump, 76, pleaded not guilty to 34 counts of falsifying business records.

Prosecutors say they were committed to hide a £105,000 (\$130,000) hush money payment to Ms Daniels. She claimed just weeks before the 2016 election that she had a brief fling with him in 2006, just months after his wife Melania had given birth.

The case, which was heard in Manhattan under immense security, has delighted Trump critics who have been waiting for years to see him in court. It incensed supporters who say it is a political stitch-up.

Trump is accused of engaging in activities designed to influence the election result by burying damaging stories.

The charges are 'class E' felonies which are the lowest category of felony in New York and each carry a maximum prison sentence

## Trump in the dock PAGES 9-11

of four years. Falsifying business records is usually a less serious 'misdemeanour' but prosecutors can elevate it to a felony if they believe it was carried out to hide or commit another crime.

Michael Cohen, Trump's former lawyer and fixer, says he made the payment to Ms Daniels at Trump's direction and was later reimbursed by him in instalments. Prosecutors say fraud was involved because Trump's company falsely classified the repayment to Mr Cohen as legal expenses when none existed.

It's alleged that the National Enquirer paid \$30,000 to the former Trump Tower doorman who claimed to know that he fathered a child out of wedlock and \$150,000 to Ms McDougal, who wanted to sell her story on her affair with Trump during the 2016 campaign. In a tactic known as 'catch and kill', the Enquirer bought the exclusive stories in order to stop them being published anywhere else.

Trump, who remains the frontrunner to win the Republican nomination, has dismissed the decision to charge him as a 'witch-hunt' conducted by a partisan Manhattan district attorney, Alvin Bragg. He has also claimed the judge, Juan Merchan, hates him and yesterday asked for the trial to be held in the pro-Republican borough of Staten Island.

Apart from brief waves to supporters outside the court and his New York home and a defiant message on social media, the usually bullish

## The 'catch and kill' claims

AMONG the allegations were that Trump 'orchestrated his "catch and kill" scheme through a series of payments he then concealed' between August 2015 and December 2017.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's statement said: 'In one instance American Media Inc paid \$30,000 to a former Trump Tower doorman, who claimed to have a story about a child Trump had out of wedlock.'

He went on to discuss a second woman - widely believed to be former Playboy model Karen McDougal - who was paid \$150,000 through a similar 'catch and kill' operation.

Mr Bragg added that in a third instance - 12 days before the presidential general election - Trump's then lawyer Michael Cohen 'wired \$130,000 to an attorney for an adult film actress'.

Trump made no comment either on his way in or way out to the court.

His silence may have been connected to the judge's warning in court that, while he wasn't going to impose a gagging order, everyone involved should avoid making any statements that could

incite violence or threats against officials.

Trump lawyer Todd Blanche said after the hearing that his client was 'upset, frustrated and disappointed'.

Fellow Trump lawyer Joseph Tacopina said that anyone else but his client wouldn't have been charged with such



In court: Donald Trump yesterday

offences. Their client was heading back to his home at Mar-a-Lago, Florida, last night where he had pledged to make a televised statement.

Every one of New York's 35,000 police officers was told to be ready yesterday after Trump, 76, urged supporters to protest but, apart from a few scuffles outside the court by pro- and anti-Trump protesters, there was no trouble in the Democrat city.

Instead, as helicopters circled overhead, an army of TV crews and reporters were waiting to witness the traditional 'perp walk' when police and officials parade the accused before the cameras.

A serving or former president was last arrested in 1872 when a police officer stopped Ulysses Grant for speeding in a two-horse carriage while racing friends through the streets of Washington DC.

Grant was not charged. Trump tried to put on a display of bravado for his court appearance. His humiliating day of being processed into the US justice system began shortly after 1pm when he left Trump Tower in Midtown, looking stony-faced as he raised his fist and waved to supporters.

He was accompanied by Secret Servicemen as well as a lawyer and political aides. He has always insisted he never had an affair with Ms Daniels.

## Clarifications & corrections

All our journalists observe the Editors' Code of Practice and the Mail is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We aim to correct any errors as promptly as possible.

To report an inaccuracy, please email [corrections@dailymail.co.uk](mailto:corrections@dailymail.co.uk).

To make a formal complaint go to [www.dailymail.co.uk/readerseditor](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/readerseditor). You can also write to Readers' Editor, Daily Mail, 9 Derry Street, London W8 5HY or contact IPSO directly at [ipso.co.uk](http://ipso.co.uk)



**INSIDE: Kurosu 20, Puzzles 35-38, TV 42-45, Oscar Cainer 46, Letters 48 & 49, City 59-62**

**IF YOU CAN'T GET YOUR DAILY MAIL ...**  
If the Mail was unavailable at your retail outlet please let us know by emailing [availability@dailymail.co.uk](mailto:availability@dailymail.co.uk) or call 0330 100 0601 and we will endeavour to ensure it doesn't happen again.

Offer available to new subscribers taking out a monthly subscription for a minimum of 6 months, aged 18+. Offer is £15.16 a month for 6 months. Month 7 will be charged at a rate of £30.33 a month unless cancelled. Home News Delivery subscriptions will include an additional delivery charge. You may cancel within 14 day cooling off period at no cost.



# Surreal.. I can't believe this is happening, said Trump as he faced 34 fraud counts

From **Daniel Bates**  
in New York

DONALD Trump decried his 'surreal' arrest yesterday before being charged with 34 counts of business fraud.

The 76-year-old posted online that he 'could not believe this is happening in America'.

The outburst came before he headed to court in New York to answer charges of falsifying business records laid against him by the District Attorney.

But there was no rhetoric or bombast as the court clerk read the indictment number - 71543 - to the former president, who remained seated as he was asked to enter a plea and said in a throaty voice: 'Not guilty.'

Surrounded by his legal team and aides, Trump displayed no emotion during the 50-minute hearing and did not answer questions from reporters as he left the courtroom. Judge Juan Merchan warned the ex-president to refrain from rhetoric that could inflame or cause civil unrest. Assistant District Attorney Christopher



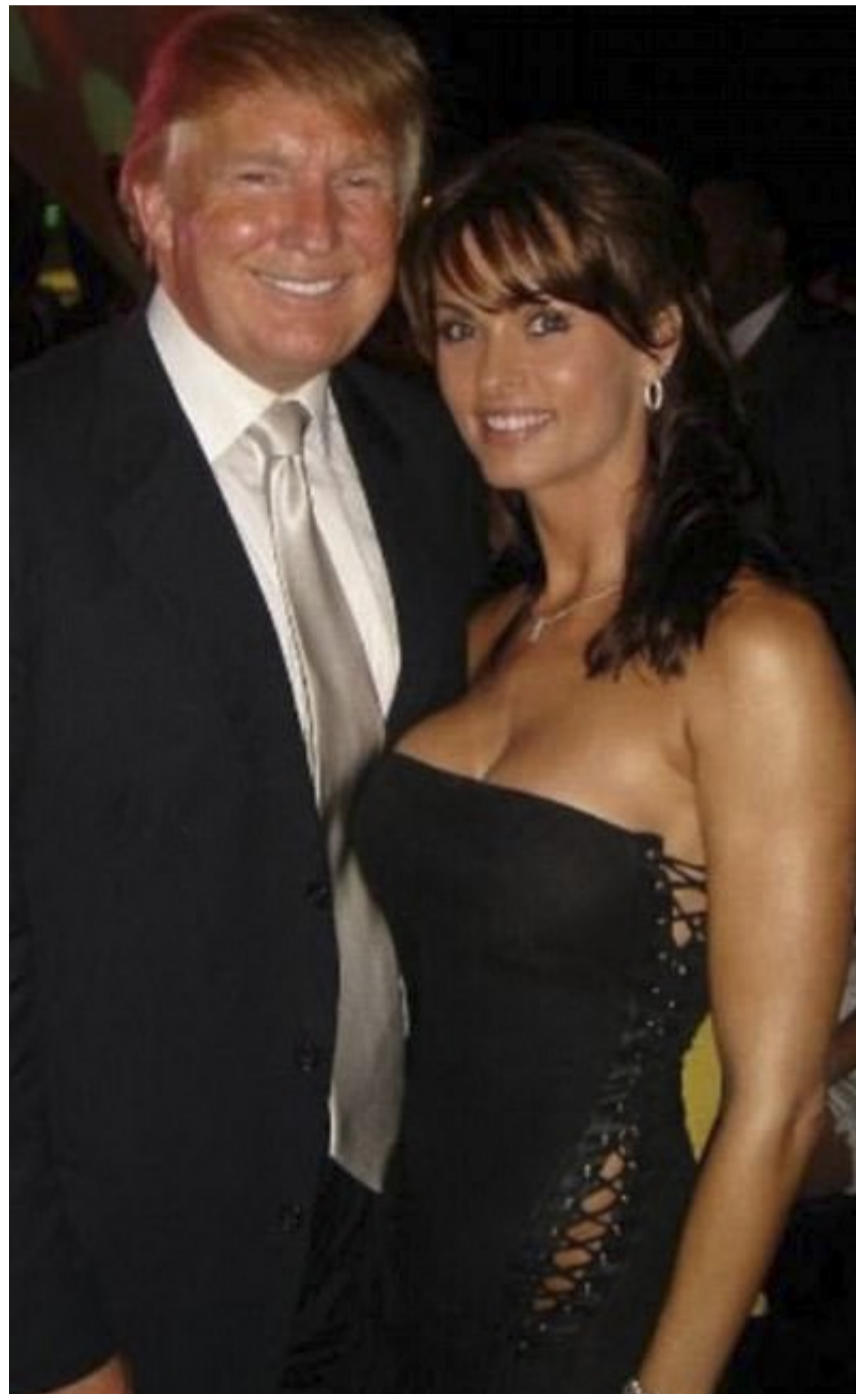
**ARRIVING AT COURT**

Salute to the faithful: Donald Trump raises a fist



**AFTER THE HEARING**

Heading home: Mr Trump leaves for the airport



Claims: Ex-Playboy model and actress Karen McDougal with Trump

## A tragedy for America

PAGES  
10-11

Conway said the alleged crimes related to an attempt to 'undermine the integrity of the 2016 Presidential election'.

Trump allegedly took part in a conspiracy to 'identify and suppress negative information that could have undermined his candidacy as President'. Mr Conway said Trump was accused of directing \$130,000 (£104,000) to stop this negative information from coming out and 'disguised' the repayment of the money in monthly payments.

The indictment included charges not only for hush money payments to porn star Stormy Daniels, but also two indirect payments that kept Playboy model Karen McDougal and a doorman quiet about Trump's alleged sexual rendezvous.

Ms McDougal allegedly had a ten-month affair with Trump in 2006, while doorman Dino Sajudin purported to know about a love child Trump had with a former housekeeper.

A statement of facts submitted to the court said: 'In or about October or November 2015, [Trump] learned that a former Trump Tower doorman was trying to sell information regarding a child that the defendant had allegedly fathered out of wedlock. When [Trump] later concluded that the story was not true, [he] wanted to release the doorman from the agreement.'

Mr Conway then turned to what he called Trump's 'threatening comments on social media' prior to the court case.

These 'irresponsible' remarks had 'targeted' people in the prosecution office as well as their families, he said. The comments included the threat of 'death and destruction' and 'world war three', Mr Conway added. Among Trump's posts was a picture of him with a baseball bat pointed at

## Judge's daughter campaigned for Biden

THE daughter of the judge overseeing Donald Trump's case worked on the Biden-Harris election campaign, it was reported last night.

Justice Juan Merchan, who is presiding over the New York proceedings, is the father of Democrat campaigner Loren Merchan.

Miss Merchan's archived LinkedIn profile shows she is the president and partner of Authentic Campaigns, which runs 'progressive' digital campaigns for high-profile Democrat candidates. The 34-year-old's profile says she worked as 'Director of Digital Persuasion' for

Kamala Harris's presidential campaign during the 2020 elections.

Authentic continued working for Ms Harris and Mr Biden after the now vice-president pulled out of her presidency bid and joined his ticket.

Trump took to social media yesterday to describe Justice Merchan as a 'highly partisan judge' whose family 'are well known Trump haters'. The former president's son Eric also tweeted the unsubstantiated claims: 'They are all handpicked. It is all pre-arranged. This corruption is on a different level.'

the head of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg.

According to Conway, there was a 'significant concern about the potential danger' that such remarks pose to 'our city, a potential jury and the judicial process'.

Trump's lawyer Todd Blanche

said the tycoon had responded 'forcefully' on social media because he 'believes a grave injustice' was being done. When Trump saw 'illegal leaking' about the case in the past week he felt 'frustrated and comments publicly about that', Mr Blanche said. It was 'patently

unfair' for Trump to be indicted for a case that had been investigated for three to five years over a payment made before the last election, he said. Judge Merchan told the court that Trump's 'rights are critically important, but said he did not agree that 'certain lan-

guage is justified by frustration'.

The judge told the court: 'Refrain from engaging in conduct which has the potential to incite violence or create civil unrest.' Mr Blanche agreed to do so but told the court: 'There's only so much we can do'.

A car was waiting for Trump as he left court to take him to LaGuardia Airport and his private jet for the flight back to Mar-a-Lago resort, in Florida. Trump was due to address supporters last night at his Palm Beach home - with at least 500 invited.

The former president is next due in court in December.

Trump was banned from Twitter in 2021 following the US Capitol riots but has set up his own social media platform. Ahead of yesterday's hearing he posted: 'Heading to Lower Manhattan, the Courthouse. Seems so SURREAL - WOW, they are going to ARREST ME. Can't believe this is happening in America. MAGA!'