

Chicago Tribune



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ANALYSIS

Immunity case takes unusual turn

Conservative justices on Supreme Court seem to avoid Trump's conduct

By Adam Liptak
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Before the Supreme Court heard arguments Thursday on former President Donald Trump's claim that he is immune from prosecution, his

stance was widely seen as a brazen and cynical bid to delay his trial. The practical question in the case, it was thought, was not whether the court would rule against him but whether it would act quickly enough to allow the trial to go forward before the 2024 election.

Instead, members of the court's conservative majority treated Trump's assertion that he could not face charges that he tried to subvert the 2020 election as a

■ Trump's defense team attacked the credibility of the former tabloid publisher who served as the prosecution's first witness in his hush money case. **Nation & World**

weighty and difficult question.

They did so, said Pamela Karlan, a law professor at Stanford University, by averting their eyes from Trump's conduct.

"What struck me most about the case was the relentless efforts

by several of the justices on the conservative side not to focus on, consider or even acknowledge the facts of the actual case in front of them," she said.

They said as much. "I'm not discussing the particular facts of this case," Justice Samuel Alito said, instead positing an alternate reality in which a grant of immunity "is required for the functioning of a stable democratic society, which is something that we all

want."

Immunity is needed, he said, to make sure the incumbent president has reason to "leave office peacefully" after losing an election.

Alito explained, "If an incumbent who loses a very close, hotly contested election knows that a real possibility after leaving office is not that the president is going to be able to go off into a peaceful

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R. Kelly's Chicago conviction to stand

Appellate court also denies request for resentencing

By Megan Crepeau and Jason Meisner
Chicago Tribune

R. Kelly's sex-crime conviction and 20-year sentence in Chicago's federal court will stand, an appeals court ruled Friday in a blistering opinion.

"For years, Robert Sylvester Kelly abused underage girls. By employing a complex scheme to keep victims quiet, he long evaded consequences. In recent years, though, those crimes caught up with him at last," Judge Amy St. Eve of the 7th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals wrote in the terse, 14-page ruling.

"But Kelly — interposing a statute-of-limitations defense — thinks he delayed the charges long enough to elude them entirely. The statute says otherwise, so we affirm his conviction."

The appellate court also denied Kelly's request for resentencing, saying they had no grounds to second-guess the 20-year prison term U.S. District Judge Harry Leinenweber handed down.

"An even-handed jury found Kelly guilty, acquitting him on several charges even after viewing those abhorrent tapes," the appellate ruling states. "No statute of limitations saves him, and the resulting sentence was procedurally proper and — especially under these appalling circumstances — substantively fair."

Kelly's attorney, Jennifer Bonjean, told the Tribune Friday that they were still weighing whether to request a rehearing before the full 7th Circuit panel — a move that is rarely granted.

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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Protests embrace area campuses

A wave of pro-Palestinian protests swept across the Chicago area's college campuses Friday, with hundreds of students calling for their schools to divest from funds connected with Israel. **Chicagoland, Page 2**



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Williams ready to shoulder load

New Bears quarterback Caleb Williams speaks at Halas Hall in Lake Forest on Friday. The Bears picked the USC quarterback No. 1 overall in the 2024 NFL draft. **Chicago Sports**



Sarah Anderson, right, an advance practice provider and DNP, tells lung cancer patient Linda Parnell that a scan of her lungs showed no active disease and that she doesn't need additional treatment at the Rush Rubschlager Building on Thursday. **EILEENT.T.MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Rush partners with top-ranked MD Anderson Cancer Center

Move gives patients more access to the latest treatments

By Lisa Schencker
Chicago Tribune

Rush University System for Health is teaming up with top-ranked University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center — a move that's expected to give Rush patients better access to the latest cancer treatments and help Rush compete against other Chicago-area hospitals.

Under the partnership, which was announced Friday, Rush Cancer Center is being renamed Rush MD Anderson Cancer Center. Rush will retain ownership of its program. Neither leaders of Rush nor MD Anderson would discuss the financial details of the arrangement.

As part of the agreement, protocols and cancer treatment plans at Rush will mirror those available at MD Anderson. Rush patients will be able to participate in more clinical trials, and Rush doctors will be able to consult with MD

Anderson doctors on treatment decisions, according to Rush.

"Rush has a top-rated cancer program ... what we don't have is the volume of clinical trials and access to genetic studies that MD Anderson brings," Rush President and CEO Dr. Omar Lateef told the Tribune. "What we can do is ... offer a broader diversity of treatment options to some patients that may qualify for cutting edge care that's not otherwise available to those patients here in

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Arbor Day has deep roots in Chicago

Local organizations fight to plant and preserve urban trees

By Avani Kalra
Chicago Tribune

When construction for a water line running through the Edgewater neighborhood on the North Side displaced a row of trees, John Holden, president of the Edgewater Historical Society, said locals were shocked and confused by the removals.

The outcry stemmed from most of the uprooted trees being more than 50 years old and cherished for their significant benefits, Holden said.

The removals led some neighbors to band together with the historical society and local organizations to document "historic" trees in the area in an effort to stop them from being uprooted.

"We've found many trees that are 100 years old or more," Holden said. "All of these trees have a natural life cycle, and they have decades more of viable life. We're just hoping we can encourage a more thoughtful process."

Edgewater's initiative is one of many around Chicago to preserve or plant trees on this year's Arbor Day. Established in 1872, the

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