

## Trump Surrenders in Atlanta on 2020 Election Conspiracy Charges



Former President Donald Trump turned himself in at the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta to be booked on state charges related to allegations of conspiring to overturn the outcome of the 2020 presidential election in Georgia. This marks the fourth time he has been processed as a criminal defendant this year.

The surrender was prompted by an order from Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, who instructed Trump and 18 alleged co-conspirators to surrender by a certain date or face arrest. Trump had previously agreed to post a \$200,000 bond, and his arraignment is anticipated to take place early the following month.

Trump's brief stay at the jail lasted approximately 20 minutes. During this time, his details were recorded in the facility's database, listing his physical attributes and assigning him inmate number P01135809. A mug shot, the first for the former president, was taken and later released to the public. Trump utilized this image for his reentry onto X, the social media platform previously known as Twitter, which he hadn't used since January 2021. Despite his previous ban, Trump still retains a substantial follower count of 86.5 million on the platform.

### **See also: Legal Action Looms as Trump Confronts Election Subversion Allegations in Atlanta**

The charges stem from allegations of violating Georgia's racketeering law, with the indictment stating that the defendants participated in a "criminal enterprise" aimed at maintaining Trump's hold on the presidency post his electoral defeat. These charges were brought forth by District Attorney Willis on August 14. Arraignments for all defendants are expected to begin in early September in Atlanta.

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While Trump and his allies have persistently claimed widespread election fraud, they have not produced substantiated evidence to support these allegations. Notably, Republican officials in Georgia and within Trump's own administration have concluded that the election was conducted fairly.

This legal development occurs as Trump navigates multiple legal challenges. He is already facing a comparable election-related case in Washington federal court and unrelated criminal charges in New York and Florida. Despite these legal battles, he has continued to market "not guilty" merchandise on his campaign website, featuring a simulated mug shot. Trump maintains his innocence and portrays the ongoing cases as a Democratic-led effort to undermine his political prospects.

Unlike some of his co-defendants who have sought legal maneuvers, Trump willingly surrendered. Notably, his former Chief of Staff Mark Meadows had requested an emergency order to prevent his arrest as he aimed to move the case to federal court. However, a judge denied the request, leading Meadows to surrender as well.

As part of Trump's bond agreement, he is prohibited from making direct or indirect threats against co-defendants, witnesses, or unindicted co-conspirators through any means, including social media. He is also restrained from communicating about the case with potential witnesses except through legal representatives.

Trump's legal team had previously arranged for his processing to occur at a courthouse just prior to his arraignment after the first three indictments. Two trial dates have already been set for Trump in the coming year. In March, he will face New York state charges involving alleged falsification of business records related to payments made to an adult film star before the 2016 election. In May, he is scheduled to address federal charges in Florida for mishandling classified documents post his tenure in the White House and obstructing government efforts to retrieve these records.

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