Written by **<u>Gary Benoit</u>** on November 3, 2023



Gag Order on Trump Expanded to His Lawyers

Judge Arthur Engoron on Friday ordered that the <u>gag order</u> he had imposed on Donald Trump in the civil fraud case be expanded to Trump's attorneys.

In his order, Engoron wrote:

Since the commencement of this bench trial, my chambers have been inundated with hundreds of harassing and threatening phone calls, voicemails, emails, letters and packages. The First Amendment right of defendants and their attorneys to comment on my staff is far and away outweighed by the need to protect them from threats and physical harm.

Engoron has already fined Trump twice for violating his gag order, first for \$5,000 and then for \$10,000. He said today that violating the order again will result in "serious consequences."



AP Images

Former President Donald Trump speaks during a break in his civil business fraud trial at New York Supreme Court, Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023, in New York. The judge in Trump's civil fraud trial has fined the former president \$10,000. The judge says Trump violated a limited gag order barring personal attacks on court staffers. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Prior to the gag order's expansion, even the liberal ACLU had said that the gag order violates Trump's <u>freedom of speech</u>.



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