



Written by [Dennis Behreandt](#) on November 14, 2023

Rep. Tim Burchett: McCarthy Hit Me With “a Clean Shot to the Kidneys.”

It is safe to say that ousted Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy is a polarizing figure. The latest from Rep. Tim Burchett is not going to enhance his reputation.

In fact, quite the opposite is true. If Burchett’s tale is accurate (and it appears to be based on other reports), then McCarthy is at best a very sore loser and at worst, potentially guilty of assaulting another Congressman.

According to Burchett — who voted for McCarthy’s ouster as Speaker — he was giving an interview to NPR reporter Claudia Grisales when McCarthy and his security entourage approached him from behind and the ousted speaker hit him in the kidneys from the back.



Republican Congressman and former Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy.

“I was doing an interview with Claudia from NPR,” Burchett recalled to CNN’s Manu Raju, “and I got elbowed in the back and it kind of caught me off-guard because it was a clean shot to the kidneys and I turned back and there was Kevin....”

Rep. Tim Burchett claims on CNN that Kevin McCarthy hit him from behind with "a clean shot to the kidneys" and calls him "a bully" pic.twitter.com/CCLQvNuWHw

— Aaron Rupar (@atrupar) [November 14, 2023](#)

In her description of the incident posted to X, NPR’s Grisales confirmed the attack on Burchett and said: “Have NEVER seen this on Capitol Hill.”

Have NEVER seen this on Capitol Hill:

While talking to [@RepTimBurchett](#) after the GOP conference meeting, former [@SpeakerMcCarthy](#) walked by with his detail and McCarthy shoved Burchett. Burchett lunged towards me. I thought it was a joke, it was not. And a chase ensued...

— Claudia Grisales (@cgrisales) [November 14, 2023](#)



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