

Defend Democracy Project: Jan. 6 hearing takeaways

Posted on Tuesday, Jun 21, 2022

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

WISCONSIN - In the fourth hearing of the January 6th Select Committee, we learned more about the pressure campaign of Trump and his MAGA allies to overturn the results of the election. An all-Republican panel first detailed Trump and his officials' harassment, and an election worker and her mother described their experiences after they were falsely accused by Trump of meddling in the election.

"Trump pressured state officials to overthrow the will of the people in order to stay in power, and exposed election workers to threats and harassment by publicly and falsely accusing them of crimes," **said Defend Democracy Project Communications Director Nicole Haley.** "There is no depth that Trump will not sink to, including attacking innocent people for just doing their jobs. The threat is ongoing, and those involved must be held accountable no matter if they are former presidents, members of Congress, or other officials."

1. Officials described Trump and his allies' campaign to pressure officials to overturn the results of the election they lost.

- Committee Chair [Bennie Thompson](#): "Pressuring public servants into betraying their oath was a fundamental part of the playbook."
- Trump lawyer John Eastman [told Rusty Bowers](#), "Do it, and let the courts decide."
- Giuliani, imploring Arizona Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers to go along with the scheme, asked, "[Aren't we all Republicans here?](#)" Instead, Bowers told Trump he had supported him, voted for him, but wouldn't do anything illegal for him.
- Trump accused Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger of committing a crime by [refusing to accept his outlandish claims](#) of voter fraud in the state.

2. Officials found no evidence of voter fraud in Arizona and Georgia.

- Rep. Adam Schiff [asked](#) Speaker of the Arizona House of Representatives Russell Bowers if he ever received evidence of voter fraud in Arizona. His answer? “[Never.](#)”
- Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger [said](#) “President Trump did come up short” in Georgia.

3. At least one U.S. congressman and one senator participated in the conspiracy by pressuring state officials and trying to deliver fake elector certificates to Vice President Pence.

- Bowers said Arizona Rep. Andy Biggs asked him to sign a letter [decertifying](#) Arizona’s electors.
- Wisconsin Senator Ron Johnson’s chief of staff [texted](#) a top aide to Mike Pence, planning for Johnson to give Pence fake [electors certificates](#) from Wisconsin and Michigan. Pence’s aide said, “Do not give that to him.”

4. President Trump’s blatantly illegal actions directly resulted in threats of violence against people doing their jobs and carrying out their oaths to the Constitution.

- Wandrea “Shaye” Moss, a Georgia election worker attacked by Rudy Giuliani and Donald Trump, detailed the [numerous threats](#) she received after being targeted, including “be glad it’s 2020 and not 1920.”
- Moss’s mother, Ruby Freeman, testified that she [no longer introduced herself with her name](#) and that she needed to leave her home for safety after Trump mentioned her in a phone call to Raffensperger. “There is nowhere I feel safe. Nowhere,” she said.
- Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson [feared for her and her son’s safety](#) as Trump followers threatened her home: “Are they going to attack my house? I’m in here with my kid,” she testified.
- Raffensperger [described being doxxed](#), lewd texts received by his wife, and how his daughter-in-law’s house was broken into thanks to Trump’s harassment.