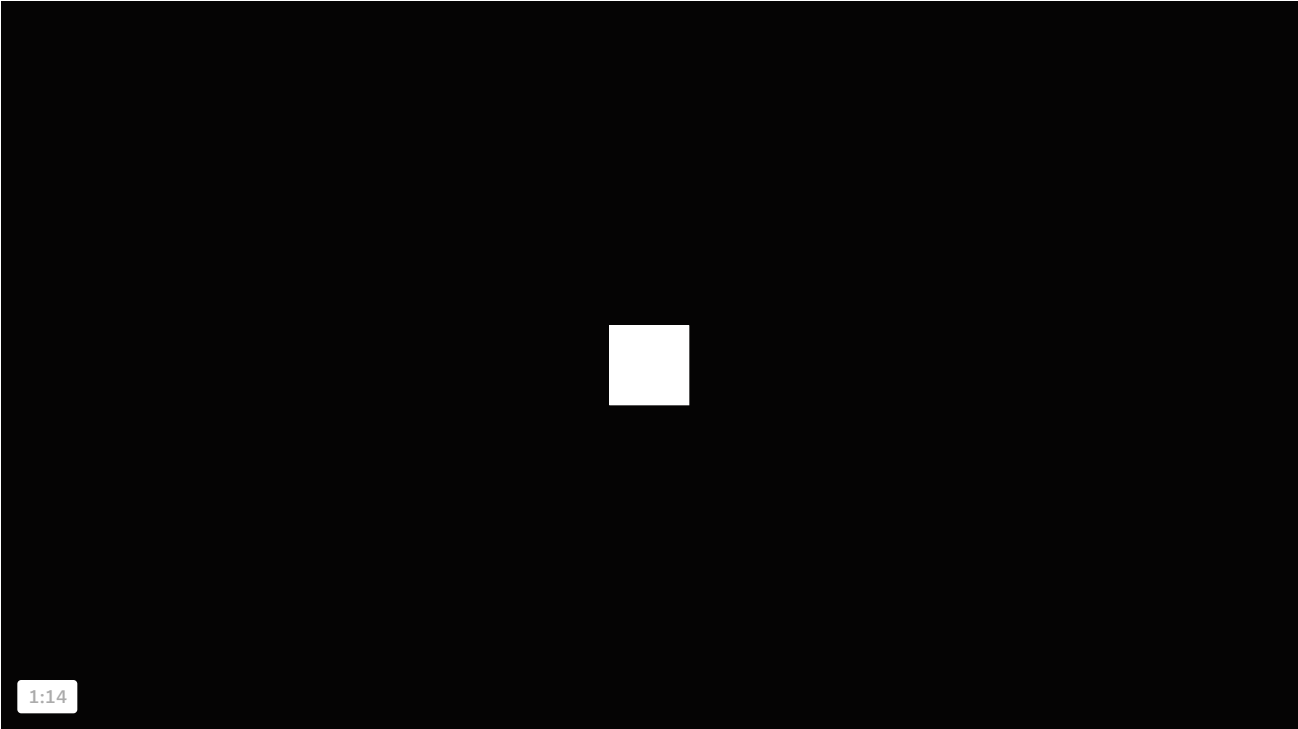


Judge puts hold on Trump's federal election interference case while appeals process plays out

Special counsel Jack Smith had opposed a stay to keep the case on track.

By [Katherine Faulders](#) and [Alexander Mallin](#)
December 13, 2023, 5:52 PM



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The judge overseeing former President Donald Trump's federal [election interference case](#) in Washington, D.C., has stayed proceedings in the case while the appeals process plays out.

Trump's lawyers had requested the proceedings be stayed but special counsel [Jack Smith](#) opposed the [stay](#), saying they felt certain filings could still move forward to keep the case on track.

MORE: Supreme Court will consider special counsel's request to rule on Trump's federal election interference case
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of other D.C. district court personnel.

"This is a big win for President Trump and our rule of law," Trump spokesperson Steven Cheung said in a statement, adding that it derails what he called the special prosecutor's "strategy of interfering in the 2024 Presidential Election in support of Joe Biden's campaign."

Earlier this week, the special counsel [asked the Supreme Court](#) to intervene and resolve the matter to prevent any delays to the scheduled trial date.



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Former President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump prepares to deliver remarks at a Nevada Republican volunteer recruiting event at Fervent: A Calvary Chapel on July 8, 2023, in Las Vegas.
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The court said it would consider the request on an expedited basis.

Trump in August [pleaded not guilty](#) to charges of undertaking a "criminal scheme" to overturn the results of the 2020 election by enlisting a slate of so-called "fake electors," using the Justice Department to conduct "sham election crime investigations," trying to enlist the vice president to "alter the election results," and promoting false claims of a stolen election as the Jan. 6 riot raged -- all in an effort to subvert democracy and remain in power.

The former president has denied all wrongdoing and denounced the charges as "a persecution of a political opponent."

ABC News' Soo Rin Kim contributed to this report.

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