

"You are on the verge of spending some time in the lockout," Judge Kaplan told Alina Habba.



COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Closing Arguments

The week in Courthouse News

January 26, 2024

Friday at the Manhattan defamation trial against Donald Trump truly had it all: A federal judge threatening to lock up Trump's attorney; the former president [storming out of the courtroom](#); [an \\$83 million win for writer E. Jean Carroll](#).

Jurors deliberated for just under three hours before returning the verdict, [Josh Russell](#) reports. It's Trump's second loss to Carroll, a longtime Elle magazine advice columnist, who filed two lawsuits over Trump's comments denying that he sexually assaulted her in the mid-1990s.

Both sides delivered closing arguments earlier Friday, but Trump took an unscheduled intermission eight minutes into Carroll's closing argument — right after her attorney told jurors "Donald J. Trump thinks the rules don't apply to him."

Trump returned to hear his own attorney, Alina Habba, give her summation. After a row Friday morning over Trump's attorneys' attempt to show jurors Carroll's old tweets, which weren't admitted into evidence, during closings, U.S. District Judge Lewis Kaplan admonished Habba.

"You are on the verge of spending some time in the lockout," the judge said. "Now, sit down."

The \$83.3 million verdict in Carroll's favor is in addition to the [\\$5 million a jury awarded her last year](#) in the first *Carroll v. Trump* case to go to trial, after finding Trump liable for both battery and defamation.

Outside the courthouse, Habba told reporters [Trump plans to appeal](#), adding, "I assure you,

we didn't win today, but we will win because the record that was made in there gave us the most perfect record on appeal."

Don't touch that dial, there's more Courthouse News up next.

— *Nina Pullano*

Sidebar — a podcast from Courthouse News



True crime is undeniably having a massive cultural moment — not long ago, you couldn't scroll social media without seeing the names Gabby Petito and Brian Laundrie — but there was a time when many viewed the genre as a trashy time-waster. How did we get here?

In [the first Sidebar episode of 2024](#), reporter [Kirk McDaniel](#) and host [Kelsey Reichmann](#) explore the role internet sleuths play in solving real-life murders and the psychology behind our fascination with twisted mysteries. Plus: what all of this has to do with a rumored serial killer roaming Austin, Texas.

Listen to "The case of the internet sleuth" on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or [YouTube](#).

Trial Spotlight: Jennifer Crumbley



State prosecutors [began presenting their case in the manslaughter trial](#) against Jennifer Crumbley, the mother of the boy who killed four of his classmates in a November 2021 school shooting in Michigan. [[Dave Byrnes](#)]

Crumbley and her husband are the first parents of a school shooter to be charged with a crime related to the shooting.

Courthouse News has followed the case since its inception. As trial gets underway, catch up on our previous coverage...

» **December 2021:** James and Jennifer Crumbley are [charged with involuntary manslaughter](#).

» **October 2022:** Ethan Crumbley [pleads guilty](#) to the shooting.

» **March 2023:** Michigan appellate court [declines to drop charges](#) against James and Jennifer Crumbley.

» **November 2023:** Judge orders the Crumbley parents to be tried separately.

» **December 2023:** The shooter is [sentenced to life in prison](#) without parole.

Top 8: This week's most-read stories

From across the Courthouse News website, including news from Capitol Hill, state legislative decisions and major research developments.

1. [Details of voting equipment breach emerge in Dominion security trial](#)
2. [FBI breached search, privacy rights during safe deposit box seizure at self-storage facility](#)
3. [Ex-NRA exec claims \\$70,000 mansion check was for safety of CEO Wayne LaPierre](#)
4. [Ninth Circuit considers California's assault weapons ban](#)
5. [Lawsuit over parody Twitter account could spell doom for eviction defense nonprofit](#)
6. [Former NRA lobbyist 'disgusted' by Wayne LaPierre's spending habits](#)
7. [Judge raises specter of jail time for Texas officials in foster care reform case](#)
8. [\[Brief\] Convicted juvenile, sentenced adult](#)



George Carlin's estate says a YouTube video using his AI-generated likeness [violates the late comedy legend's copyright](#) and is a "bastardization of Carlin's real work and his legacy." [[Michael Gennaro](#)]

ICYMI: New cases and rulings on our radar

» **Air Force One fire:** BALTIMORE — An oxygen cart Jakob Miller was using to clean Air Force One burst into flame, leaving his back and arms permanently scarred. Boeing was negligent and failed to properly maintain the cart and lines used to service the craft's oxygen system, the crew chief at Joint Base Andrews [claims in federal court](#).

» **Casino crime busted:** LOS ANGELES — The MGM Grand casino's former president [pleaded guilty to failing to report suspicious transactions](#) at the casino as required by the Bank Secrecy Act. MGM Grand and The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas will pay a total of \$7.45 million in settlements, and will be further scrutinized for compliance with the law, as a consequence of the Department of Justice investigation that led to the charge.

» **TikTok privacy settlement:** CHICAGO — A federal court in Illinois [declined to dismiss TikTok users' privacy claims](#) against the social media company on the basis of a prior \$92 million class settlement in this multidistrict case alleging the app illegally harvested their personal and biometric data. Their claims may proceed "on behalf of former settlement members" for behavior that predated the settlement's effective date.

— [Daniel Conrad](#), [Audrey Rodeman](#)

© 2023 Courthouse News Service
www.courthousenews.com



[Unsubscribe](#) - [Unsubscribe Preferences](#)