



Diddy Accused of Witness Tampering, Defense Denies Claims

Description

An abruptly convened hearing concerning the incarcerated Sean “Diddy” Combs’ sex trafficking case, scheduled for tomorrow, may represent a pivotal moment for the forthcoming trial, particularly in light of the impending leadership transition within the U.S. Attorney’s office.

In a late November 15 filing, the current U.S. Attorney, Damian Williams, disclosed that prosecutors have acquired prison notes and recordings documenting the ‘I’ll Be Missing You’ singer’s purported “relentless efforts” to financially compensate potential witnesses, in addition to making unauthorized external communications and exerting pressure on other possible witnesses.

“Following the defendant’s incarceration, Bureau of Prisons (BOP) investigators recovered notes from the defendant’s cell during a premeditated nationwide sweep of BOP facilities,” the government asserted late last week, emphasizing that an independent “Filter Team” reviewed the material to ensure the separation of privileged information.

Nevertheless, Combs’ defense team has raised vehement objections regarding alleged constitutional infringements.

“Defense counsel has recently become aware that the prosecution possesses attorney-client privileged material, including the defendant’s own notes,” attorneys Marc Agnifilo and Teny Geragos articulated in a letter to Judge Arun Subramanian on Monday, concerning their high-profile 55-year-old client, who faces the prospect of life imprisonment if convicted in a trial set to commence on May 5, 2025.

Following a swiftly resolved rape and abuse lawsuit initiated by ex-girlfriend Cassie Ventura last year, alongside a mounting array of civil litigations, Combs was apprehended on September 16 in a New York City hotel lobby. He faces charges including racketeering, sex trafficking, and the transportation of individuals for the purposes of prostitution during what he described as “freak offs” fuelled by substance use.

Despite offering a \$50 million bail, pledging to submit to home detention, and agreeing to converse solely with family and legal counsel, Combs has been denied pre-trial release on two occasions. A third bond hearing is scheduled for November 22, yet tomorrow’s proceedings could supersede that if Judge Subramanian deems it necessary. In their November 15 submission, prosecutors reiterated earlier successful arguments opposing Combs’ release, further bolstered by the new materials obtained from the Bureau of Prisons.

Combs’ legal representatives are undoubtedly striving to persuade the judge towards granting their client release, even if such advocacy necessitates resorting to bold rhetorical measures.



“The search and seizure operations breach Mr. Combs’ Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendment rights,” they argued, successfully advocating for a hearing on November 19 regarding the material seized from Combs’ cell. “Moreover, the deliberate targeting of a pre-trial detainee’s work product and privileged materials—generated in preparation for trial—constitutes egregious government conduct, culminating in a substantive due process violation.”

The prosecution has a mere hour remaining on Monday to respond to the court in New York City.

Judge Subramanian stated that “the Court will hold a hearing on this matter tomorrow, November 19, 2024, at 3:00 PM in Courtroom 15A of the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York, unless the parties mutually agree to a remote conference instead.”

“While attempting to evade law enforcement oversight, the defendant has, among various activities, orchestrated social media campaigns aimed at influencing the jury pool; endeavored to publicly disseminate materials advantageous to his case; and engaged witnesses through intermediaries,” the government claims in a heavily redacted opposition to Combs’ latest bail appeal.

More disturbingly, an almost entirely redacted October 4 communication involving the incarcerated Combs and “one of his adult sons” suggests a clear intent to intimidate victims and witnesses into silence or to elicit testimony favorable to his defense.

“The Government refrained from previously disclosing these recordings due to ongoing investigative activities; however, it is now presenting this evidence in light of the defendant's recent intensified efforts to sway the jury pool in this criminal matter,” prosecutors indicated in a slightly redacted footnote within their 30-page filing, bolstered by extensive exhibits.

Nevertheless, the Southern District of New York Attorney’s Office has yet to respond to the Judge’s directive. Soon to be led by Donald Trump appointee and former SEC Chair Jay Clayton, the office has also not provided a response to Deadline’s request for comment. Updates will follow once the prosecution offers a statement.

Combs’ situation has deteriorated significantly since his arrest two months ago.

The sequence of events ranges from his arrest, through his dual denials of pre-trial release, to an accumulation of civil lawsuits, all underscoring a series of missteps by the once-revered marketer as he attempts to regain control of the narrative surrounding his alleged malefactions. Earlier this month, Combs and his legal team faced a setback when Judge Subramanian rejected their motion for a gag order concerning witnesses and other participants in both his criminal case and the numerous civil suits against him.

A similar outcome could very well transpire on Tuesday.

Vocabulary List:



1. **Incarcerated** /ɪnˈkɑːrsəreɪtɪd/ (adjective): Imprisoned or confined especially in a penal institution.
2. **Prosecutors** /ˈprɒsɪkjətəz/ (noun): Lawyers who conduct legal proceedings against someone in a criminal case.
3. **Constitutional** /ˌkɒnstɪˈtjuːʃənəl/ (adjective): Relating to the system of fundamental principles according to which a nation is governed.
4. **Egregious** /ɪˈɡriːdʒəs/ (adjective): Outstandingly bad; shocking.
5. **Detainee** /ˌdiːteɪˈniː/ (noun): A person held in custody especially for political reasons or suspected of being an enemy combatant.
6. **Intimidate** /ɪnˈtɪmɪˌdeɪt/ (verb): To frighten or overawe someone especially in order to make them do what one wants.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What type of case is Sean "Diddy" Combs involved in?
Option: Sex trafficking case
Option: Bank fraud case
Option: Identity theft case
Option: Embezzlement case
2. What charges does Sean "Diddy" Combs face?
Option: Racketeering, sex trafficking, and transportation of individuals for prostitution
Option: Tax evasion and money laundering
Option: Drug trafficking and assault
Option: Cybercrime and hacking
3. What are Combs' defense team objecting to regarding the prosecution?
Option: Conducting unauthorized interviews with witnesses
Option: Possessing attorney-client privileged material
Option: Offering immunity to potential witnesses
Option: Leaking confidential information to the media
4. Where was Sean "Diddy" Combs arrested?
Option: New York City hotel lobby
Option: Los Angeles nightclub
Option: Miami beach
Option: Chicago street



5. What efforts has Combs made to influence the jury pool?

- Option: Orchestrated social media campaigns
- Option: Hired private investigators to intimidate jurors
- Option: Bribed jury members
- Option: Threatened witnesses openly

6. Who is slated to lead the Southern District of New York Attorney's Office?

- Option: Jay Clayton
- Option: Rudy Giuliani
- Option: Hillary Clinton
- Option: Barack Obama

True-False

- 7. Combs was apprehended on September 16 in a Miami nightclub.
- 8. Combs has been granted pre-trial release on two occasions.
- 9. The government has not disclosed Combs' prison notes and recordings.
- 10. Combs' defense team successfully advocated for a hearing on November 22.
- 11. Combs is facing charges related to tax evasion.
- 12. Prosecutors have indicated that Combs intensified efforts to sway the jury pool.

Gap-Fill

- 13. The judge scheduled a hearing on November 19, _____, unless a remote conference is agreed upon.
- 14. Combs' legal team faced a setback when Judge Subramanian rejected their motion for a _____ concerning witnesses and participants.
- 15. Combs was denied pre-trial release despite offering a \$50 million bail, agreeing to submit to home



detention, and only conversing with _____ and legal counsel.

16. Combs faces the prospect of life imprisonment if convicted in a trial set to commence on May 5,

_____.

17. The government claimed that the deliberate targeting of a pre-trial detainee's work product and privileged materials constitutes egregious government conduct, culminating in a substantive due process

_____.

18. Combs has engaged witnesses through _____, according to the government.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Sex trafficking case 2. Racketeering, sex trafficking, and transportation of individuals for prostitution 3. Possessing attorney-client privileged material 4. New York City hotel lobby 5. Orchestrated social media campaigns 6. Jay Clayton

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 2024 14. gag order 15. family 16. 2025 17. violation 18. intermediaries

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the term used to describe someone who has been cleared of blame or wrongdoing?

Option: Prosecutorial

Option: Catalyst

Option: Exonerated

Option: Intrinsic

2. Which word means done consciously and intentionally?

Option: Disregarded

Option: Vacated

Option: Deliberate

Option: Opulent

3. What adverb describes something done in a secretive or concealed manner?



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- Option: Clandestinely
Option: Ambiguous
Option: Egregious
Option: Detainee
4. Which term refers to a surprising and previously unknown fact that is disclosed?
Option: Tenure
Option: Revelation
Option: Egregious
Option: Ambiguous
5. What adjective means characterized by rich abundance; luxurious or lavish?
Option: Prosecutors
Option: Illustrious
Option: Opulent
Option: Ambiguous
6. Which word describes something open to more than one interpretation; having a double meaning?
Option: Catalyst
Option: Ambiguous
Option: Exonerated
Option: Intimidate
7. What term is used to describe someone well-known respected and admired for past achievements?
Option: Catalyst
Option: Ambiguous
Option: Illustrious
Option: Intimidate
8. Which adjective means outstandingly bad; shocking?
Option: Clandestinely
Option: Egregious
Option: Detainee
Option: Commensurate
9. What verb means to frighten or overawe especially in order to make someone do what you want?
Option: Incarcerated
Option: Opulent
Option: Intimidate
Option: Prosecutorial
10. What does "acclaim" mean?
Option: Acclaim



- Option: Illustrious
- Option: Zenith
- Option: Cultural

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The court _____ the previous judgment due to newly discovered evidence.
12. She became _____ in three languages by the age of 12.
13. The new law acted as a _____ for positive change in the community.
14. The recent economic crisis provided the _____ for reforming financial regulations.
15. His _____ as CEO of the company lasted for over two decades.
16. She spent a _____ summer vacation by the lake surrounded by nature.
17. He was _____ for ten years for a crime he did not commit.
18. The lawyer argued that the new law was not in line with the country's _____ principles.
19. The statue was erected to _____ the soldiers who lost their lives in the war.
20. Reading books can _____ your knowledge and vocabulary.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The message of equality with people around the world.
22. The theory was by extensive research and empirical evidence.
23. After years of hard work she finally reached the of her career.
24. The festival aims to promote and celebrate various traditions.
25. The misconduct led to the dismissal of the case against the defendant.
26. The Red Cross visited the being held at the detention center.



27. The artist believed that creativity was an part of human nature.
28. The defense presented strong evidence that challenged the claims made by the .
29. The company's failure to report the environmental violations was an mistake.
30. The award recognized her career in the field of science.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Exonerated 2. Deliberate 3. Clandestinely 4. Revelation 5. Opulent 6. Ambiguous
7. Illustrious 8. Egregious 9. Intimidate 10. Acclaim

Gap-Fill: 11. vacated 12. proficient 13. catalyst 14. impetus 15. tenure 16. idyllic 17. incarcerated
18. constitutional 19. commemorate 20. enrich

Matching sentence: 1. resonated 2. underpinned 3. zenith 4. cultural 5. prosecutorial 6. detainee 7. intrinsic
8. prosecutors 9. egregious 10. illustrious

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6

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