



# University of North Carolina Students Tear Down Statue of Confederate Soldier, 'Silent Sam'

On Monday Night, a group of about 300 protesters from the University of North Carolina demanded that officials remove a 105-year old Confederate statue, named 'Silent Sam,' and then proceeded to tear it down themselves. Students chanted against the police. Many of the protesters were rallying in solidarity with former UNC student who was facing criminal charges for covering the statue with red paint back in May. The monument was dedicated in memory of those students of the university who served in the armies of the Confederate States of America, but the current students believe the statue is a celebration of "white supremacy." The destruction of monuments also destroys history.

**On Monday evening, a large group of protesters destroyed a 105-year-old Confederate statue named "Silent Sam" standing on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.**

On the evening of August 20, a group of students gathered to demand that university officials remove the statue that has stood since 1913 on McCorkle Place in the university's upper quad. But after several hours of chanting and speaking about

the destruction of the statue, the protesters took the situation into their own hands and tore the monument down, ABC 11 reported.

Many of the protesters were rallying in solidarity with former UNC graduate student Maya Little who was facing expulsion as well as criminal charges for covering the statue with red paint back in May.

Police moved in and began attempting to disperse the crowd but acted far too late to stop the destruction of the monument.

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## **Paul Manafort Found Guilty on Five Tax Fraud Counts and Three Counts of Bank Fraud and Failure to Disclose Accounts**

Jurors in the trial of former Paul Manafort reached a verdict on eight of the 18 counts against the former Trump aide but were unable to reach a decision on the other 10. Manafort was found guilty on all five tax-fraud counts, but the others are

related to his failure to disclose his ownership of foreign bank accounts. Prosecutors claim that he deposited \$65-million into foreign bank accounts between 2010 and 2014 while spending over \$15-million on luxury purchases over the same time frame – including such things as real estate and a \$15,000 ostrich jacket. -GEG

Jurors in the trial of former Paul Manafort have reached a verdict on eight of the 18 counts against the former Trump aide. After a day of passing notes to the Judge, they said they were unable to reach a decision on the other 10.

Manafort was found guilty on all five tax fraud counts, while the other three are related to his failure to disclose foreign bank accounts and bank fraud.

The verdict comes at the end of two and a half weeks of testimony, which included 27 witnesses and 88 documents submitted into evidence. Earlier, the jury asked Judge T.S. Ellis earlier in the day what would happen if they couldn't reach a verdict on a count, and Ellis told them to keep working on it.

"If we cannot come to a consensus for a single count, how can we fill in the verdict sheet?" the jurors asked in the note.

"It is your duty to agree upon a verdict if you can do so," said Ellis, who encouraged each juror to make their own decisions on each count. If some were in the minority on a decision, however, they could think about the other jurors' conclusions.

Give "deference" to each other and "listen to each others' arguments," said Ellis, adding "You're the exclusive judges ... Take all the time which you feel is necessary."

Manafort stands accused of 18 counts of tax evasion, bank fraud and obfuscating foreign bank counts in the first trial brought against him by special counsel Robert Mueller as part of his investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016

election – despite the charges stemming from his work for the then-Ukrainian governing party.

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## **Imran Awan, the Accused Pakistani IT Spy in Congress, Is Let Off With No Prison**

Federal Judge, Tanya Chutkan, chose not to give jail time to former Democratic IT aide, Imran Awan, saying he has “suffered enough”. Instead, he was given three months of supervised release. The Justice Department also gave him a pass despite bank fraud and the inspector general’s finding that Awan made “unauthorized access” to House computers. Awan is at the center of a string of alleged crimes in Pakistan that include a fraudulent real-estate deal, land theft, and threatening his step mother in order to takeover an inheritance from his dead father. In America, he has been accused of bigamy, threatening his wife, and immigration fraud. However, Judge Chutkan says he has suffered enough. -GEG

- Former IT aide Imran Awan received no jail time Tuesday after a federal judge said he had “suffered enough.”
- His lawyer said his “destitute” client was building a charity hospital, but reports show that the land was

also used for a real estate development and was allegedly stolen from farmers.

- Former Democratic chiefs of staff wrote letters of support for Imran, despite IT-violation findings by the House inspector general and Capitol Police.

A federal judge declined to give jail time to former Democratic IT aide Imran Awan Tuesday, saying he has “suffered enough” at the hands of politicians “at the highest levels of government.” In addition, the Department of Justice said it did not find any evidence that supported criminal charges.

Imran choked back tears, saying, “We want to thank the prosecution, the FBI and the Capitol Police,” while his lawyer submitted a letter referring to President Donald Trump, Sen. Chuck Grassley and other Republications as “deranged,” “pathetic” and “without a shred of decency.”

Judge Tanya Chutkan gave Imran three months of supervised release. Imran’s attorney had hoped to avoid the supervision, indicating Imran wanted to go back to Pakistan: “By ending this today, you will allow Hina to build her family wherever she chooses and allow Imran to visit his father’s grave and secure his legacy,” the attorney said.

The lawyer, former Hillary Clinton aide Chris Gowen, said Imran was motivated by love for his father, who was dying in Virginia when Imran flew to Pakistan. Imran, he said, was in a “panic” to get money to urgently build a charity hospital, described in court as a “women’s shelter.” He described the urgent moves as “securing his father’s legacy.”

The story is at odds with a 2009 Pakistani newspaper article, police reports and lawsuits in Pakistan, as well as interviews. Those allege Imran tried to cut others out of a fraud-plagued real estate deal and secure a massive inheritance in the form of a major real estate complex, known as a “colony.”

A dozen farmers accused Imran and his father of stealing their land and subdividing it to build the development. The 2009 article said that Imran used political “muscle” stemming from his job in Congress to attempt to frame his alleged victims. Later, Faisalabad Agricultural University faculty apparently paid for some of those plots, but said that they, too, were ripped off. Dr. Zafar Iqbal, a university professor and president of the faculty association, told TheDCNF that Imran and his father refused to turn over the deeds and that in January 2017, Imran cautioned them that he “has got powerful political connections.”

In addition to two separate groups of victims, the Awans had two partners in this land deal – Rashid Minhas and Shabbir Ahmed – both of whom were allegedly cut out of the partnership. Minhas said that when he went out of town, they seized his share of the proceeds. Ahmed’s widow, Bushra Bibi, said in the 2009 article that, immediately after a car crash killed both Ahmed and the Awans’ mother, Imran threatened her with “dire consequences” to force her to give up her share, and framed her brother-in-law. A support letter submitted by a former aide to Rep. Robert Wexler seemed to contradict the widow’s own statements, claiming “Imran would send money every month to the widow and children of the driver to help take care of them.”

Imran’s stepmother, Samina Gilani, said in Virginia civil court that Imran held her “in captivity” and wiretapped her home in order to force her to give him power of attorney over her dying husband, which would give Imran access to the land as inheritance.

Imran’s sister submitted a letter saying he wanted to “build a school for orphans, a mosque for the village to pray in, and a maternity clinic,” and Imran tearfully asked the judge to “let me walk out of this courtroom to be with my family.”

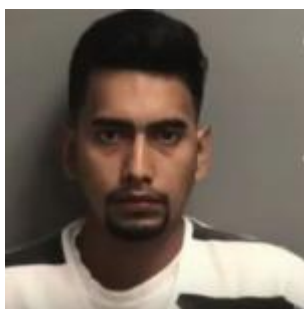
Gowen didn’t note that his co-defendant, fellow former

Democratic aide Hina Alvi, filed a lawsuit against him in Pakistan in September 2017, alleging that he “threatened [her] of dire consequences, he also threatened to harm the lives of family of [Alvi].” The charges against Alvi were dismissed as part of Imran’s plea deal.

That blow-up stemmed in part from Alvi’s anger that Imran was simultaneously married to a second woman in Virginia, Sumaira Siddique. Police records show Siddique called the Virginia police on Imran multiple times in 2016 and that she was found bloodied on one occasion. She called again in July 2016 and said she was being kept “like a slave.” She fled to Pakistan days later, where gunmen shot out the windows of her home, TheDCNF previously reported.

Numerous relatives told TheDCNF that Alvi is Imran’s cousin and that he brought her to the United States immediately after he received citizenship and then married her in Virginia, giving her citizenship, as well.

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## **Illegal Alien Arrested for Murder of Missing College**

# Student Mollie Tibbetts

Iowa: Illegal alien from Mexico, Cristhian Bahena Rivera, has been charged with First Degree Murder for slaying Iowa college student, Mollie Tibbetts. Rivera was apprehended thanks to surveillance footage of him in the area. Police say that Rivera made advances on Tibbetts while she was out jogging and began running alongside her. When she threatened to call the police, the illegal alien says that he “blacked out.”

Illegal alien Cristhian Bahena Rivera has been charged with First Degree Murder for the slaying of Iowa college student Mollie Tibbetts.

The 24-year-old illegal alien has been apprehended thanks to surveillance footage of him in the area.

*“Rivera, a Mexican national, is an undocumented immigrant and led detectives to her body in rural Poweshiek County, according to Iowa investigators,” the Washington Post reports.*

The police say that Rivera had made advances on Tibbetts while she was out jogging and began running alongside her. When she threatened to call the police, the illegal alien says that he “blacked out.”

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# President Trump's Former Attorney Pleads 'Guilty' to Campaign-Finance Fraud, which May Put Trump in Jeopardy

Donald Trump's former personal lawyer and 'fixer,' Michael Cohen, plead guilty to campaign-finance fraud for paying hush money to porn actress, Stormy Daniels, and ex-Playboy model, Karen McDougal. The reason this is considered campaign fraud is that Cohen says he paid the money to the women instead of Trump and that doing so was considered to be a campaign donation – which Cohen failed to report as such. Trump's lawyers contend that the payments were not an indirect campaign donation but an attempt to avoid embarrassment. Other charges to which Cohen pleaded guilty involve bank fraud and income-tax evasion. He faces 46 to 63 months in prison. -GEG

On Tuesday, President Trump's personal attorney Michael Cohen surrendered to the FBI after reaching a plea deal with federal prosecutors in the Southern District of New York. Cohen is scheduled to appear in court at 4 PM ET today. According to advance reports, he will be charged with multiple counts of campaign finance violations, tax fraud and bank fraud. *The New York Times* explains:

*For months, prosecutors in New York have been scrutinizing him for those crimes and focusing on his role in helping to arrange financial deals to secure the silence of women who said they had affairs with Mr. Trump.*

Women, as in plural; the only woman we know Trump paid off via Cohen thus far was Stormy Daniels.

Given the information at our disposal thus far, Cohen could be pleading guilty to campaign finance violations for one of two reasons: either he gave an in-kind contribution to the campaign by handing cash to Trump's former lovers in advance of the election without implicating Trump, or he did so and implicated Trump. If the latter, Trump would be exposed to the possibility of a John Edwards-like prosecution; Edwards, you'll recall, was a 2008 Democratic presidential candidate who had his donors pay off his lover, Rielle Hunter, to keep her quiet during the campaign. He was prosecuted, but the jury hung, and the charges were dropped.

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