

Trump

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He was photographed walking into a building that houses both the criminal courts and the Manhattan district attorney's office around 6:20 a.m. Thursday. He was led into court in the afternoon with his hands cuffed behind his back.

Weisselberg's lawyers, Mary Mulligan and Bryan Skarlatos, said in a statement before his appearance that the executive would "fight these charges in court." Skarlatos later said Dunne's remarks were misleading in regard to his client.

Weisselberg was ordered to surrender his passport after prosecutors called him a flight risk with access to private jets for foreign travel. He was released without bail, however, and left the courthouse without commenting to assembled reporters.

A lieutenant to generations of Trumps, Weisselberg has intimate knowledge of the former president's business dealings and the case could give prosecutors the means to pressure him into cooperating with an ongoing probe into other aspects of the company's business.

So far, though, there's no sign that the man regarded by Trump's daughter Ivanka as a "fiercely loyal" deputy who's "stood alongside my father and our family" for decades will suddenly turn on them.

In a statement Thursday, the Trump Organization defended Weisselberg, saying the 48-year employee was being used by Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr.'s office as "a pawn in a scorched-earth attempt to harm the former president."

"This is not justice; this is politics," the Trump Organization said, arguing that neither the IRS nor any other district attorney would ever think of bringing such charges over employee benefits.

Trump, a Republican, did not respond to reporters' shouted questions about the case as he visited Texas on Wednesday. Earlier in the week, he blasted New York prosecutors as "rude, nasty, and totally biased" and said his company's actions were "standard practice throughout the U.S. business community, and in no way a crime."

In court, Trump Organization lawyer Alan Futerfas said Dunne's remarks sounded like a "press release," but didn't comment further.

Vance declined to comment on the case as he arrived at the courthouse Thursday, saying only "See you all at 2:15" — a reference to Weisselberg's expected arraignment time.



John Minchillo/AP

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. arrives Thursday at New York State supreme court in New York.

Vance, who leaves office at the end of the year, has been conducting a wide-ranging investigation into a variety of matters involving Trump and the Trump Organization, such as hush-money payments paid to women on Trump's behalf and truthfulness in property valuations and tax assessments, among other matters.

Vance fought a long battle to get Trump's tax records and has been subpoenaing documents and interviewing company executives and other Trump insiders.

James assigned two lawyers from her office to work with Vance's team on the criminal probe while continuing her own civil investigation.

Weisselberg, an intensely private man who lived for years in a modest home on Long Island, came under scrutiny of Vance's investigators, in part, because of questions about his son's use of a Trump apartment at little or no cost.

Barry Weisselberg, who managed a Trump-operated ice rink in Central Park, testified in a 2018 divorce deposition that the Trump Parc East apartment was a "corporate apartment, so we didn't have rent."

Barry's ex-wife, Jen Weisselberg, has been cooperating with both inquiries and given investigators reams of tax records and other documents. In March, she told The New Yorker that some compensation for Trump Organization executives came in the form of apartments and other items and that "only a small part of your salary is reported."

The Trump Organization is the business entity through which the former president manages his many entrepreneurial affairs, including his investments in office towers, hotels and golf courses, his many

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marketing deals and his television pursuits. Trump's sons Donald Jr. and Eric have been in charge of the company's day-to-day operations since he became president.

James Repetti, a tax lawyer and professor at Boston College Law School, said a company like the Trump Organization would generally have a responsibility to withhold taxes not just on salary, but other forms of compensation — like the use of an apartment or automobile.

Such perks wouldn't be considered taxable income if they were required as a condition of employment, Repetti said, such as providing an apartment for the convenience of an employee who is required to be at the office or worksite at odd or frequent hours, or allowing the use of a car for business purposes.

Another prominent New York City real estate figure, the late Leona Helmsley, was convicted of tax fraud in a federal case that arose from her company paying to remodel her home without her reporting that as income.

The Trump Organization case involves possible violations of New York state tax laws.

"The IRS routinely looks for abuse of fringe benefits when auditing closely held businesses," Repetti said. "The

temptation for the business is that it claims a tax deduction for the expense, while the recipient does not report it in income."

Michael Cohen, the former Trump lawyer who's been cooperating with Vance's investigation, wrote in his book "Disloyal," that Trump and Weisselberg were "past masters at allocating expenses that related to non-business matters and finding a way to categorize them so they weren't taxed."

Weisselberg first started working for Trump's real estate-developer father, Fred, after answering a newspaper ad for a staff accountant in 1973, working his way up.

Keeping a low profile — aside from a 2004 appearance as a guest judge on Trump's reality TV show "The Apprentice" — Weisselberg was barely mentioned in news articles before Trump started running for president and questions arose about the boss' finances and charity.

Cohen said Weisselberg was the one who decided how to secretly reimburse him for a \$130,000 payment to porn actress Stormy Daniels. The finance chief made headlines again when it was revealed that his signature appeared on one of the reimbursement checks.

Barbara Res, who oversaw the construction of Manhattan's Trump Tower, says she was surprised to learn about the seemingly large role Weisselberg has played in Trump's business. She recalls him years ago just collecting rent, paying bills and doing Trump's taxes.

"He was the chief accountant, but he wasn't in the inner circle. He would come in with his head down, 'Yes, Mr. Trump. No, Mr. Trump,'" Res said. "He's the only person I knew who would call him Mr. Trump. Now he's a big shot."

Cooler

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Now, there's a stuff-toting machine that doubles as an autonomous cooler designed to follow you around the pool or backyard with a dozen cans of beer.

The Dutch brewing company Heineken recently unveiled the "Beer Outdoor Transporter" — a branding concept cooler that uses motion sensors to trail behind its owner. The company launched an online raffle on Thursday for people who want to own one.

While it can't apply your sunscreen, blow off the sand from the beach or cook your Independence Day hot dogs, it seemingly solves one issue.

"Nobody loves lugging around like a giant cooler and sweating in the 100-degree heat," said Joshua Egan, brand director at Heineken USA. It was built around a "charming" AI personality and was shown this summer to mark the nation's return to semi-normalcy after gatherings last summer were discouraged due to the coronavirus. It was also unveiled to draw attention to the brand's new beer can design, as the beverage category faces increasing competition from hard seltzers.

It doesn't have to house Heineken products. The robot is constructed to tote around ice, so you could seemingly use any beverage you'd want to keep cold.

The robot looks like a mix between WALL-E, the animated waste-collecting droid from Pixar films, and a traditional green garbage truck.

It's about knee-high, sits on six wheels and can talk to its owner. "Down here! I'm the cooler with wheels," the droid can say.

In the front is a touch screen and a series of cameras and sensors to help it avoid obstacles. At the rear, there's a cooler backpack, branded with Heineken's logo. The company won't reveal how many it's making, only that it worked over the past several months to get it built. Winners will be announced within the next week, and the product will ship from Los Angeles soon after. It hasn't mentioned plans to sell the robot beyond that.

The new beer robot serves a similar purpose to one already on the market, and another that took the internet by storm. Gita, a two-wheel robotic vehicle by Piaggio Fast Forward, carries up to 40 pounds of cargo around big cities today. It's expensive, costing \$3,250, but it's the first consumer robot in the U.S. with such functionality. In April, a YouTuber gave Boston Dynamics' robotic dog Spot the ability to pee beer into a red cup. A video of the project went viral, reaching more than 100 million views.

Heineken's robot can't do that. But it seems to be capable of rolling through grass, over boardwalks and on concrete with ease. It doesn't have legs, so it can't travel smoothly up staircases. That means, depending on where you're going, you may still need to pick it up. And it's kind of heavy, weighing 70 pounds before you add the ice or drinks.

Astoria

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"It's great to see the kids at the top throwing off airplanes again," Pynes said. "You can hear the adults, too ... It feels great to be getting back to normal."

The "airplanes" are the balsa wood gliders sold for a dollar each in the gift shop next to the Column. Thousands of gliders are sold each year.

Shawn and Lorrie Taylor were two of the many people who made the trip up Coxcomb Hill since the Column's reopening. The couple moved to Astoria last year, but hadn't been inside and atop the monument in

over two decades. When they heard about the reopening, they came back to get a view from the top. This time, Shawn Taylor brought a glider to throw off the viewing deck.

"The view is just stunning," Taylor said while glancing out at the peaks in the distance.

Pynes and Van Dusen pointed to the history and significance the Column brings to Astoria, and are grateful that it is reopened to the hundreds of thousands of visitors it draws every year.

"The Astoria Column is our logo," Van Dusen said. "It is a wonderful piece of art, along with a nice monument and a beautiful story. We just hope everyone can enjoy it."

Darigold

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"It's a deeper commitment from the state's largest co-op to dairy in Washington State," said Dan Wood, executive director of the Washington State Dairy Federation. "A couple hundred direct jobs, another thousand support jobs, which is major economic development. It just underscores how important dairy is to the state economy."

The federation wasn't involved in the process, Wood said. The organization knew a plant would be somewhere in central or southeast Washington, but learned the location at the same time as the public.

Port commissioners approved the sale of roughly 150 acres of the Reimann Indus-

trial Center to Darigold during a special commission meeting Thursday.

Darigold intends to bring the new facility online in the fall of 2023, according to a port press release.

Darigold expects to process up to 8 million pounds of milk per day in the new facility, said Taffine Laylin, leader of sustainability communications and social engagement for the company. The operation will produce specialized products that can't be made in any of the company's other plants.

More than 50% of the facility's finished product is intended for export, with an emphasis on the Pacific Rim.

Darigold will deploy anaerobic digestion technology as part of the on-site wastewater treatment strategy and use the

extracted methane as a natural gas substitute, reducing fossil fuel use, according to a company press release. This will be complemented by machinery that enables heat and energy recovery and reuse.

In addition, the new infra-

structure is designed to accommodate future electric vehicles, including a potential conversion of Darigold's large fleet of semi-trucks — further reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation, the company says.

DEATH NOTICES

Barbara Marie Simpson of Bend, OR
Nov 20, 1938 - June 23, 2021

Arrangements:
Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. 541-382-2471 Please visit the online registry for the family at www.niswonger-reynolds.com
Services:
A family gathering will be held at a later date
Contributions may be made to:
Susan G. Koman Foundation or Humane Society of Central Oregon 61170 SE 27th St, Bend, OR 97702.

Briana L. Stafford of Bend, OR
April 12, 1989 - June 15, 2021

Arrangements:
Autumn Funerals, Bend 541-318-0842 www.autumnfunerals.net
Services:
A Celebration of Life service will be announced at a later date

Leroy Wesley Twiggs of Bend, OR
September 22, 1935 - June 12, 2021

Arrangements:
Autumn Funerals-Redmond is honored to serve the family. 541-504-9485. Condolences may be conveyed to the family at www.autumnfunerals.net
Services:
Racetrack Friends, local friends and family: we are going to have a get-together at the Twiggs Ranch on Sun., July 18th. Please stop by between 10am-4pm if you have time for a visit.

Sylvia Sanchez Delgadillo of La Pine, OR
November 16, 1933 - June 27, 2021

Arrangements:
Baird Memorial Chapel of La Pine is honored to serve the Delgadillo family. Please visit our website, www.bairdfh.com, to share condolences and sign the online guestbook.

OBITUARY DEADLINE

Call to ask about our deadlines.

Monday - Friday, 10am - 3pm.

No death notices or obituaries are published Mondays.

When submitting, please include your name, address and contact number.

Phone: 541-385-5809 • Email: obits@bendbulletin.com

OBITUARY

DONALD LEONARD LEE FREITAS

March 7, 1930 - June 23, 2021

Donald Freitas was born in Selma, California to Antone and Mary (Souza) Freitas. He grew up in the Fresno farm area as one of 7 boys. He claimed he had to learn to eat fast just to survive!

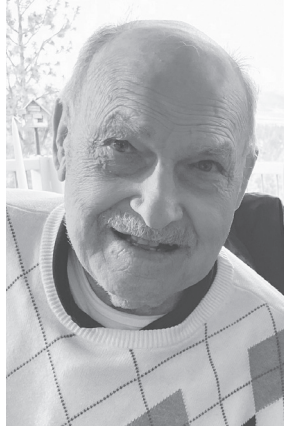
Don worked at a food processing plant in Lemoore, California. He married his first wife Betty and they had a son, Edward Anthony Freitas, and a daughter, Donna Badashi.

Don married Theola Hunter Grimshaw in 1980, retired, and moved to Bend in 1985. He and Theola, his wife of 40 years, enjoyed many happy years in Central Oregon fishing, traveling in their motor home, and golfing at both Bend Golf Club and Quail Run Golf Course where they were members for many years.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents and 5 of his brothers (Clarence, Raymond, Joe, Tony, & Frank Freitas). Don is survived by his loving wife Theola, brother John Freitas, son Ed (Lori) Freitas, daughter Donna (William) Badashi and 5 grandchildren. Theola's family will also miss Don's smile and dry sense of humor. They include Theola's son, Edward (Jackie) Grimshaw, granddaughter Sheri (Josh) Yeargin, and triplet grandchildren William, Drew, and Allie Yeargin.

At Don's request, no services will be held. He will be interred at Deschutes Memorial Gardens here in Bend, Oregon. Arrangements were made by Baird Funeral Home of Bend. Please visit their website www.bairdfh.com to share condolences and sign the online guest book.

The family requests that contributions be made to the charity of your choice in Don's memory.



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