

## Trump's Team Blasts His Lawyer as 'Dumb' 'Loudmouth'

Joe Tacopina "pisses off others with his antics, but he's a blunt object that Donald Trump wants, apparently," one source says

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Global Research, April 04, 2023

Rolling Stone 2 April 2023

Region: <u>USA</u>

Theme: <u>Law and Justice</u>

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**Donald Trump** hasn't surrendered to authorities yet. But his lawyers are already fighting — with themselves.

Days after the former president's indictment at the hands of Manhattan prosecutor **Alvin Bragg**, some of Trump's lawyers are taking aim at **Joe Tacopina**, his co-lead defense attorney in the Bragg case.

A source familiar with the matter and another person close to Trump tell *Rolling Stone* that a number of Trump's other current lawyers have privately described Tacopina as "dumb" and a "loudmouth."

Tacopina is no stranger to made-for-tabloid drama: He has a lengthy track record of repping high-profile clients, such as Meek Mill and baseball legend Alex Rodriguez, as well as securing hard-to-land wins. But he's also had some equally high-profile flameouts, including an acrimonious parting with his ex-client, former New York City Police Commissioner Bernie Kerik.

In recent days, as a Trump attorney, Tacopina has also become a more and more familiar face on cable television — and not always to the ex-president's benefit. During a recent appearance on Ari Melber's *The Beat*, for example, Tacopina tried to grab a piece of paper held by the MSNBC host during the heated exchange. Tacopina also defended Trump's denial of paying off porn star Stormy Daniels to keep her quiet about an alleged affair, albeit in a somewhat unique way: Insisting that the denial wasn't a lie as it wasn't made under oath.

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