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### **No Ordinary Jury Selection Process In Trump Criminal Case**

Camarillo, Calif. (April 15, 2024)—Prosecutors and defense attorneys in Donald Trump’s criminal case are facing challenges that go beyond the issues in a typical celebrity-involved trial, says [Dr. Noelle Nelson](#), a Southern California trial consultant who provides trial and jury strategies to attorneys and is the author of [“A Winning Case”](#) and [“Connecting With Your Client.”](#)

“This case has celebrity and political elements never seen before in a criminal case,” says Nelson. “It is the rule of law that the jury must be fair and impartial. It is the legal obligation of the attorneys on both sides that the jurors they select don’t have extreme opinions. The question is how to make sure rules are followed and those selected are truly impartial?”

Nelson says that attorneys must look at prospective jurors’ body language. “People tell lies to get on or get off a jury,” she notes. “Body language typically doesn’t lie.”

Nelson says she expects that during *voir dire*, some prospective jurors will not be forthcoming about their feelings toward the ex-president. “They may say they can be unbiased toward Trump, when in fact, they cannot,” she says. “To get to the truth, during questions involving the former president, for example, observe if jurors fold their arms across their body, indicating defensiveness, or in this case, probable dislike. Do prospective jurors sit or lean forward in their chairs during questioning? If so, these actions most likely indicate heightened positive interest in him.”

Another physical mannerism to observe, Nelson says, is to see if jurors seem to “preen” in the presence of the defendant; fuss with their hair or clothing or sit up straight. “A juror who wants to look good in his presence may show preference in his favor.”

Who are the best kinds of jurors for Trump’s trial? Nelson says, “Prospective jurors who do not react strongly verbally or physically when discussing or viewing him are most likely not going to let his celebrity and political status get in the way of their duties.”

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