

# AMY BERMAN JACKSON RULES THAT MANAFORT LIED ABOUT POSSIBLE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY RELATED TO DONALD TRUMP'S CAMPAIGN

Amy Berman Jackson has issued her ruling on whether Paul Manafort breached his plea agreement. She ruled that, for the purposes of acceptance of responsibility, Mueller's team proved he had lied on three of the five topics they laid out: about his kickback scheme with a SuperPAC that was probably illegally coordinating with Trump's campaign, about another investigation pertaining to someone's efforts to save Trump's candidacy, and when Manafort claimed he didn't hand Konstantin Kilimnik polling data on the same day they talked about sanctions relief.

I. OSC has established by a preponderance of the evidence that defendant intentionally made false statements to the FBI, the OSC, and the grand jury concerning the payment by Firm A to the law firm, a matter that was material to the investigation. See *United States v. Moore*, 612 F.3d 698, 701 (D.C. Cir. 2010).

II. OSC has failed to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that on October 16, 2018, defendant intentionally made false statements concerning Kilimnik's role in the obstruction of justice conspiracy.

III. OSC has established by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant intentionally made multiple false statements to the FBI, the OSC, and the grand jury concerning matters

that were material to the investigation:  
his interactions and communications with  
Kilimnik.

IV. OSC has established by a  
preponderance of the evidence that on  
October 5, 2018, the defendant  
intentionally made false statements that  
were material to another DOJ  
investigation.

V. OSC has failed to establish by a  
preponderance of the evidence that on  
October 16, 2018, defendant  
intentionally made a false statement  
concerning his contacts with the  
administration.

That she didn't rule that he had lied on the  
other two doesn't help him much. While he tried  
to walk back his admission that he conspired  
with suspected GRU-asset Konstantin Kilimnik on  
witness tampering last year, ABJ effectively  
just ruled his efforts to walk back that guilty  
plea were only half-hearted.

And while prosecutors didn't prove he lied about  
ongoing communications with Trump, they also  
didn't show all their cards there, withholding  
some of the other communications they know  
about. Effectively, though, ABJ has just ruled  
that Manafort breached his plea agreement  
because he continues to lie about possible  
criminal activity related to Trump's campaign.

Mind you, Manafort may not mind this outcome,  
much. After all, according to Andrew Weissmann,  
he lied (especially about sharing polling data)  
because he figured it was his best hope for a  
pardon. Admitting to the full details about the  
polling data he shared with the intent it be  
passed on to his Ukrainian and Russian  
paymasters, according to Weissman, "would have,  
I think, negative consequences in terms of the  
other motive that Mr. Manafort could have, which  
is to at least augment his chances for a  
pardon."

So he may be sentenced to 20 years next month,  
but so long as he continues to lie about the  
crimes committed during Trump's campaign, he  
might get a pardon.