

Trump's Personal, Racially Tinged Attacks on Federal Judge Alarm Legal Experts

Donald Trump's attacks on a federal judge overseeing a pair of lawsuits against him have set off a wave of alarm among legal experts, who worry that the Republican presidential candidate's vendetta signals a remarkable disregard for judicial independence, reports *The Washington Post*.

Jose A. DelReal and **Katie Zezima** say that attitude, many argue, could carry constitutional implications if Trump becomes president.

U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who is handling two class-action lawsuits against Trump University in San Diego, has been a Trump target since the judge ordered the release of embarrassing internal documents detailing predatory marketing practices at the for-profit educational venture; that case is set to go to trial after the November election.

"Having a presidential candidate embroiled in litigation totally unrelated to the political system . . . that is what is so novel about this. And then you add to this the personal criticism," Arthur Hellman, a law professor at the University of Pittsburgh, told the *Post*. "It's personal all the way, and that's what makes this different."

Read the article.