

NY court nixes Fox News' bid to end voting tech firm's suit

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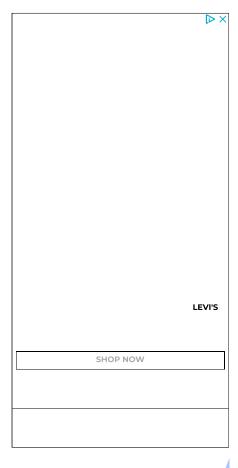
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NEW YORK (AP) — A New York appeals court on Tuesday rejected Fox News' bid to shut down a multibillion-dollar defamation lawsuit accusing the network of spreading lies that a voting-technology company helped "steal" the 2020 election from then-U.S. President Donald Trump.

A five-judge panel ruled unanimously against the network, host Maria Bartiromo and former host Lou Dobbs. They said they were simply reporting the news when they broadcast unsupported claims from Trump lawyers Rudy Giuliani and Sidney Powell about Smartmatic USA. The claims were false.

The state Supreme Court's Appellate Division, a mid-level appeals court, said there were "significant allegations" that Giuliani and Powell defamed the company.

"The complaint alleges in detailed fashion that in their coverage and commentary, Fox News, Dobbs, and Bartiromo effectively endorsed and participated in the statements with reckless disregard for, or serious doubts about" whether there was any reliable evidence for them, the judges wrote. They also reinstated similar claims against Fox News host Jeanine Pirro, claims a lower court had thrown out.



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Fox News had argued that it and its hosts did what the media do and the First Amendment protects: inform the public about newsworthy, if controversial, claims that an important figure was making about a matter of public concern.



Smartmatic maintained that Fox News can't claim free speech protections for inviting guests to circulate damning falsehoods, without evidence, as part of what the voting company calls a "disinformation campaign."

Federal and state election officials, exhaustive reviews in battleground states and Trump's own attorney general found no widespread fraud that could have changed the outcome of the 2020 election. Nor did they uncover any credible evidence that the vote was tainted. Trump's allegations of

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To be fair, it's more of a nonservice issue that has the cable and internet company's customers (and maybe the FCC) angry.



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WTI	78.96	-1.27	-1.58%	MAR 2023	
Brent	85.44	-1.17	-1.35%	APR 2023	
Natural Gas (Nymex)	2.557	+0.152	+6.32%	MAR 2023	
U.S. RIG COUNT FO	OR FEBRUA	ARY 10, 2023:			
				Year ago Total 02/11/2022	
Rig Count	609	150	761	635	
Change from previous week	+10	-8	+2		
RIGS PER BASIN F	OR FEBRU	ARY 10, 2023:			
		Total	Ne	Change +/- from last week	
Barnett		1		-1	
Cana Woodford		27		+2	
DJ-Niobrara		16		0	

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