

ABC's *Good Morning America*

06/05/2024

7:00:58 a.m. [TEASE]

9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: This Morning; Hunter Biden on Trial]

WHIT JOHNSON: Hunter Biden on trial. His case on gun charges expected to get deeply personal, with the first member of the Biden family expected to take the stand.

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07:13:46 a.m.

2 minutes and 23 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Hunter Biden on Trial: First Family Member Expected to Take Stand as Soon as Today]

WHIT JOHNSON: We turn now to the Hunter Biden gun trial. Lawyers gave opening statements and called the first witnesses yesterday. A Biden family member could take the stand today. Senior national correspondent Terry Moran is at the courthouse in Wilmington, Delaware. Terry, good morning.

TERRY MORAN: Good morning, Whit. Because Hunter Biden is the President's son, this case is seen as political by many, but for the Biden family, who so many American families have been caught up in the world with drug abuse and guns, this is personal and painful. This morning, Hunter Biden is back in court facing felony gun charges and first up today more testimony from an FBI agent and the first member of the Biden family will take the witness stand, Hallie Biden. Hallie was married to Hunter's older brother, Beau, until his death from brain cancer in 2015. Months later, she and Hunter Biden began a romantic relationship and it's Hallie who was exchanging text messages with Hunter in 2018 at the time he purchased the gun. Prosecutors say that evidence is backed up by Hunter's own memoir *Beautiful Things* excerpts of which were played in court.

HUNTER BIDEN: I returned that fall of 2018 after my most recent relapse in California with the hope of getting clean through therapy and recognizing with Hallie. Neither happened.

MORAN: Whether Hunter Biden was abusing drugs at the time of the gun purchase is the critical question in this case. Prosecutors alleged Biden knowingly lied when he filled out this form and therefore illegally obtained the gun. Defense lawyer Abbe Lowell told jurors evidence will show that Hunter Biden was using alcohol at that time but not drugs. During testimony the jurors saw these angry text messages between Hunter and Hallie Biden after she found Hunter's gun and threw it in a trash can. Hunter texting, "Did you take that from me? You're being totally irresponsible and unhinged." Hallie responding, "I just want you safe, that was not safe." Prosecutors are using a portrait of Hunter Biden the crack addict using images and text messages

obtained from his laptop including a video where he is using a Tom mark holding a crack pipe. As well as passages from his memoir.

BIDEN: I used my superpower finding crack anytime, anywhere.

MORAN: Defense lawyers say that they plan to call members of the Biden family who can present eyewitness testimony and paint a different picture of that troubled time in Hunter's life.
Robin

ROBIN ROBERTS: Alright, Terry, our thanks to you.