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News

Mo Brooks gets arrest warrant for man who served lawsuit on his wife

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In a screenshot from security video at the Huntsville home of U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks, his wife Martha pursues after a man serving a lawsuit on June 6, 2021. The Brooks maintain the server trespassed because he entered the home's garage and filed a complaint with police.

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By **Paul Gattis** pgattis@al.com

U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks said Wednesday his wife has sworn out an arrest warrant for the man who served a lawsuit at their Huntsville home on June 6.

The Brooks have said they would seek the warrant for misdemeanor criminal trespassing after the process server entered the garage as his wife was returning home.

Brooks' wife, Martha, [filed a police report](#) immediately after the incident.

An attorney for Democratic California Congressman Eric Swalwell, who named Brooks as a defendant the lawsuit being served, has said there was nothing illegal or inappropriate about the service. In response, Brooks released the home security video of the process server appearing to enter the garage.

Christian Seklecki, in an affidavit of service, said that he served the lawsuit on Martha Brooks after entering the open garage door.

Brooks later issued a press release from his congressional office announcing that the warrant had been sworn out.

“Mo and I take our security very seriously, as do all families,” Martha Brooks said in the press release. “My hope is that my actions today will cause the process server to think twice before illegally invading the sanctity of someone else’s home, and put those who would threaten our security on notice that we will pursue illegal actions to the fullest extent of the law.”

Brooks said in the press release, “Congressman Eric Swalwell lied in his politically motivated, meritless lawsuit against President Donald Trump and me when he falsely claimed I incited the January 6 Capitol violence. Swalwell’s attorneys lied again when they strutted in front of the news media like peacocks in heat and falsely accused me of avoiding Swalwell’s lawsuit service when the fact is they could have served me roughly a hundred times before, during or after both Swalwell and I voted together on the House floor, or served me by U.S. Mail to my home address. In fact, when they finally got serious about serving me with the lawsuit, they served me not once, not twice, but three times, all within one week! So much for avoiding service or being difficult to find!”

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The case has been turned over to the Madison County district attorney’s office. DA Rob Broussard said last week that extradition would not be sought of Seklecki, who is based in Atlanta, given the nature of the charge. The warrant could be served, however, if Seklecki returned to Huntsville.

“I ask Eric Swalwell to do the honorable thing and turn his teammate into Alabama authorities so that justice may be served and he can face the consequences of his criminal actions,” Brooks said in the press

[Brooks is a defendant in the federal lawsuit](#) brought by Swalwell relating to the siege of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Other defendants are former President Donald Trump, his son Donald Trump Jr. and his attorney Rudy Giuliani. All three waived service of the lawsuit several weeks ago and have already filed motions to have a judge dismiss the lawsuit.

The service of the lawsuit on Brooks emerged as an issue when Swalwell's attorneys asked the federal judge in the District of Columbia, where the lawsuit was filed, for an extension of time to serve Brooks. The filing said that [Brooks was avoiding service of the lawsuit](#) and had rebuffed efforts to arrange service or to waive service. The filing also said a private investigator hired to serve Brooks could not locate him.

Brooks denied he had done anything to avoid service and then [began taunting Swalwell and the lawsuit on Twitter](#). Brooks particularly took amusement in the fact that he has been in public throughout the state for months as part of his Senate campaign launched in March.

Updated today, June 16, 2021, at 6:56 a.m. with comments from Mo Brooks and Martha Brooks.

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