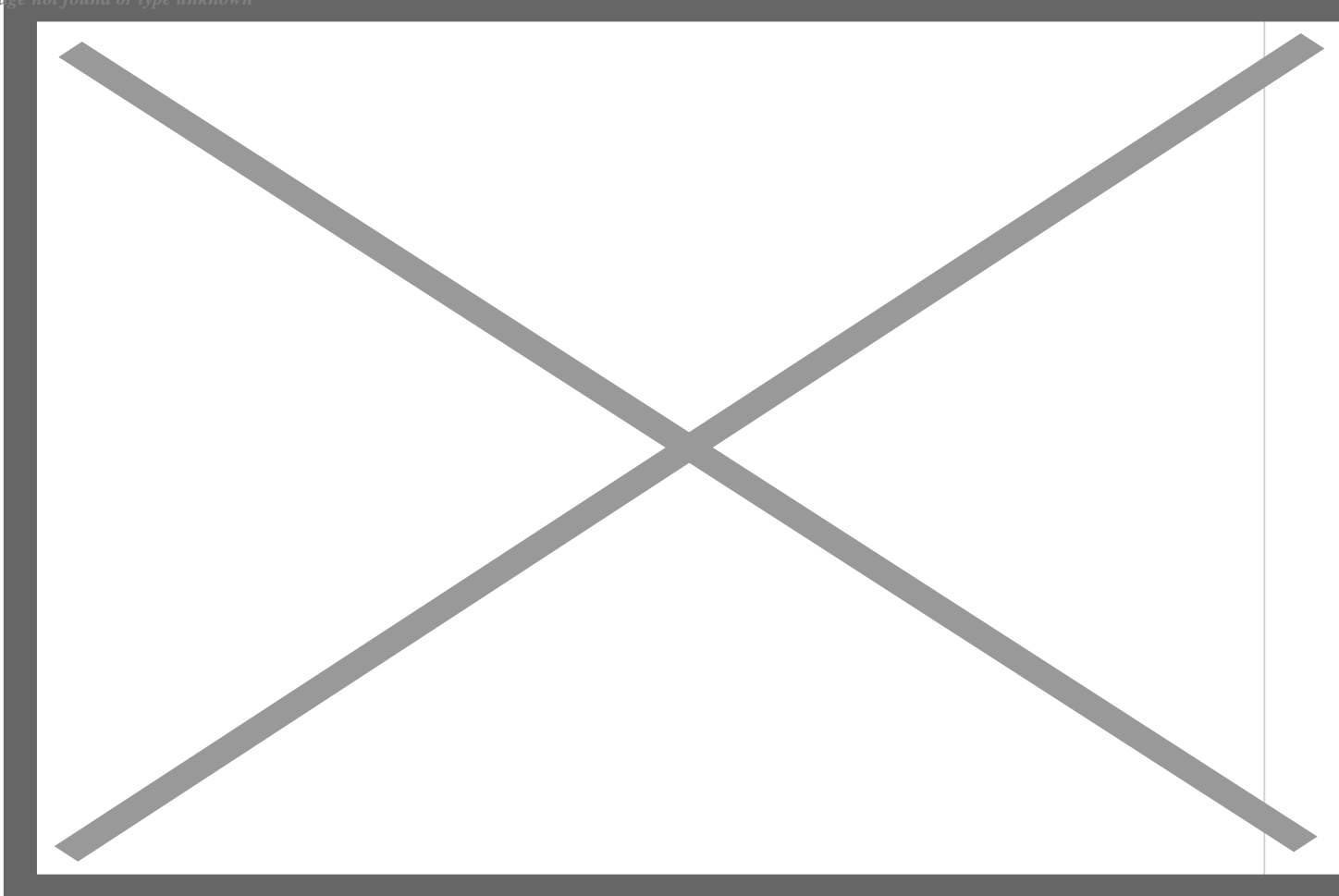


Trump prepares to announce 2024 presidential campaign bid

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Former President Donald Trump arrives at a rally in Sioux City, Iowa, November 3 [Charlie Neibergall/AP Photo]

Sioux City, November 5 (RHC)-- Former President Donald J. Trump is expected to announce a third White House campaign soon after the midterms, possibly as soon as the week of November 14th, according to people familiar with the planning.

Advisors cautioned that no final decisions had been made and that the former president could change his mind on the details. The potential announcement date was first reported by Axios. Trump has reportedly

been eager to launch a new campaign, in part to shield himself from a stream of investigations, including some focused on his attempts to cling to power after losing the 2020 election. Several of those investigations are expected to heat up after the midterms.

On Thursday night, Trump opened a swing of four rallies in the final five days of the midterm elections in Iowa, where he was joined by Senator Chuck Grassley, an Iowa Republican seeking an eighth consecutive six-year term. His Iowa stop highlighted both the power and the limitations of his political brand as he inches closer to announcing another presidential campaign.

Even though he is not on the ballot this year and his stump speech is spent mostly rehashing old grievances and policies, Donald Trump still drew thousands on a night when temperatures dipped below 40 degrees. But the fact that he was campaigning in this remote stretch of a state that remains far down the list of midterm battlegrounds was a reflection of Trump's political baggage.

In the five states with tossup Senate races, according to Cook Political Report, Trump has not held rallies in two — Georgia or Wisconsin — since the primary season ended. He'll visit just one of those tossup states, Pennsylvania, in his final four rallies. He's scheduled to campaign in Florida and Ohio this weekend.

In Iowa, wearing black gloves and a matching overcoat, Mr. Trump spoke at length about the possibility of his own potential campaign before bringing to the stage Grassley and Gov. Kim Reynolds, the two candidates he was in the state to promote. "In order to make our country successful and safe and glorious, I will very, very, very probably do it again," he said of another presidential bid. "Very, very, very, probably."

The crowd erupted in applause and chants of "Trump! Trump! Trump!" "Get ready — that's all I'm telling you," Trump said. "Very soon."

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