

- Sean Patrick Maloney determined that if Democrats “become a party of elite-elites, there death awaits.”
- Despite his comments, Sean Patrick Maloney lives a luxurious lifestyle.
 - Going against CDC guidance, Sean Patrick Maloney vacationed in Europe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Sean Patrick Maloney “partied maskless at a billionaire’s estate in France.”
 - Despite telling his constituents to stay home, Sean Patrick Maloney spent thousands on travel related expenses during the same time period.
 - Sean Patrick Maloney attended a Napa Valley Democrat fundraiser, where donors paid as much as \$29,000 to attend the “elite soirée.”
 - Sean Patrick Maloney’s 2014 wedding was described as “lavish,” and “ostentatious” during “a time when some elected officials avoid lavish displays of wealth,” and invited guests included Nancy Pelosi, Bill and Hillary Clinton, and pop singer Joan Osborne.
 - The local sheriff’s office spent thousands of taxpayer dollars to provide Maloney-requested security for his wedding.
 - On their wedding registry, Maloney and Florke requested landscaping gifts from their guests so the couple could decorate their seven-acre property.
 - Maloney’s wedding was at his home, described as a “4,700-square-foot-mansion” that can be rented “for a mere \$30,000 a month.”
- The Sean Patrick Maloney-led DCCC has a record of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on private jets, foreign travel, new office furniture, and flowers.
 - One Democratic staffer described Maloney as “high-maintenance,” and questioned if he wanted to win races or have nice things.

Maloney: “If we become a party of elite-elites, there death awaits”

In June 2022, the New York Times reported that Sean Patrick Maloney determined that if Democrats “become a party of elite-elites, there death awaits:”

- In June 2022, the New York Times reported that Sean Patrick Maloney determined that if Democrats “become a party of elite-elites, there death awaits.” “The problem, says Lis Smith, a Democratic communications strategist who most recently worked for Pete Buttigieg’s 2020 presidential campaign, is that ‘in today’s world, what happens on Twitter or in a D-plus-40 district doesn’t stay there. It travels to every race across the country.’ And it inherently limits the appeal of Democrats in those races. ‘If we become a party of the elite-elites, there death awaits,’ says Representative Sean Patrick Maloney of New York, who heads the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (D.C.C.C.), the House Democrats’ campaign arm, pointing to the influence of college activists. ‘We’ll all agree

with each other right into extinction.” (Jason Zengerle, “The Vanishing Moderate Democrat,” [The New York Times Magazine](#), 6/29/22)

European Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Despite lecturing Americans not to travel during the pandemic, Sean Patrick Maloney traveled to France, where he “partied maskless at a billionaire’s estate,” and Italy – “in violation of U.S. health and safety guidelines:”

- **Despite lecturing Americans to follow CDC guidelines during the pandemic, Sean Patrick Maloney traveled to France.** “The chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee defied State Department guidelines by traveling to France this month. That didn’t stop him from lecturing Americans about the importance of following federal health and safety protocols. ‘We all have to do our part to crush this virus,’ Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (D., N.Y.) wrote on Aug. 14, in the middle of his maskless European vacation. ‘Get your shot, wear a mask, and follow CDC guidelines. It’s just the right thing to do.’” (Matthew Foldi and Andrew Stiles, “DCCC Chairman Partied Maskless at Billionaire’s Estate in France After State Dept. Issued ‘Do Not Travel’ Warning,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 8/24/21)
 - **Maloney’s vacation was described as a “luxurious jaunt on the French Riviera.”** “‘We all have to do our part to crush this virus,’ Maloney wrote during his luxurious jaunt on the French Riviera. ‘Get your shot, wear a mask, and follow CDC guidelines. It’s just the right thing to do.’” (Washington Free Beacon Staff, “The Worst of Sean Patrick Maloney,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 5/21/22)
- **“In August, the DCCC chair partied maskless at a billionaire’s estate in France, even as he and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urged Americans to wear masks.”** (Washington Free Beacon Staff, “The Worst of Sean Patrick Maloney,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 5/21/22)
- **Maloney’s vacation was “in violation of U.S. health and safety guidelines.”** A Washington Free Beacon investigation of the Instagram accounts of Maloney and his husband, Randy Florke, found that the power couple’s trip in France was in violation of U.S. health and safety guidelines. The State Department’s website is unequivocal: ‘Do not travel to France due to COVID-19.’” (Matthew Foldi and Andrew Stiles, “DCCC Chairman Partied Maskless at Billionaire’s Estate in France After State Dept. Issued ‘Do Not Travel’ Warning,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 8/24/21)
- **During the same time period, Maloney traveled to Italy, “even though the State Department has recommended that Americans ‘reconsider travel’ to the country because of COVID-19.”** “Maloney and his husband also traveled to Italy, even though the State Department has recommended that Americans ‘reconsider travel’ to the country because of COVID-19. Once again, the couple did not do their part to ‘crush the virus,’ as they were photographed without masks at an indoor art studio in Puglia.” (Matthew Foldi and Andrew Stiles, “DCCC Chairman Partied Maskless at Billionaire’s Estate in France After State Dept. Issued ‘Do Not Travel’ Warning,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 8/24/21)

Excessive Travel Spending During the Pandemic

Despite suspending in-person campaign events, Sean Patrick Maloney “spent tens of thousands of dollars in travel-related expenses” during the same time period:

- **Despite suspending in-person campaign events, Sean Patrick Maloney “spent tens of thousands of dollars in travel-related expenses” during the same time period.** “New York Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney spent tens of thousands of dollars in travel-related expenses during the pandemic despite suspending in-person campaign events and telling his constituents to ‘stay home,’ a report said.” (Kenneth Garger, “New York Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney reported travel expenses during pandemic despite urging constituents to ‘stay home,’” [New York Post](#), 5/5/21)
 - **Maloney reported spending \$20,000 on lease and insurance payments.** “The majority of the spending, \$20,000 of it, went towards lease and insurance payments.” (Kenneth Garger, “New York Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney reported travel expenses during pandemic despite urging constituents to ‘stay home,’” [New York Post](#), 5/5/21)
 - **Maloney also spent thousands on gas expenses and rental car fees.** “Gas expenses totaled \$2,200, and \$2,100 was spent on rental car fees. Collision repairs and a satellite radio subscription accounted for the remaining disbursements.” (Kenneth Garger, “New York Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney reported travel expenses during pandemic despite urging constituents to ‘stay home,’” [New York Post](#), 5/5/21)

“Élite Soirée” in Napa Valley

In the summer of 2021, Sean Patrick Maloney traveled to Napa Valley for a Democrat fundraiser, which “donors paid as much as \$29,000 for tickets to the élite soirée:”

- **In the summer of 2021, Sean Patrick Maloney traveled to Napa Valley for a Democrat fundraiser, which “donors paid as much as \$29,000 for tickets to the élite soirée.”** “After he returned to the United States, the congressman traveled to Napa Valley for a Democratic fundraiser that featured House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.), Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, and Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo. Donors paid as much as \$29,000 for tickets to the élite soirée. Servants were fully masked; Maloney and the other guests were not.” (Matthew Foldi and Andrew Stiles, “DCCC Chairman Partied Maskless at Billionaire’s Estate in France After State Dept. Issued ‘Do Not Travel’ Warning,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 8/24/21)

“Ostentatious Wedding Bash”

On June 21, 2014, Sean Patrick Maloney married his longtime partner Randy Florke in Cold Springs, NY:

- **On June 21, 2014, Sean Patrick Maloney married his longtime partner Randy Florke in Cold Springs, NY.** “Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney of New York married his partner of 22 years, Randy Gene Florke, this past Saturday, June 21, at the Church of St. Mary-in-the-Highlands in Cold Spring, NY, according to CBS New York. Representative Maloney, 47, and Florke, 51, have already been together 22 years, but decided to tie the knot in December after their 11-year-old daughter Essie asked Santa to make her dads get married. All three of their children – including 24-year-old Reinel and 13-year-old Daley – were in attendance.” (Diane Anderson-Minshall, “Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney Marries His Partner of 22 Years,” [Out](#), 6/23/14)

Maloney’s wedding was described as “lavish,” and “an ostentatious wedding bash,” during “a time when some elected officials avoid lavish displays of wealth:”

- **Maloney’s wedding was described as “lavish.”** “Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney (D-New York) had a lavish wedding in June and filmed the affair from a drone.” (Colin Campbell, “A Congressman Used A Drone To Film An Incredible Wedding Video,” [Business Insider](#), 7/10/14)
- **“At a time when some elected officials avoid lavish displays of wealth, Maloney and Florke were not shy about having an ostentatious wedding bash.”** (Colin Campbell, “A Congressman Used A Drone To Film An Incredible Wedding Video,” [Business Insider](#), 7/10/14)
- **Maloney’s wedding featured a drone and a fireworks show.** “In addition to the drone, their wedding featured a fireworks show. According to the local weekly news site Philipstown.info, the celebration after the reception was described by one invitee as ‘totally incredible.’” (Colin Campbell, “A Congressman Used A Drone To Film An Incredible Wedding Video,” [Business Insider](#), 7/10/14)
 - **At the time of the wedding, Maloney served on the House Transportation and Infrastructure subcommittee, “which has jurisdiction over the Federal Aviation Administration.”** “A few weeks ago, Hayworth criticized Maloney for a wedding video shot by a drone, calling on him to resign from the House Transportation and Infrastructure subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over the Federal Aviation Administration. The video was produced by Propellerheads Aerial Photography.” (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)
 - **“The Associated Press subsequently reported that the FAA said it was investigating ‘a report of an unmanned aircraft operation in Cold Spring’ June 21 to determine if any federal regulations or airspace restrictions were violated.”** (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)

The guest list for Maloney’s wedding included Reps. Nancy Pelosi, Steny Hoyer, Joe Kennedy, pop singer Joan Osborne, and Bill and Hillary Clinton, although the Clinton’s could not be in attendance:

- **The guest list for Maloney’s wedding included Nancy Pelosi and Bill and Hillary Clinton.** “Maloney sent a letter to the U.S. Capitol Police in May to inform them of the wedding and some of the prominent current and former public officials on the guest list, including Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, who gave the wedding toast, and Bill and Hillary Clinton.” (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)
 - **“The Clintons reportedly did not attend.”** (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)
- **Steny Hoyer and Joe Kennedy were also in attendance.** “According to reports, attendees included: Rep. Nancy Pelosi; Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland; and Rep. Joe Kennedy, from Massachusetts.” (Diane Anderson-Minshall, “Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney Marries His Partner of 22 Years,” [Out](#), 6/23/14)
- **Pop singer Joan Osborne “crooned a ballad for their first dance.”** “Mr. Florke, 51, and Mr. Maloney, 47, who was elected in 2012 as New York’s first openly gay

congressman, were married last month at a church near their home in Cold Spring, N.Y., as their three children looked on. Representative Nancy Pelosi, the House minority leader, gave a toast. Joan Osborne, the pop singer, crooned a ballad for their first dance.” (Michael M. Grynbaum, “A Relationship Where Marriage is Freedom,” [The New York Times](#), 7/3/14)

Taxpayer Funded Wedding Security

For Sean Patrick Maloney’s wedding, the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office used thousands of taxpayer dollars to provide security:

- **For the wedding of Sean Patrick Maloney, Putnam County Sheriff’s Office used thousands of taxpayer dollars to provide security.** “It’s not the most overtime the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office paid deputies to cover an event this summer, but it was the only private one that taxpayer dollars were spent on. The affair was the wedding of U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, D-Cold Spring, to Randy Florke, his longtime partner, on June 21. The cost of having sheriff’s deputies provide security for the ceremony and the reception was \$7,575, Sheriff Donald Smith said in a memo to the county Legislature this week.” (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)
 - **“Maloney sent a letter to the U.S. Capitol Police in May to inform them of the wedding and some of the prominent current and former public officials on the guest list.”** (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)
- **19 deputies worked in Cold Spring on the day of Maloney’s wedding, “including members of the emergency response team” in order to provide protection “at the behest of the federal officials who had reached out” to them.** “Nineteen deputies worked in Cold Spring that day, including members of the emergency response team, said Capt. William McNamara of the county sheriff’s department. ‘Our assignment of persons there for dignitary protection was at the behest of federal officials who had reached out to us,’ he said.” (Cara Matthews, “Putnam spends \$7,575 on wedding security for Maloney,” [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), 8/1/14)

Elaborate Wedding Gifts

Sean Patrick Maloney and his partner requested that guests of their wedding gift landscape related items for the couple to decorate their “4,700-square-foot-mansion,” that they also, at the time, rented on VRBO for “a mere \$30,000 a month:”

- **On Sean Patrick Maloney and his partner’s wedding registry, the couple noted that “they wanted to plant rose bushes, flower gardens, and fruit trees” to decorate their property.** “Maloney and now-husband Randy Florke, a real estate agent and home designer, married at their home in Cold Spring along the Hudson River. The reception was “a black-tie picnic” with local Hudson Valley fare. Nancy Pelosi gave a toast. Huma Abedin, an aide to Hillary Rodham Clinton, was there with her husband Anthony Weiner. On the couple’s Knot.com wedding registry, they wrote they wanted ‘to plant rose bushes, flower gardens, and fruit trees ... so the beauty of this day and your participation in it will be remembered every spring, summer, autumn, and winter in the landscape that surrounds Randy and Sean, their families, and the many friends who often visit.’” (Colby Itkowitz, “Why this congressman has almost \$20,000 in landscaping gifts on his finance reports,” [The Washington Post](#), 7/14/15)

- **“Maloney and now-husband Randy Florke, a real estate agent and home designer, married at their home in Cold Spring along the Hudson River.”** (Colby Itkowitz, “Why this congressman has almost \$20,000 in landscaping gifts on his finance reports,” [The Washington Post](#), 7/14/15)
- **Maloney’s home is a “4,700-square-foot-mansion,” that was available for rent “for a mere \$30,000 a month.”** “By friends, they must also mean the VRBO strangers who can rent their 4,700-square-foot mansion for a mere \$30,000 a month. (Xbox included!)” (Colby Itkowitz, “Why this congressman has almost \$20,000 in landscaping gifts on his finance reports,” [The Washington Post](#), 7/14/15)
 - **“These guys have seven acres to landscape.”** (Colby Itkowitz, “Why this congressman has almost \$20,000 in landscaping gifts on his finance reports,” [The Washington Post](#), 7/14/15)

Per their request, wedding guests gifted the couple with thousands of dollars’ worth of plants:

- **Per their request, wedding guests gifted the couple with thousands of dollars’ worth of plants.** “Many of their guests obliged. The happy couple received 15 fruit trees worth in all \$2,400. A large privet hedge for \$500. Several guests gave stone steps totaling \$2,700. There were stone walls for \$500 per gift, shade gardens for \$600 each, and perennial beds for \$600 a pop, according to Maloney’s 2014 financial disclosure report.” (Colby Itkowitz, “Why this congressman has almost \$20,000 in landscaping gifts on his finance reports,” [The Washington Post](#), 7/14/15)

Making the DCCC More Elite

The DCCC, led by Sean Patrick Maloney, has a record of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on private jets, foreign travel, office furniture, and flowers:

- **Sean Patrick Maloney is chairman of the DCCC.** “House Democrats have chosen New York Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney to lead their campaign arm in 2022, and Maloney has his work cut out for him.” (Bridget Bowman, “Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney chosen to chair DCCC going into choppy election cycle,” [Roll Call](#), 12/3/20)
- **“The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has dropped hundreds of thousands of dollars on office furniture, private flights, foreign travel – and \$70,000 worth of flowers, a review of Federal Election Commission documents show.”** (Jon Levine, “DCCC drops cash on foreign travel, private planes – and \$70K in flowers,” [New York Post](#), 10/2/21)
- **In July 2021, the DCCC reported spending over \$15,000 on “a private jet services company that was also a favorite of Joe Biden’s 2020 presidential campaign.”** “In July the committee reported more than \$3,000 in combined expenditures to British Airways and Icelandair. Another \$15,571 was dropped at EJCR LLC DbA Advanced Aviation Team – a private jet services company that was also a favorite of Joe Biden’s 2020 presidential campaign.” (Jon Levine, “DCCC drops cash on foreign travel, private planes – and \$70K in flowers,” [New York Post](#), 10/2/21)
- **In August 2021, the DCCC spent over \$592,000 on office furniture.** “In August the committee dropped a whopping \$592,036 on office furniture for their own headquarters, documents show.” (Jon Levine, “DCCC drops cash on foreign travel, private planes – and \$70K in flowers,” [New York Post](#), 10/2/21)

A senior Democratic congressional staffer described the spending as “failing politics 101 with horrible optics that clearly come from a high-maintenance leader,” and questioned if Maloney wanted to win races “or have really nice stuff:”

- A senior Democratic congressional staffer described the spending as “failing politics 101 with horrible optics that clearly come from a high-maintenance leader.” ““For being a political organization, the DCCC is failing politics 101 with horrible optics that clearly come from a high-maintenance leader,” fumed one senior Democratic congressional staffer.” (Jon Levine, “DCCC drops cash on foreign travel, private planes – and \$70K in flowers,” [New York Post](#), 10/2/21)
- **“You can’t run all these races and drop this money on flowers and jets. Do you want to get people elected or have really nice stuff?”** (Jon Levine, “DCCC drops cash on foreign travel, private planes – and \$70K in flowers,” [New York Post](#), 10/2/21)

***Editor’s Note:** In September 2022, Punchbowl News reported that the DCCC spent over \$660,000 on furniture in August 2022.*