FC Dallas CEO arrested in New York, accused of beating wife

Doug Quinn arraigned on felony and misdemeanor charges after domestic incident

By Anthony Tosie

The chief executive of the professional soccer club based in Frisco was arrested in New York over the weekend in a domestic disturbance incident involving his wife.

Hal Douglas "Doug" Quinn, the FC Dallas president and CEO since 2010, was arraigned in New York City on a felony charge of second-degree strangulation and a misdemeanor charge of assault with the intent to cause physical injury.

According to an NYPD investigation, Quinn was in New York celebrating his 50th birthday with his wife, Elizabeth, at The Alex Hotel, located at 205 E. 45th St. A police report states the two were involved in a dispute at about 3:30 a.m. Saturday.

After the dispute, the report states, the incident turned violent and "the suspect struck the victim several times with his hands, causing bruising above her eye, jaw and body."

Doug Quinn was arrested without incident at the scene at 2 p.m. the same day by NYPD officers. Elizabeth Quinn was treated at the scene before being taken to New York Presbyterian Hospital, where she received further treatment and was released.

Elizabeth Quinn told the New York Post that the two were having a good time celebrating her husband's birthday before the incident.



Doug Quinn

"We had a lovely night, and unfortunately things went wrong," she told The Post.

A complaint filed against Doug Quinn with the Manhattan District Attorney's Office states he "repeatedly punched [Elizabeth Quinn] in her face and body, causing her to suffer substantial pain, bruising and swelling to her face, arms, and legs and causing her eye to become swollen shut."

The complaint goes on to state that Elizabeth Quinn said her husband "placed his hands around her neck and applied pressure and placed a pillow over her head and applied pressure, making it difficult for the victim to breathe and causing her to lose consciousness."

Doug Quinn was released on \$20,000 bond the day after his arrest. He is due to return to court Thursday.

Alan S. Futerfas, Doug Quinn's attorney, released a statement on Quinn's behalf requesting privacy in the matter.

"In these cases, which are usually 'he said, she said,' there is often another side to the story and there certainly is one here," the statement reads. "To protect the privacy of both Mr. Quinn and his wife, we will not go into the events of that day or discuss important and private circumstances relevant to the allegations."

Futerfas added that he will be meeting with the district attorney's office to inform them "of all the facts and circumstances" regarding the incident.

FC Dallas released the following statement early Wednesday regarding the incident: "Major League Soccer and FC Dallas are aware of the report regarding FC Dallas President Doug Quinn. We are currently gathering additional information and will have no further comment at this time."

Late Wednesday, the soccer club announced Doug Quinn was placed on an indefinite leave of absence. Hunt Sports Group Vice President Dan Hunt has taken over Quinn's responsibilities on an interim basis. Hunt Sports Group owns FC Dallas.