

## Sarah Sanders says she was kicked out of restaurant because she works for Trump

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said she was kicked out of a Virginia restaurant by its owner because she works for President Donald Trump.

“Last night I was told by the owner of Red Hen in Lexington, VA to leave because I work for @POTUS and I politely left,” Sanders posted on Twitter Saturday.

“Her actions say far more about her than about me,” Sanders said. “I always do my best to treat people, including those I disagree with, respectfully and will continue to do so.”

When reached for comment by CNN, Sanders referred to the tweet she posted. The owner Stephanie Wilkinson told The Washington Post in an interview Saturday that she “would have done the same thing again.” Wilkinson told the Post that she asked Sanders to leave at the request of her staff.

“I explained that the restaurant has certain standards that I feel it has to uphold, such as honesty, and compassion, and cooperation,” Wilkinson recalled to The Post of her confrontation with Sanders. “I said, ‘I’d like to ask you to leave.’”

Good morning! [@PressSec](#) went to the unaffiliated [@RedHenLex](#) last night, not to our DC-based restaurant.

— The Red Hen (@RedHenDC) [June 23, 2018](#)

Sanders’ father, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, called it “bigotry” on Twitter.

“On the menu at Red Hen Restaurant in Lexington VA. Or you can ask for the ‘Hate Plate’. And appetizers are ‘small plates for small minds,’” he posted Saturday.

A separate restaurant in Washington, DC, also named the Red Hen posted on social media that it has no affiliation with the restaurant in Virginia. Some Yelp reviewers and Facebook users had confused the DC Italian restaurant for the Virginia American restaurant that Sanders was turned away from.

Other officials have been confronted over the Trump administration’s immigration policy as they dined out this week. Tuesday night, protesters booed and shouted at Department of

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Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen as she dined at a Mexican restaurant in Washington, DC.

**Source: CNN, Washington Post, Twitter**

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