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September 03, 2021
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Daily News Briefing

(In coordination with the Office of Public Affairs)

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BIG PICTURE

- Wall Street Journal
- New York Times
- Washington Post
- Financial Times
- ABC
- CBS

- NBC
- FOX

WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

LEADING THE NEWS

Hurricane Ida Leaves At Least 41 Dead In U.S. Northeast

The Wall Street Journal (9/2, Fanelli, Calvert, and Bauerlein, 18:58, 37M) reported that the remnants of Hurricane Ida unleashed record-breaking rainfalls, flash floods, and tornadoes in a powerful burst that blindsided some in the northeast region of the U.S., killing at least 41 people. The Associated Press (9/2, Calvin, Porter, and Peltz, 20M) added to the total, reporting at least 46 dead across New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Maryland. Even with the National Hurricane Center warning since Tuesday of the potential for "significant and life-threatening flash flooding," New York Gov. Kathy Hochul and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said the storm's strength took them by surprise. President Biden assured Northeast residents that federal first responders were on the ground to help clean up. According to ABC News (9/2, Osborne, Mansell, Sanchez, Lenthang, and Deliso, 21:22, 23M), there have been at least 59 deaths across eight states related to Ida. The Associated Press (9/2, Biesecker, 20M) also reported that federal and state agencies say they are responding to reports of oil and chemical spills from Texas to Louisiana as a result of the hurricane. The story was also reported on by the New York Times (9/2, Newman, 119M), Washington Post (9/2, Guarino, Bump, Berman, and Fisher, 20:31, 66M), Reuters (9/2, Goldberg and Layne, 21:47, 38M), Financial Times (9/2, Rogers and Smith, 13M), USA Today (9/2, Bacon, Miller, and Hauck, 07:06, 58M), Forbes (9/2, Dangor, 19:59, 56M), Washington Examiner (9/2, Notheis, 16:12, 6M), The Hill (9/2, Schnell, 07:31, 18M), CNN (9/2, Kallingal, 22:51, 145M), CBS News (9/2, Gillette, Sundby, Baldwin, Smith, Dakss, and Martinez, 21:56, 20M), NBC News (9/2, Helsel and Wong, 39M), BBC News (9/2, Staff Writer, 197M), The Guardian (9/2, Lakhani, Oliver, and Pengelly, 22:29, 3M), and Business Insider (9/2, Vlamis, Teh, Collman, Cohen, Lahut, Epstein, and Mitchell, 58M).

CBS News (9/2, Video, 20M) also posted a video on the story.

Texas Abortion Case Highlights Concern Over Supreme Court's 'Shadow Docket'

The New York Times (9/2, Savage, 119M) reported that although the "shadow docket" of the Supreme Court has received objections for years, the recent Texas abortion case has caused its criticism to rise "to a new level." According to the Wall Street Journal (9/2, Gershman, 19:12, 37M), the Supreme Court's refusal to halt Texas' new abortion law has "plunged" the fight over the issue into "a new phase of turmoil." Reuters (9/2, Hurley, 21:34, 38M) also reported that President Biden warned on Thursday that the law will cause "unconstitutional chaos." ABC News (9/2, Cathey, Scanlan, and Oppenheim, 16:56, 23M) added that President Biden said he is launching a "whole-of-government effort" in response to the Supreme Court's decision. The Hill (9/2, Marcos, 12:26, 18M) reported that in response to the Texas ruling, Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) said on Thursday that the House will vote on legislation to guarantee access to abortion upon its return to Washington later this month. The story was also reported on by the Associated Press (9/2, Burnett, Rankin, Mascaro, 20M), Reuters (9/2, Sullivan, Bernstein, and Brooks, 19:17, 38M), USA Today (9/2, Fritze, 13:37, 58M), Washington Post (9/2, Marimow, Zapotosky, and Kitchener, 21:15, 66M), CBS News (9/2, Quinn, 19:09, 20M), Financial Times (9/2, Stacey, 13M), and Politico (9/2, Ollstein and Gerstein, 20:19, 20M).

NBC News (9/2, Edelman, 17:57, 39M) added that the case in Texas and another one the high court will consider from Mississippi this year have the same goal, experts say: gutting or overturning Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion nationally. The story was also reported on by The Hill (9/2, Kruzel, 18:29, 18M) and the Washington Post (9/2, Barnes, 17:30, 66M).

Forbes (9/2, Porterfield, 18:40, 56M) also reported that dating apps Bumble and Match are launching funds to cover abortion costs across Texas. The story was also reported on by CNBC News (9/2, Bursztynsky, 14:17, 39M), and Bloomberg (9/2, Davalos, 37M).

An analysis from CNN (9/2, Biskupic, 16:29, 145M) added that the Supreme Court's decision on the Texas abortion ban establishes that "the Roberts Court no longer is Roberts' Court." The article noted that although Roberts argued that it was best to block the law and preserve the status quo, he "failed to prevail" due to the "new conservative majority" in the court."

New Zealand Police Kill 'Terrorist' After He Stabs 6 People

The Associated Press (9/3, Perry, 20M) reported that New Zealand authorities said Friday they shot and killed a violent extremist after he entered a supermarket and stabbed and injured six shoppers. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said that the man was a Sri Lankan national who was inspired by the Islamic State group. She said he was well known to the nation's security agencies and was being monitored around the clock. The New York Times (9/3, Frost, 119M) added that it was the first terrorist attack in the country since an Australian gunman killed 51 people and injured 40 at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2019. The article noted that all six of the injured people were taken to hospitals in the Auckland area, three of whom were in critical condition, and one was in serious condition. The story was also reported on by Reuters (9/3, Menon, 02:56, 38M), Washington Post (9/3, Pannett and Hassan, 02:20, 66M), Axios (9/3, Falconer, 6M), Forbes (9/3, Ray, 02:26, 56M), Bloomberg (9/3, Brockett, 02:07, 37M), Wall Street Journal (9/3, Wright, 03:07, 37M), Newsweek (9/3, Dutton, 22M), Epoch Times (9/3, Pearson, 12M), CNN (9/3, Watson and Yeung, 03:22, 145M), BBC News (9/3, Staff Writer, 197M), and Al Jazeera (9/3, Staff Writer, 16M).

Democrats Promote Cheney to Vice Chairwoman of Jan. 6 Panel

The Associated Press (9/2, Jalonick, 20M) reported that House Democrats have promoted Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) to vice chairwoman of the committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection. According to the article, Rep. Cheney's appointment comes amid an effort by some Republicans to oust Cheney and Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) from the GOP conference because they accepted their appointments to the panel from Speaker Pelosi (D-CA). Forbes (9/2, Soldener, 56M) added that more than a dozen of the House's most right-wing members on Thursday signed onto a letter pushing House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy for a vote to oust Reps. Cheney and Kinzinger from the House Republican conference. Rep. Cheney's appointment was also reported on by the New York Times (9/2, Broadwater, 17:18, 119M), Washington Post (9/2, Suliman, 8:03, 66M), Fox News (9/2, Singman, 56M), New York Post (9/2, Brufke, 12:39, 44M), NBC News (9/2, Shabad, 08:27, 42M), Reuters (9/2, Zengerle, 13:00, 38M), Bloomberg (9/2, Crane and Wasson, 07:58, 37M), CBS News (9/2, Quinn, 08:49, 23M), Politico (9/2, Wu, 7:00, 20M), The Hill (9/2, Wong, 8:14, 18M), Epoch Times (9/2, Stieber, 12M), New York Daily News (9/2, Goldiner, 17:03, 8M), Washington Examiner (9/2, Brooks, 10:55, 6M), and Axios (9/2, Gonzalez, 6M).

Former Minnesota Officer Faces New Charge in Killing of Daunte Wright

NBC News (9/2, Helsel, 42M) reported that former Minnesota police officer Kim Potter, who is accused of fatally shooting Daunte Wright during a traffic stop, is now facing a more serious charge in the man's death. Potter, who was previously charged with second-degree manslaughter, is now facing a first-degree manslaughter charge in the killing of Wright on April 11 in Brooklyn Center, northwest of Minneapolis. The story was also reported on by the Minneapolis Star-Tribune (9/3, Walsh, 16:17, 4M), Fox News (9/3, Ruiz, 56M), Insider (9/2, Haroun, 58M), Associated Press (9/2, Forliti, 20M), Axios (9/2, Frazier, 6M), Forbes (9/2, Walsh, 17:34, 56M), Wall Street Journal (9/2, Barrett, 19:24, 37M), The Hill (9/2, Williams, 16:57, 18M), and the New York Daily News (9/2, Wilkinson, 17:12, 8M).

Former Prosecutor Indicted for Misconduct in Ahmaud Arbery Investigation

The Washington Post (9/2, Knowles, 21:51, 66M) reported that on Thursday, a grand jury indicted Ex-Brunswick Judicial Circuit District Attorney Jackie Johnson over her handling of Ahmaud Arbery's fatal shooting, on allegations that she helped shield men now charged with murder in a case that went for months without arrests. According to the article, Thursday's indictment says Johnson showed "favor and affection" to suspect Greg McMichael, who was previously an investigator in her office, and also failed to "treat Ahmaud Arbery and his family fairly and with dignity" when she sought help from another district attorney — now also under investigation — who argued the shooting was justified before recusing himself. The story was also reported on by the New York Times (9/2, Lukpat, 119M), Associated Press (9/2, Bynum, 20M), Reuters (9/2, Mckay, 19:47, 38M), CBS News (9/2, Powell, 20:03, 23M), NBC News (9/2, Madani, 17:37, 39M), Washington Examiner (9/2, Severi, 20:18, 6M), CNBC (9/2, Mangan, 17:44, 58M), New York Post (9/2, O'Neill, 22:58, 44M), The Hill (9/2, Oshin, 18:15, 18M), Epoch Times (9/2, van Brugen, 12M), Axios (9/2, Saric, 6M), and The Guardian (9/2, Staff Writer, 3M).

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CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

QAnon Shaman' From Capitol Riot Expected to Plead Guilty in Deal With Prosecutors

CNN (9/2, Cohen, LeBlanc, 18:52, 145M) reported that US Capitol riot defendant and so-called "QAnon Shaman" Jacob Chansley, who went viral for wearing a horned bearskin outfit during the attack, is set to plead guilty on Friday. Chansley has been charged with six federal crimes in connection with the January 6 insurrection, including felonies for civil disorder and obstructing congressional proceedings. His attorney Al Watkins noted, "The path charted by Mr. Chansley since January 6 has been a process, one which has involved pain, depression, solitary confinement, introspection, recognition of mental health vulnerabilities, and a coming to grips with the need for more self-work." Chansley's defense attorneys have pushed several times for his release from jail, where he has been held since his arrest in January. The judge in his case has repeatedly ruled that Chansley is too dangerous for release. The Washington Post (9/2, Hsu, 18:20, 66M) noted that in social media posts before the riot, Chansley advocated for "identifying and then hanging those he believes to be traitors within the United States government". FBI agents say that in interviews with them, Chansley said he had plans to go to the Arizona Capitol and that he might engage in similar acts in the future. The story was also reported on by CNBC (9/2, Mangan, 16:12, 58M), the Insider (9/2, Shasian, 58M), NBC News (9/2, Madani, 16:32, 39M), Reuters (9/2, Hosenball, 16:08, 38M), The Hill (9/2, Oshin, 20:46, 18M), AZ Family (9/2, Baker, 2M), The Daily Beast (9/2, Melendez, 16:53, 18M), the Washington Examiner (9/2, Beaman, 16:53, 6M), Associated Press (9/2, Foley, 20M), CBS News (9/2, Hymes, 18:44, 20M), and UPI (9/2, Uria, 19:27, 20M) also reported on the story.

Nashville Man Charged With Storming U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6

The Associated Press (9/2, Staff Writer, 20M) reported that a Tennessee man has been charged with taking part in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol. According to the article, Christopher Michael Cunningham of Nashville was charged Aug. 30 in District of Columbia federal court with illegally entering a restricted building, violent entry and disorderly conduct in the Capitol building, and other charges. An arrest warrant says the FBI received tips that Cunningham had breached the Capitol building on Jan 6. The warrant said Cunningham was identified through cell phone records, video surveillance, and photos of him inside the building. The story was also reported on by The Tennessean (9/2, Alund, 11:18, 3M), WLOS (ABC-9) (9/2, Mojica, 597k), and WSMV (NBC-4) (9/2, Gilcrest, 904k).

Jan. 6 Riot Lawyer's Illness Throws Wrench in Several Cases

The Associated Press (9/2, Richer, 20M) reported that a prominent conservative attorney representing more than a dozen defendants charged in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol is seriously ill and hasn't appeared in court for more than a week, throwing some cases into disarray. According to the article, Attorney John Pierce has been sending an associate, who is not licensed to practice law, to appear before judges in his absence. Pierce's illness has left some clients without counsel for the time being and is putting the cases at a standstill. ABA Journal (9/2, Francis Ward, 9:51, 356k), the Daily Beast (9/2, Rohlich, 16:32, 18M), Law 360 (9/2, 18:58, 623k), The American Lawyer (9/2, Goudswaard, 72k), and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (9/2, Ove, 22:21, 2M) also reported on the story.

Jan. 6 Riot Defendant Returned to Jail for Using Internet

The Associated Press (9/2, Foley, 20M) reported that a federal judge on Thursday ordered a prominent participant in the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol to return to jail after he was caught accessing the internet to watch false conspiracy theories about the presidential election. According to the article, Doug Jensen violated the strict conditions that were set when he was released from jail on July 13, including prohibitions on accessing the internet and using a cellphone.

Right-Wing Extremist Groups Plan to Attend Rally at U.S. Capitol

The Independent (9/2, Rai, 52M) reported that federal officials suspect that far-right extremists groups will hold a rally on the west lawn of the US Capitol building on 18 September, "seeking justice" for hundreds arrested for riots in January. According to the article, the rally "Justice for J6" by conservative activists is scheduled to take place on the West Lawn of the Capitol and will demand the release of those arrested. The article noted that police and intelligence officials are concerned about the presence of extremist groups at the rally.

Six Wisconsin Men Charged in the Jan. 6 Capitol Insurrection in Washington, D.C.

The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel (9/2, Staff writer, 2M) reported on the status of the six Wisconsin men who were arrested for the riot at the Capitol on January 6. They are all charged for a variety of offenses, including unlawful entry, violent entry, and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds. According to the article, more than 590 people around the country have been arrested in connection with the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Some are charged with felonies, while investigators continue searching for others involved in violence during the hour-long event. The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel (9/2, Vielmetti, 12:10, 2M) also reported that two of the six Wisconsin residents charged with taking part in the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol have pleaded guilty, including one who witnessed the fatal shooting of a woman who was trying to climb through a window.

GOP Rep. Mo Brooks Compared the January 6 Committee to the Gestapo and Called it 'KGB-Like'

Business Insider (9/2, Vlamis, 58M) reported that Rep. Mo Brooks criticized the work of the House of Representatives January 6 select committee, comparing it to the secret police of Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. "What right does this Gestapo, KGB-like entity have to investigate the personal information and communications of myself with my family members? My grandchildren?" Brooks said Wednesday, saying he would "absolutely not" hand over his records.

McCarthy's Phone Records Among Those Eyed by Jan. 6 Investigators

Politico (9/2, Wu, Gaile, 18:51, 20M) reported that the select panel investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection has asked for House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy's phone records to be preserved as it expands its inquiry. According to the article, McCarthy's name was included in a broad request the select panel sent Monday to social media platforms and telecommunications companies, asking them to preserve records that could be relevant to the probe of the attack. The story was also reported on by CNN (9/2, Nobles, Grayer, Cohen and Wild, 145M).

Congress Asks Tech Companies for Jan. 6 Records

The Associated Press (9/2, Jalonick, 20M) reported on the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection, and its request that telecommunications and social media companies preserve the personal communications of hundreds of people who may have somehow been connected to the attack. The article noted that it's a sweeping public demand from Congress that is "rare, if not unprecedented, in its breadth" and could put the companies in a tricky position as they balance political and private interests. Windows Central (9/2, Endicott, 9M) also reported on the story.

Maryland Man Charged In Capitol Riot Now Charged In Drug Conspiracy

WJZ (CBS-13) (9/2, Staff writer, 15:27, 2M) reported that a Nottingham man is facing a federal indictment for drug conspiracy and firearms charges. According to the article, During a February raid on Costaine's home in connection with his involvement in the Capitol riot, law enforcement reportedly found four firearms and ammunition. Two of the firearms were not registered to him. Law enforcement also found controlled substances. Three vials of testosterone enanthate, one vial of testosterone cypionate, and a used hypodermic needle. The Avenue News (9/2, Staff writer, 6k) also reported on the story.

Pennsylvania Woman Latest Charged in Capitol Insurrection

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (9/2, Ove, 15:36, 2M) reported that a Lawrence County woman is charged with entering restricted grounds, disorderly conduct in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in the Capitol, and parading in a Capitol building. The article noted that Julia Jeanette Sizer of Ellwood City surrendered to federal authorities Thursday. According to the article, an FBI affidavit revealed that a complainant submitted a tip on Jan. 7 that Ms. Sizer had breached the Capitol the day before and said he or she had obtained a video of Ms. Sizer inside the building. The tipster said Ms. Sizer had shared the video and the tipster got it through a mutual friend. KDKA (CBS-2) (9/2, Staff Writer, 4k) and WTAE (ABC-4) (9/2, Staff Writer, 889k) also reported on the story.

Illinois Man Charged With Breaching U.S. Capitol

The Chicago Tribune (9/2, Meisner, 19:08, 10M) reported that an Elk Grove Village man has been charged with breaching the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6 riot and waving pro-Trump flags in what he later described to investigators as a "big mistake." The Chicago Sun-Times (9/2, Schuba, 20:12, 3M) reported that Gleffe came onto the feds' radar when a tipster identified him in Facebook posts from that day, the court records show. FBI agents then mined cellphone data to determine that he'd entered the Capitol for nearly 15 minutes.

After Nearly 600 Arrests, FBI's Investigation of the Jan. 6 Capitol Siege Continues

Spectrum News (9/2, Roth, 21:22, 569k) reported that almost eight months after supporters of former President Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol, nearly 600 people have been arrested and charged. According to the article, most of those people are from Florida, at least 64 so far, and additional arrests are possible as federal investigators continue to pursue leads on potential suspects in part through the help of tipsters who have been combing through social media for evidence.

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COUNTERTERRORISM

British National Pleads Guilty to Role in Terror Beheadings

The Associated Press (9/2, Barakat, 20M) reported that a British national admitted Thursday evening in a federal courtroom near the nation's capital that he played a leadership role in an Islamic State scheme to torture, hold for ransom and eventually behead American hostages. According to the article, Kotey admitted guilt in connection with the deaths of four American hostages, journalist James Foley, journalist Steven Sotloff and aid workers Peter Kassig and Kayla Mueller, as well as European and Japanese nationals who also were held captive. He said he traveled to Syria to "engage in a military fight against the Syrian forces of Bashar Assad" and that he eventually pledged allegiance to Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. "I accept I will be perceived as a radical who holds extremist views." He acknowledged that he had participated in "capture-and-detain operations" to kidnap Foley and other Western hostages and that he led efforts to extract ransoms. He described the acts of violence that were inflicted on the hostages as a necessary part of keeping them in line and persuading Western governments to pay the ransom. The New York Times (9/2, Goldman, 119M), Washington Examiner (9/2, Dunleavy, 22:17, 6M), Reuters (9/2, Hosenball, 20:58, 38M), NBC News (9/2, Schecter, 17:40, 42M), International Business Times (9/2, Patole, 15:14, 2M), BBC News (9/2, Staff Writer, 197M), and Axios (9/2, Chen, 6M) also reported on the story.

September 11 Victims' Families Push U.S. Watchdog to Investigate FBI's 'Lost' Evidence

Reuters (9/2, Wolfe, Hosenball, 9:11, 38M) reported that Family members of victims of Sept. 11, 2001, airplane attacks asked a U.S. government watchdog on Thursday to investigate their suspicions that the FBI lied about or destroyed evidence linking Saudi Arabia to the hijackers. According to the article, the request in a letter to Department of Justice Inspector General Michael Horowitz said "circumstances make it likely that one or more FBI officials committed willful misconduct with intent to destroy or secrete evidence to avoid its disclosure." The article noted that the Federal Bureau of Investigation declined to comment on the letter. The Associated Press (9/2, Tucker, 20M), Express (9/2, Brown, 16:34, 3M), and WFTX (FOX-4) (9/2, St. George, 480k) reported on this story.

September 11 Lawyer in Quarantine After Another COVID Case Threatens to Delay Guantánamo Bay Proceedings

The *New York Times* (9/2, Rosenberg, 119M) reported that Walter Ruiz, a key defense lawyer in the long-delayed Sept. 11 attacks proceedings, was in quarantine Thursday after he was exposed to the coronavirus, potentially setting back the efforts once again.

Michigan Woman Faces Terrorism Charge Over Threat Against Health Officials

The *Davidson Index* (9/2, Rocha, 14k) reported that a Michigan woman is facing a charge of terrorism after Genesee County Health Department officials said they received death threats following the recent mask mandate. According to the article, the alleged threats reportedly stem from Hackert's order that all students in kindergarten through 6th grade wear masks while in school. While Burt has denied the allegations, Prosecutor David Leyton claims Burt used her cell phone to call in the threats. "She allegedly identified herself as Rosa Parks and said she knows where Hackert and Blaney live."

Defendants in Gov. Whitmer Kidnap Plot Cast FBI as a 'Runaway Train'

MLive (9/2, Agar, 18:04, 5M) reported that the men accused in a plot to kidnap Gov. Gretchen Whitmer attacked the credibility of FBI agents and their handling of paid government informants. According to the article, their attorneys contended that one of the informants encouraged the defendants to engage in criminal activity. The attorneys sought access to cellphones and communication they say should have been provided during the discovery process and suggested that FBI agents, in reviewing discoverable materials, did not provide everything to the federal prosecutor. *WWMT (CBS-3)* (9/2, Feather, 624k) also reported on the story.

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COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

Robert Mueller Probed a 'Member of the News Media' While Investigating Russia Hacking Conspiracy

Daily Mail (9/2, Elkind, 11:33, 11M) reported that former Special Counsel Robert Mueller investigated 'a member of the news media suspected of participating in the conspiracy to hack senior Democrats' emails in the lead up to the 2016 presidential election. The Justice Department memo revealed the information Wednesday but did not specify who the journalist was. According to the article, the disclosure described a probe into an alleged conspiracy involving foreign government-associated actors engaged in 'hacking the computers of a United States political party's central organization.' *AlterNet* (9/2, Henderson, 800k) and *Business Insider* (9/2, Colson, 68M) also reported on the story.

Intelligence Files Suggest an Aide to a Top Catalan Separatist Sought Russian Help

The *New York Times* (9/3, Scwartz and Bautista, 00:01, 119M) reported that intelligence files suggest an aide to a top Catalan separatist who sought help from Russia in the struggle to break with Spain, and a fierce new protest group emerged shortly afterward. According to the article, The independence movement in Catalonia, the semiautonomous region in Spain's northeast, had been largely crushed after a referendum on breaking away two years earlier. The European Union and the United States, which supported Spain's effort to keep the country intact, had rebuffed the separatists' pleas for support. However, In Moscow, the emissary Josep Lluís Alay, a senior adviser to the self-exiled former Catalan president Carles Puigdemont, met with current Russian officials, former intelligence officers, and the well-connected grandson of a K.G.B. spymaster. The aim was to secure Russia's help in severing Catalonia from the rest of Spain. The article noted that when asked about the report's findings, both Mr. Alay and Mr. Puigdemont confirmed the trips to Moscow, which have never been reported, but insisted they were part of regular outreach to foreign officials and journalists. Mr. Alay said any suggestion that he was seeking Russian assistance was "a fantasy story created by Madrid."

Juniper Breach Mystery Starts to Clear With New Details on Hackers and U.S. Role

Bloomberg (9/2, Robertson, 9:00, 37M) reported that Juniper's investigations of its breaches in 2012 and 2014 underestimated the hacking threats facing the company, mistakenly concluding that those incidents were attempts to steal trade secrets that had little effect. The company reported the incidents to the FBI and the Defense Department but downplayed their significance to those agencies, based on its understanding of the intrusions at the time. According to the article, "Juniper had missed an important clue." In the 2012 probe, Juniper learned that the hackers had stolen a file containing source code from an engineer's computer. The company didn't realize that the hackers returned a short time later, accessed a server where new versions were prepared before being made available to customers, and altered the code. The hack allowed them to potentially bypass customers' encryption and eavesdrop on their communications.

FBI Says Chinese Authorities Are Hacking US-based Uyghurs

Tech Crunch (9/2, Page, 12:47, 10M) reported that the FBI has warned that the Chinese government is using both in-person and digital techniques to intimidate, silence, and harass U.S.-based Uyghur Muslims. According to the article, in an unclassified bulletin, the FBI warned that officials are using "transnational repression," a term that refers to foreign government transgression of national borders through physical and digital means to intimidate or silence members of diaspora and exile communities, in an attempt to compel compliance from U.S.-based Uyghurs and other Chinese refugees and dissidents, including Tibetans, Falun Gong members, and Taiwan and Hong Kong activists.

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CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Attacks On Minorities Are At Their Highest Level In Twelve Years

NPR (9/2, Johnson, 16:18, 42M) reported on the FBI data that shows a 6% increase in the number of hate crimes in 2020. However, the article noted that the data doesn't tell the full story, as state and local jurisdictions don't have to report those offenses to the federal government. The Jewish Journal (9/2, Bandler, 190k) reported that the LAPD have recorded 59 antisemitic crimes thus far in 2021, an uptick from 39 the year prior. The article noted that hate crimes are being underreported because some crimes are simply considered to be "aggravated assaults" instead of hate crimes. FBI Special Agent Matt Grimes concurred that hate crimes are being underreported to the FBI because "there are a lot of communities out there that just don't trust law enforcement" and have concerns about "language barriers" while others may be concerned about their immigration status.

WBTW (CBS-13) (9/2, Fortin, 17:34, 409k) added that the FBI data showed that South Carolina also saw a sharp increase in the number of hate crime incidents reported to the FBI in 2020. Kevin Wheeler, public affairs specialist for the FBI's Columbia office, said that although "it's really hard from to say where that increase came from, ...it is a top priority for [the FBI]."

FBI Agent Waives Key Hearing in Alleged Assault on His Wife

The Associated Press (9/2, Staff Writer, 20M) reported that Richard Trask, an FBI agent charged with assaulting his wife, waived his right to a key hearing and moved the case to a trial court in Kalamazoo, MI. According to online records, Trask on Tuesday waived his right to a hearing to determine whether there's enough evidence to send the case to trial. The article added that Trask is not expected to testify as one of the lead agents who investigated an alleged plot to kidnap Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Los Angeles Couple Convicted in \$21M COVID-19 Relief Fraud on the Run

Fox News (9/2, Betz, 56M) reported that according to the FBI a Los Angeles couple who had been charged in an \$18 million COVID relief fraud scheme cut off their ankle monitors and are now on the run. The article noted that they were convicted in June of scheming to submit phony loan applications for federal COVID business relief funds and were scheduled to be sentenced on Oct. 4. They face potentially decades behind bars.

Kentucky Man Sentenced in Federal Prison Drug Ring

The *Daily Independent* (9/2, Culvyhouse, 11:30) reported that from 2016 to 2019, Lemonwood Chiques gang member Librado Navarette of California paid out bribes to Hank Williams of Kentucky to smuggle meth, heroin, weed, and other contraband into the high-security prison. According to the article, Williams would have packages Navarette set up in California to send to one of Williams' relatives in Georgetown. Williams was sentenced to 210 months in federal prison for conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, accepting a bribe by a public official, and using a communication device to facilitate a felony offense. Navarette is due to be sentenced in October. The article noted that the case was investigated by the Department of Justice Inspector General, the FBI, the United States Postal Service, and the Georgetown (KY) Police Department.

Colorado Police Bust Illegal Pot Grow, Join FBI Task Force

The *Daily Ardmoreite* (9/2, Short, 12:46, 34k) reported that earlier this week, the Carter County Sheriff's Office and others seized and destroyed approximately 1,200 marijuana plants from a suspected illegal grow in Dickson. According to the article, the bust was the second for the county since June, both of which included a suspect of Asian descent. The article noted that the bust in June was much larger in scope with 27,000 plants seized, and 45 workers found sleeping on makeshift bed frames with plywood mats and little running water. On Thursday, the CCSO officially joined the FBI's Safe Trails Task Force which will allow the department to handle major crimes that include, death investigations, physical or sexual abuse toward children, rape, and violent felony assaults that occur in Indian Country.

Florida Cop-Killing Suspect Formally Charged

Fox News (9/2, Aaron, 56M) reported that the suspect accused of fatally shooting Daytona Beach police Officer Jason Raynor was indicted by a Volusia County grand jury Wednesday on a charge of first-degree murder. Othal Wallace is accused of shooting Raynor in the head during a stop on June 23. Raynor was hospitalized and died last month, 55 days after the attack.

Three Men Arrested for Shooting Texas 13-year-old During Robbery Attempt

KDFW (FOX-4) (9/2, Staff writer, 1M) reported that the men responsible for shooting a 13-year-old child in a failed robbery attempt are now behind bars. The article stated that the detectives worked with several other agencies to identify three suspects – Chung Hup, Zenzele Dube, and Bawi Bik. They are now facing charges for aggravated robbery, injury to a child, and engaging in organized criminal activity.

Michigan Woman Arrested on Child Pornography Charges

Tap Into (9/2, Dericks, 8:23, 2M) reported that a Michigan woman is in federal custody on child pornography charges. On Tuesday "stay at home mom" Dominique Saczawa was charged with "producing, distributing and advertising images of child sexual abuse." According to the article, the arrest came after an undercover investigation by the FBI. In their investigation, the FBI linked Saczawa's IP address to her internet child pornography account, in which she received video and images from out of state. The article noted that the FBI believes Saczawa is in at least one of the pornographic photos and one of the videos with a child victim that she created and shared with people online.

FBI Investigating Students in Arkansas for Sharing Child Pornography

KHBS (ABC-21) (9/2, Ashman, 385k) reported that the FBI announced that it is investigating students from multiple schools in Washington, Benton, and Madison counties for possessing and sharing child pornography. According to the article, the spokesperson for the FBI, Connor Hagan, said this has become a disturbing trend. "These high school students need to realize they might not have their license yet, and they are putting themselves in a position where they may not get out of prison until their 30s or 40s." Hagan said high school boys are primarily sharing child pornography through Snapchat and saving photos in a folder through Snapchat called "my eyes only."

Army Reserve Colonel Facing Child Sex Charges is an FBI Investigator

The *Army Times* (9/2, Winkie, 18:37, 1M) reported that Col. David Harris, an infantry officer for the 76th Operational Response Command, who also works as a supervisory special agent for the FBI, is charged with child sex crimes in three different states, including new accusations made public Friday by Florida authorities. Harris has pleaded not guilty to all charges thus far.

Michigan Man Arrested for Child Sexual Abuse

WLUC (NBC-6) (9/2, Staff Writer, 11:33, 427k) reported that a Michigan man is awaiting arraignment in Marquette County on charges of child sexually abusive activity and criminal sexual conduct. The article noted that Jesse Brown is facing eleven felony counts related to sexual assault and exploitation of children. According to the article, The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Navy Criminal Investigation Services (NCIS), and the Marquette County Sheriff's Office assisted the Forsyth Township Police Department with the case.

Man Accused of Kidnapping East Texas Children Facing Child Sex Abuse Charge

Tyler Morning Telegraph (9/2, Wellerman, 350k) reported that a man arrested for kidnapping two East Texas children earlier this week has been charged with continuous sexual abuse of a child. The article noted that Jesse Ray Schmidt is accused of kidnapping an 11-year-old and 10-year-old from the Rusk area. According to the article, with the assistance of the FBI, the Kilgore Police Department found Schmidt and the two children outside of a Motel 6 in Kilgore. The two officers took Schmidt into custody and secured the children, who were placed into Child Protective Services custody.

Arizona Ex-Nurse Pleads Guilty in Disabled Woman's Rape

Reuters (9/2, Schwartz, 20:33, 38M) reported that a former Arizona nurse pleaded guilty on Thursday in the 2018 sexual assault of a severely disabled woman at a long-term care facility, a crime that came to light only when she unexpectedly gave birth. According to the article, the defendant, an ex-licensed practical nurse at Hacienda HealthCare Skilled Nursing Facility, was arrested in January 2019 after police said investigators tied him through DNA evidence to the victim. The Associated Press (9/2, Billeaud 20M), the New York Post (9/2, Reilly, 11:11, 46M), The Sun (9/2, Williams, 21:45, 40M), KSDK (NBC-5) (9/2, Staff Writer, 16:09, 1M), and AZ Central (9/2, Vandell, 15:27, 6M) also reported on the story.

New Mexico Man Suspected of Shooting Officers Booked Into Jail

The Albuquerque Journal (9/2, Kaplan, 10:00, 535k) reported that both officer Mario Verbeck and the man who is accused of shooting him two weeks ago were released from the University of New Mexico Hospital on Thursday. According to the article, Verbeck was "brought out of the hospital in a wheelchair surrounded by cheering medical staffers, law enforcement personnel and loved ones," while James Ramirez was booked into the Metropolitan Detention Center. The article noted that Ramirez is expected to face federal charges in relation to the shootout that left him and four officers injured on Aug. 19. The article also noted that the Albuquerque Police Department, the FBI, and the U.S. Attorney's Office of New Mexico thought it was best for Ramirez to be prosecuted first in federal court for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Three Juveniles Detained Following Lockdown at Montana High School

KTMF (ABC-23) (9/2, Staff Writer) reported that three juveniles have been detained for questioning in reference to the safety threat made towards Hellgate High School. According to the article, a student reported they had been told there was a student with a firearm and some sort of event was going to take place at 1:30 pm. Officers and school staff were able to identify three juveniles associated with the threat made, and the students were removed from the classroom. The FBI, US Marshals, Probation and Patrol, Missoula County Sheriffs, and Montana Highway Patrol responded to assist. KTVH (NBC-12) (9/2, Staff Writer, 14:08, 89k) also reported on the story.

Arkansas Sheriff's Office Deputy Resigns Amidst FBI Investigation

Maivern Daily Record (9/2, Tubbs, 4k) reported that deputy Chris Winberry has resigned from the Hot Spring County Police Department amidst a criminal investigation that is being conducted by the Grand Jury in the Western District of Arkansas and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. According to Sheriff Mike Cash, "the investigation centers on whether the former deputy used excessive force when making some arrests." According to the article, the events surrounding Winberry including excessive force concern six individuals with incidents dating back to early 2020 and as recently as this past month. KATV (ABC-7) (9/2, Glisovic, 838k) also reported on the storyline.

FBI Resuming Kentucky Investigation This Weekend After Storm Delay

WLKY (CBS-32) (9/2, Staff Writer, 16:51, 601k) reported that the FBI was forced to suspend its search efforts this week due to deteriorating weather conditions from the remnants of Hurricane Ida. The weather system brought torrential rains to many areas of the Louisville region, including Nelson County, where the Rogers probe centers. The article noted that the FBI will likely continue its investigation Saturday now that the storm has subsided. A spokesperson for the FBI said personnel will be "conducting a search of the materials" that were recovered at the subdivision, but from an offsite collection point in Bardstown.

FBI Searching for New Mexico Bank Robbery Suspect

KOB (NBC-4) (9/2, Fjeld, 8:33, 700k) reported that the FBI is looking for a man who robbed a northeast Albuquerque credit union. According to the article, the suspect entered the bank, lifted his shirt to reveal a handgun in his waistband to the teller, and demanded money. The suspect, who may have also robbed Albuquerque's First Convenience Bank last week, headed north on foot after leaving with an undisclosed amount of money.

FBI Looking for Woman Suspected of Kidnapping in Ohio

WFMY (NBC-21) (9/2, Vallas, 305k) reported that the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force is searching for a woman charged with kidnapping. Reports say Dumas is believed to have kidnapped an infant from Cleveland on August 17. An amber alert was issued on that date for an infant out of Cuyahoga County that officials believed could be brought to the Youngstown area.

Documents Show US Investigation of Two Kuwaitis in FIFA Case

The Associated Press (9/2, Dunbar, 20M) reported that two senior Olympic officials from Kuwait, one reputed to be the "kingmaker" of IOC elections and another who is president of swimming's international governing body, have been targeted by the U.S. Department of Justice for suspected racketeering and bribery related to FIFA and international soccer politics. The article noted that last week, the DOJ restated its commitment to its wider FIFA investigation when it announced paying tens of millions of dollars in money forfeited and seized from corrupt soccer officials back into FIFA's control as restitution. "Our work isn't finished," Michael J. Driscoll of the FBI's New York Field Office said in a statement last week, "and our promise to those who love the game — we won't give up until everyone sees justice for what they've done."

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FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

Nebraska Man Defrauded of More Than \$25,000

The Independent (9/2, Wegley, 549k) reported that scammers purporting to be from the Boston Police Department — using a phone number tied to the police force — defrauded a 72-year-old Lincoln man of more than \$25,000 on Tuesday. According to the article, the scammers told the man that his identity, along with his wife's, had been stolen and used to help fraudulently fund terrorist organizations. The callers told the man he needed to send gift cards to clear the matter up. When the man questioned the scammers, he fielded a call from a number appearing to belong to Lincoln Police. Callers posing as LPD officers told the man the scam was legitimate.

Kentucky Man Gets 33 Months for Wire Fraud, Tax Evasion

The River City News (9/2, Staff Writer, 18:19, 47k) reported that Kevin Welsch was sentenced to 33 months after he previously pleaded guilty to federal charges of wire fraud and tax evasion. Welsch admitted to defrauding clients of the debt collection business he owned and operated. Specifically, he admitted to collecting debts on behalf of creditors and keeping the money for his own use. The article noted that the investigation was conducted by the IRS CI, the FBI, and the Ft. Thomas Police Department.

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CYBER DIVISION

FBI Warns of Ransomware Gangs Targeting Food, Agriculture Organizations

Bleeping Computer (9/2, Gatlan, 13:52, 3M) reported that ransomware gangs are actively targeting and disrupting the operations of organizations in the food and agriculture sector, causing financial loss and directly affecting the food supply chain. The article noted that the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) received "over 2,400 ransomware attack complaints amounting to adjusted losses of over \$29.1 million during last year, after a massive 100% increase in received cybercrime complaints and adjusted losses of more than \$29.1 million across all industry sectors."

98K Patients, Employees Impacted by Oklahoma Provider Data Breach

HealthITSecurity (9/2, McKeon, 33k) reported that Oklahoma-based CareATC announced that it fell victim to a provider data breach that jeopardized the personally identifiable information (PII) and protected health information (PHI) of over 98,000 patients, employees, and dependents of patients and employees. According to the article, the FBI recently released a flash alert warning healthcare providers of Hive ransomware group, a hacking group responsible for a massive cyberattack on Memorial Health System in mid-August.

Biden's Computer Repairman Lost Lawsuit Against Twitter, Has to Pay Their Legal Expenses

Business Insider (9/2, Hall, 11:00, 58M) reported that the computer repairman famous for fixing Hunter Biden's laptop lost his lawsuit against Twitter on Monday. According to the article, District Judge Beth Bloom dismissed the case against the social media company with prejudice, meaning the case cannot be brought to court again. Bloom also ordered the plaintiff, John Paul Mac Isaac, to pay Twitter's attorney fees via Florida's anti-SLAPP statute. Mac Isaac owned The Mac Shop in Delaware. Biden traveled to the store in 2019 and asked him to recover data from his damaged computers, but never returned to collect the information or pay his invoice. The article noted that Mac Isaac ultimately turned over the data to the FBI and then-President Donald Trump's lawyer, Rudy Giuliani after Biden didn't pick up the hard drive of recovered information. Giuliani sent the information to the New York Post, which ran a story using the data while inadvertently including the name of Mac Isaac's business in a photo.

Kaseya Suffers a Supply Chain Cyber-Attack Resulting in up to 1,500 Affected Businesses

KAKE (ABC-10) (9/2, Christobal, 455k) reported that Kaseya (an IT Management Software company) was targeted by a ransomware attack that resulted in between 800 and 1,500 businesses all around the world being affected. This ranged from their clients being inconvenienced to outright being closed down. According to the article, the hacker group had asked for \$70 million in exchange for the restoration of the encrypted files and were willing to negotiate a better price if the company were to entertain the idea of negotiation. The CEO of Kaseya stated that "I can't comment on anything to do with negotiating with terrorists in any way." The article noted that he also got in contact with the White House, the FBI, and the Department of Homeland Security to reassure them that the breach did not introduce any "national risk".

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LABORATORY

Genetic Genealogy Identifies Phoenix Woman Who Died in 2017

The Associated Press (9/3, Staff Writer, 20M) reported that more than four years after a woman was found dead in downtown Phoenix, police have confirmed her identity. According to the article, police contacted the DNA Doe Project six months ago hoping to identify the woman using investigative genetic genealogy, which led detectives to ask the FBI for a partial fingerprint comparison. The analysis led to the body being identified as Laura Jean Jordan, whose photo on file with authorities was similar to a facial sketch made after her body was discovered. KTAR-FM (9/2, Shapiro, 852k) reported that the woman suffered a heat-related death four years ago in Phoenix. The article also noted that Jordan's family was contacted and her name was restored.

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OTHER FBI NEWS

FBI Gun Background Check System Passes 400 Million

The Washington Examiner (9/2, Bedard, 10:11, 6M) reported that for the first time since it started in 1998, the FBI's gun background check program passed 400 million last month when another 2.7 million were conducted. According to the article, that number has been on a fast rise since the 2020 presidential election followed by growing safety concerns due to COVID-19 and city riots. The article noted that for its first few years, the system recorded gun sales and other background checks in the hundreds of thousands per month. By this year, it was hitting records, the highest coming in March at 4.7 million. The last two years have seen historic numbers, and gun sales have largely paralleled that.

D.C. Court Orders Ex-FBI Lawyer's License Suspended for One Year

Reuters (9/2, Scarcella, 16:29, 38M) reported that a Washington, D.C. court on Thursday formally approved a one-year bar suspension for Kevin Clinesmith, a former FBI lawyer who was convicted on a felony charge for altering a document during the agency's investigation of contacts between Russia and Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign. According to the article, Clinesmith admitted he altered an email about the relationship between then-Trump adviser Carter Page and the CIA, inserting language showing Page to be an agency "sub source" but not a "source."

Renaissance Technologies Executives to Pay Up to \$7 Billion to Settle Tax Probe

The Wall Street Journal (9/2, Zuckerman and Rubin, 18:55, 37M) reported that according to Renaissance Technologies LLC, current and former executives of the hedge fund will personally pay as much as \$7 billion in back taxes, interest, and penalties to settle a long-running dispute with the IRS. According to the article, the tax settlement may be the largest in history. The Financial Times (9/2, Fontanella-Khan, 13M) added that the settlement puts an end to a long-running dispute linked to trades made by the firm's Medallion fund between 2005 and 2015 when several of its executives converted short-term capital gains into long-term profits, which are taxed at a significantly lower rate.

Trump's Ambassador Craft Steered U.S. Government Business To Her Boss' Hotel

Forbes (9/2, Everson, 56M) reported that according to internal emails released by the State Department, Kelly Craft directed government business to then-President Donald Trump's Washington, D.C. hotel while serving as U.S. ambassador to Canada. The State Department released the emails in response to a Freedom of Information Act request filed by government watchdog American Oversight. Jack Patterson, a spokesperson for American Oversight, said in a statement that "an American diplomat using their position to line the president's pockets is an example of the casual corruption that permeated the Trump administration and undermines confidence in the United States." The story was also reported on by the Washington Post (9/2, Wang and Farenthold, 22:20, 66M).

N.Y. Prosecutors Weigh Charges Against Another Trump Executive

The New York Times (9/3, Protest, Rashbaum, and Christobek, 119M) reported on Matthew Calamari, an executive at Donald J. Trump's family business who testified before a grand jury on Thursday as prosecutors in Manhattan weighed whether to charge him with tax-related crimes. The Manhattan district attorney's office is scrutinizing whether the Calamari benefited from what prosecutors have described as a 15-year scheme at the Trump Organization to help its top leadership evade taxes by compensating them with off-the-books luxury perks such as free cars and apartments. The story was also reported on by CNN (9/2, Reid, Scannell, and Romine, 145M).

Fort Worth Police Crime Lab Whistleblower Terminated as State Finished Investigation

Star-Telegram (9/2/, Manna, 17:07, 2M) reported that A whistleblower who filed a 174-page complaint against the Fort Worth Police Department Crime Laboratory in 2020 was placed on administrative leave after the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office determined she could no longer testify during criminal trials. Trisa Crutcher alleged in a lawsuit that the move was retaliation against her for being a whistleblower. She was later fired by the police department. According to the article, part of Crutcher's complaint referred to the "DNA submission form" document, specifically regarding a yes or no question that gives a forensic scientist "permission to consume" the sample. Consuming evidence means the scientist can use part or all of a DNA sample during testing. For the lab to have permission to consume a sample, the OK must be given by the case investigator. This is in line with FBI protocols and policies at crime labs across the country.

FBI, Police Issue Warning For Drone Operators Ahead of Air Show

The Associated Press (9/2, Staff Writer, 20M) reported that according to the Brunswick Police Department Chief Scott Stewart, the "FBI has been working directly with Brunswick PD in planning the security/safety for the Air Show and stated that they will prosecute those that choose to not follow the no-fly restriction."

FBI Accepting Applications for Teen Academy Programs in West Virginia

WOWK (CBS-13) (9/2, King, 16:37, 243k) reported that FBI Pittsburgh Field Office announced they are now accepting applications for the 2021 Teens Academy. According to the article, the Academy gives insight into topics like the importance of making good choices when using social media, what violations of federal law the FBI investigates, what is required of all FBI applicants, and the role of the FBI.

DOJ Accuses UPMC and Top Heart Surgeon of Unsafe Surgeries, Illegal Billing

Penn Live (9/2, Wenner, 3M) reported that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) on Thursday accused Dr. James Luketich, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) chair of cardiothoracic surgery, of carrying out up to three complicated operations at once and sometimes being absent at "key and critical times." The lawsuit alleges that patients of Dr. Luketich endured "hours of medically unnecessary anesthesia time, as he moves between operating rooms and attends to other patients or matters." The complaint follows a two-year investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, and the FBI.

FBI Launches Program to Help Students Safely Navigate the Internet

The Virgin Islands Daily News (9/3, Kirkpatrick) reported that the FBI wants students to stay safe as they go about spending time surfing the internet, and is inviting them to take part in its Safe Online Surfing challenge. According to FBI Public Affairs Officer Limary Cruz-Rubio, the "FBI's mission is to protect the people, and one of the ways we do that is through prevention, which is sometimes more important. We are looking to expand the program to other communities that may not have been involved in the past."

Justice Department Announces First Federal Agents To Use Body-Worn Cameras

RiverBender (9/2, Staff Writer, 187k) reported that the Department of Justice announced the launch of the first phase of its Body-Worn Camera Program that requires department law enforcement personnel to use body-worn cameras (BWCs) during pre-planned law enforcement operations. According to the article, over the course of the next several weeks, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) will begin the first phase of their BWC programs. The department's plans include a phased implementation of BWCs and rely upon Congress to secure the necessary funding to equip agents nationwide with BWCs.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Struggling Japan PM Suga Steps Down, Setting Stage for New Leader

- Reuters: Struggling Japan PM Suga Steps Down, Setting Stage for New Leader
- Associated Press: Suga Bows Out of Party Vote, Paves Way for New Japan PM
- Wall Street Journal: Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga to Step Down
- New York Times: Japan's Prime Minister to Step Aside After Just a Year in Office
- Washington Post: Japan's leader Yoshihide Suga to Step Down After Just One Year in Office
- Financial Times: Japan's PM Yoshihide Suga to Resign After Failing to Control Covid Outbreak
- Al Jazeera: Japan's Prime Minister Suga to Drop Out of Party Election

Russia May Treat U.S. Tech Companies' Hosting of Navalny App as Meddling

- Reuters: Russia May Treat U.S. Tech Companies' Hosting of Navalny App as Meddling
- Wall Street Journal: Russia Threatens Apple and Google Over Alexei Navalny App
- Washington Post: Russia's Internet Censor Demands Google, Apple Remove an Opposition App From Their Stores

U.S. to Give Ukraine More Than \$45M in Additional Humanitarian Aid

- Reuters: U.S. to Give Ukraine More Than \$45 mln in Additional Humanitarian Aid

Kremlin Says U.S. Military Help Could Make Ukraine Behave Unpredictably

- Reuters: Kremlin Says U.S. Military Help Could Make Ukraine Behave Unpredictably

U.S. Climate Envoy Kerry Urges China to Keep Politics Out of Global Warming

- Reuters: U.S. Climate Envoy Kerry Urges China to Keep Politics Out of Global Warming
- Wall Street Journal: John Kerry Seeks China's Climate Cooperation, Gets an Earful on Fraying Ties
- Washington Post: Kerry Calls on China to do More to Tackle Climate Change Crisis as China Warns U.S. Pressure Will Derail Cooperation

Tens of Thousands in Afghanistan Are Trapped as Neighbors Close Borders

- Wall Street Journal: Tens of Thousands in Afghanistan Are Trapped as Neighbors Close Borders

U.N. Warns Catastrophe Looms in Ethiopia's North, Urges Government to End De Facto Aid Blockade

- Reuters: U.N. Warns Catastrophe Looms in Ethiopia's North, Urges Government to End De Facto Aid Blockade

Police: 5 of 73 Abducted Nigerian Students Rescued

- Associated Press: Police: 5 of 73 Abducted Nigerian Students Rescued

India Clamps Down on Kashmir After Separatist Leader's Death

- Washington Post: India Clamps Down on Kashmir After Separatist Leader's Death

Poland Declares State of Emergency on Belarus Border Amid Migrant Surge

- Reuters: Poland Declares State of Emergency on Belarus Border Amid Migrant Surge
- Reuters: Poland Says It is Taking Steps to Counter Any Threat from Military Drills in Belarus

Fighting in Yemen's Central Province Kills 28 in One Day

- Associated Press: Fighting in Yemen's Central Province Kills 28 in One Day

After U.S. Meeting, Guatemala Sees End to Remote Border Deportations

- Reuters: After U.S. Meeting, Guatemala Sees End to Remote Border Deportations

Mexico President Says Containing Migrants Not Enough

- Associated Press: Mexico President Says Containing Migrants Not Enough

Trudeau Criticized for Calling Canadian Election in 4th Wave

- Associated Press: Trudeau Criticized for Calling Canadian Election in 4th Wave

Syria Says It Has Shot Down Israeli Missiles Near Capital

- Associated Press: Syria Says It Has Shot Down Israeli Missiles Near Capital

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OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

U.S. Allows Personal Remittances to Flow to Afghanistan

- Reuters: U.S. Allows Personal Remittances to Flow to Afghanistan

US Defends Strike that Afghan Family Says Killed Innocents

- Associated Press: U.S. Defends Strike that Afghan Family Says Killed Innocents

Congress Moves to Increase Pentagon Budget, Defying Biden and Liberals

- New York Times: Congress Moves to Increase Pentagon Budget, Defying Biden and Liberals

Sen. Manchin Calls for Pause in Democrats' \$3.5 Trillion Spending Push

- Wall Street Journal: Joe Manchin Calls for Pause in Democrats' \$3.5 Trillion Spending Push
- Washington Post: Manchin Calls on Democrats to 'Pause,' Cut to \$3.5 Trillion Spending Plan, Dealing Potential Blow to Biden Agenda

The White House, Amid Calls to Step Up its Global Covid Response, Says It Will Invest \$2.7 Billion in Vaccine Production

- New York Times: The White House, Amid Calls to Step Up its Global Covid Response, Says It Will Invest \$2.7 Billion in Vaccine Production

Democrats Face Tricky Deadlines on Debt Ceiling, Government Shutdown

- Wall Street Journal: Democrats Face Tricky Deadlines on Debt Ceiling, Government Shutdown

CBO Expects \$200 Billion From IRS Boost, Below Biden Targets

- Wall Street Journal: CBO Expects \$200 Billion From IRS Boost, Below Biden Targets

FDA Weighing Dose of Moderna Covid-19 Booster

- Wall Street Journal: FDA Weighing Dose of Moderna Covid-19 Booster

Industry Groups Urge Lawmakers to Streamline Cyber Breach Reporting Rules

- Wall Street Journal: Industry Groups Urge Lawmakers to Streamline Cyber Breach Reporting Rules

Pentagon Restarts 16 Advisory Boards After 7-Month Pause

- Associated Press: Pentagon Restarts 16 Advisory Boards After 7-Month Pause

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BIG PICTURE

Wall Street Journal

- Stock Futures Edge Up Ahead of Jobs Report
- College-Admissions Scandal to See First Trial Next Week
- As Caldor Fire Continues to Burn Near Lake Tahoe, Firefighters Hunker Down
- Apple Cedes Ground as Larger Fights Over App Store Brew in Court, Congress

New York Times

- Hawaii is Facing an Oxygen Shortage Amid a Record Surge in Virus Cases
- On Mars, NASA's Perseverance Rover Drilled the Rocks It Came For
- Virginia Supreme Court Clears Path for Removal of Robert E. Lee Statue

Washington Post

- Lawsuits Say Siri and Google Are Listening, Even When They're Not Supposed To
- Mu Variant Not an 'Immediate Threat' to the United States, Fauci Says
- Still Dangerous, Caldor Fire Slows its Pace

Financial Times

- U.S. Fleet Managers Seek Out Foreign Truck Drivers to Solve Labour Shortage
- U.S. Regulator Grounds Virgin Galactic Fleet Over Branson Space Flight Anomaly
- Electric Utility Groups Are Wary of Democrats' Clean Power Ambitions

ABC

- Historic storm floods Philadelphia area, rescues underway; Supreme Court rejects challenge to Texas abortion law; General Motors suspends nearly all US production.

CBS

- More than 40 killed in historic Northeast floods; New Orleans music venue feeds people without power.

NBC

- Remnants from Hurricane Ida overwhelm the East Coast; The Supreme Court denies request to block the Texas abortion law; Hospitals are on the brink in Montana amid the latest Covid surge.

FOX

- Latest on Americans and allies stranded in Afghanistan; Alleged gunman in a North Carolina high school shooting is in custody.

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

White House

President

- 10:00 AM: The President will deliver remarks on the August jobs report
- 10:30 AM: The President will depart the White House en route Joint Base Andrews
- 10:50 AM: The President will depart Joint Base Andrews en route New Orleans, Louisiana
- 1:10 PM: The President will arrive in New Orleans, Louisiana
- 1:40 PM: The President will depart New Orleans, Louisiana en route Reserve, Louisiana
- 2:15 PM: The President will receive a briefing from local leaders on the impacts of Hurricane Ida
- 3:35 PM: The President will tour a neighborhood in LaPlace, Louisiana, and delivers remarks on his Administration's response to Hurricane Ida
- 4:55 PM: The President will inspect the damage from Hurricane Ida by taking an aerial tour of hard-hit communities, including Laffite, Grand Isle, Port Fourchon, and Lafourche Parish
- 5:40 PM: The President will arrive in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana
- 6:00 PM: The President will meet with local leaders from impacted communities
- 6:40 PM: The President will depart Lafourche Parish, Louisiana en route to New Orleans, Louisiana
- 7:10 PM: The President will depart New Orleans, Louisiana en route to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 9:35 PM: The President will arrive in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 9:55 PM: The President will depart Philadelphia, Pennsylvania en route to Wilmington, Delaware
- 10:10 PM: The President will arrive in Wilmington, Delaware

Vice President

- No events scheduled

U.S. Senate

- The Senate is on recess until September 13, 2021

U.S. House of Representatives

- No events scheduled

Cabinet Members

- Defense Secretary Austin will host an enhanced honor cordon and meeting welcoming Italian Minister of Defense Lorenzo Guerini to the Pentagon at 1:30 PM on the steps of the River Entrance
- Education Secretary Cardona will participate in a Cabinet Affairs Meeting
- Education Secretary Cardona will travel to Waterbury, Connecticut and join U.S. Representative Jahana Hayes for a tour of various Waterbury Public Schools. Secretary Cardona and Representative Hayes will also learn how the schools utilized American Rescue Plan funds to get students ready for safe, in-person learning ahead of the new school year.

Visitors

- No events scheduled

General Events

- No events scheduled

Mobile version and searchable archives available at

b7E -3

From: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)

Subject: BWC Update

To: HQ-DIV09-CDC; FBI-CDC-PLS: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)

Sent: September 3, 2021 10:42 AM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1

b7C -1

All,

Please join us during this time when Stephen Kelly and Matt Feinberg will address your questions regarding the latest on BWC.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Learn more about Teams](#)

From: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: September 7, 2021 3:57 PM (UTC-04:00)

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sure, that's fine. Talk to you then. If you're calling me, my cell is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:52:41 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Can we do 1:30? That would work a little better.

Matt and I can call you [REDACTED]

Thanks.

Stephen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 1:48 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sure, I can do a teams call then. Thanks!

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 1:47:56 PM
To: [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FBI (22-cv-00149)-4631

Subject: Re [REDACTED]

b5 -2

How about 1:00 pm on Wed? We can set up a call.

Does that work for both of you.

Thanks in advance.

Stephen

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 6:17 PM

To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I am theoretically off on W, but can certainly make time for a Teams call – better than pushing off until next week. Let me know what time is good and I can probably make it work.

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel

Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit

Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 5:56 PM

To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[REDACTED]
Are you in on Wed? If not, let's push to the following week, as I'm crushed on Tuesday and Thursday and Matt's out Friday.

FBI (22-cv-00149)-4632

Just let us know.

Thanks.

Stephen

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 4:42:57 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sooooo with on our shrinking schedule, Tuesday and Wednesday work, Thursday is filling up depending on when we schedule your CDC call. I am off next Friday. Let me know and I will be as flexible as I am able. Thanks for setting this up.

Matt

Matthew A. Feinberg, Chief

[REDACTED]

b7E -2,3

Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 3:50:48 PM
To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Matt –

Next week I would like to take some time to introduce you to [REDACTED] cc'd here, who is one of our privacy lawyers. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FBI (22-cv-00149)-4633

I would propose we just set aside some time to discuss next week, and then we can decide on next steps.

Let me know if there are times that work for you.

Thanks.

- Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly
Chief, Operational Law Section
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Draft Response on Expedited Release Language
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Greenberg, Jay (CID) (FBI); Braverman, Adam L. (ODAG) (JMD)

Cc: [REDACTED]
Sent: September 8, 2021 2:23 PM (UTC-04:00)
Adam,

b6 -5
b7C -5

b5 -1

Matt

Matthew A. Feinberg, Section Chief
Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

b7E -3

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)

Subject: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED] (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)

Cc: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI); Greenberg, Jay (CID) (FBI)

Sent: September 8, 2021 2:43 PM (UTC-04:00)

Attached: [REDACTED]
Update_08-30-21.docx

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

[REDACTED]
I've attached what I think is the last FBI SOPs for TFOs wearing BWCs and DoJ's new, much-shortened policy for TFOs wearing BWCs. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] put my initial thoughts on the attached FBI SOPs, and after you two have a chance to review, perhaps we can discuss and tee up what decisions have to be made for Matt and Jay, along with our recommendations.

After you've reviewed, let me know when you might be free to discuss.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly
Chief, Operational Law Section
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

b7E -3

From: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Field questions for tomorrow's BWC call
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: September 8, 2021 5:44 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: BWC Questions for 09-09-2021.docx

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Gentlemen,

Here are the questions I received from the field. Thank you again for doing this, I know the field counsel really appreciate it (I'm not just saying this, several have said thank you to us for planning this!).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Counsel, Field Legal Program
Office of General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Cell [REDACTED]
Desk [REDACTED]

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Calling you shortly ... Stand by.
To: Perese, Dogan A. (ITADD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OTD) (FBI)
Cc: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: September 9, 2021 12:06 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: [REDACTED]

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Per our coordination call this morning.

Matthew A. Feinberg, Section Chief
Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Calling you shortly ... Stand by.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Matthew A. Feinberg, Section Chief
Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:18 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Calling you shortly ... Stand by.

b5 -1,2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3,27

b5 -1,2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3,27

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:32 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Calling you shortly ... Stand by.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Stephen D. Kelly
Chief, Operational Law Section
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

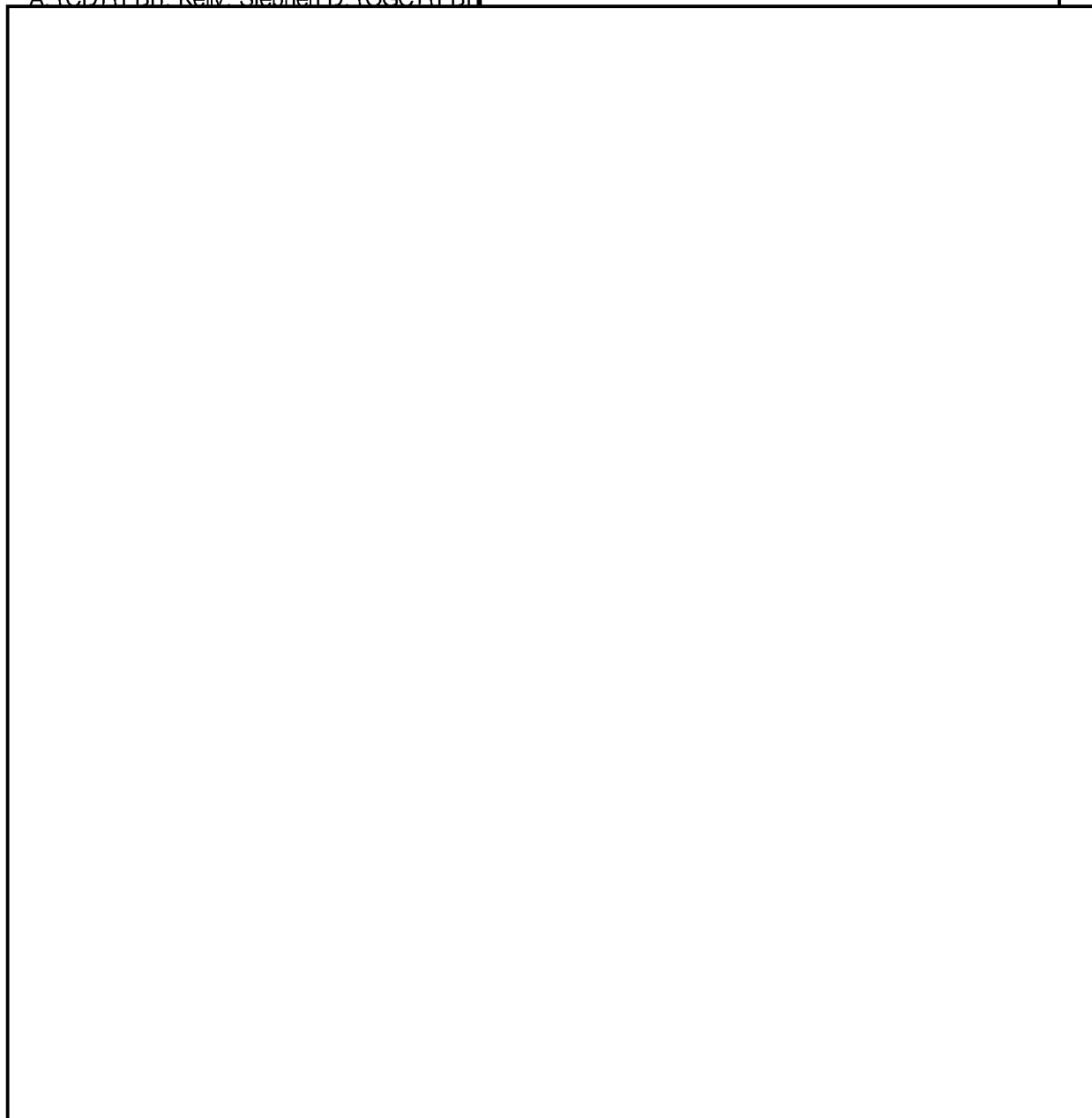
From:
Subject:
To:

[REDACTED] SD) (FBI)

[REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew

A (CD) (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3



Sent: September 9, 2021 2:52 PM (UTC-04:00)

I assume when the mandatory training for the use of BWC is implemented, CDC/ADCs will be the trainers?

From: [redacted] (NY) (FBI)

Subject:

To: [redacted] (FBI); Feinberg, Matthew
A. (CD) (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Sent:

Thank you for taking the time today to talk about this. The current BWC TFO policy specifically refer to state/local TFOs. [redacted]

b5 -1,2

From: [REDACTED] (MW) (FBI)

Subject:

To: [REDACTED] (FBI); Feinberg, Matthew

A. (CD) (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Sent:

Can you please send out the "New" BWC policy so I can be sure I have the "new" one and not the "old" one?

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Daily News for Monday, 13 September 2021
To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: September 13, 2021 12:54 PM (UTC-04:00)

Thanks, Matt.

I read this case. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

[REDACTED] m
not sure I agree with the ultimate decision, but there's actually no question, in my view, that this decision will not implicate our proposed use of BWCs.

Stephen

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 11:50 AM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Daily News for Monday, 13 September 2021

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

b5 -1,2

Matthew A. Feinberg, Section Chief
Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

b7E -3

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Free today to chat revisions to BWC agent policy?
To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: September 14, 2021 12:08 PM (UTC-04:00)
Sounds good. Sorry, I'm on a virtual conference at the moment.

Thx.

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 12:07 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Free today to chat revisions to BWC agent policy?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Lets do 1:30?

Matthew A. Feinberg, Section Chief
Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 11:57 AM
To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Free today to chat revisions to BWC agent policy?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

I could meet at 1:30 or 2:00. Just let me know. Just want to talk through OGC's input.

Stephen

From: Brown, James Robert Jr. (OTD) (FBI)
Subject: Re: BWC update
To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI); Jones, Darrin E. (STB) (FBI); Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI); Greenberg, Jay (CID) (FBI); Jacobs, Wayne A. (WF) (FBI); Dunham, Timothy M. (TD) (FBI)
Cc: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (WF) (FBI); [redacted] (OTD) (FBI); [redacted]
Sent: September 15, 2021 7:58 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thank you Matt. Good work leading this effort!

Robert Brown

Assistant Director
Operational Technology Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 7:54:33 PM
To: Jones, Darrin E. (STB) (FBI) [redacted]; Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI) [redacted]; Greenberg, Jay (CID) (FBI) [redacted]; Jacobs, Wayne A. (WF) (FBI) [redacted]; Brown, James Robert Jr. (OTD) (FBI) [redacted]; Dunham, Timothy M. (TD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: BWC update

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

ALCON,

I wanted to extend my gratitude to all the participants who made today's first body worn camera practical a success. Today we successfully demonstrated the use of BWCs in a training environment at Hogan's Alley and we were able to [redacted]

b7E -4,7

[redacted] We have already learned valuable lessons which will help us be better prepared for action at the end of the month. It was a great team effort and special thanks to the agents [redacted] who selflessly stepped up to be the first to wear BWCs for the FBI. Also my sincere thanks to the support we received from Training Division and OTD who on a very short timeline put together an outstanding training module. We still have a few bugs to work out, but I am confident we will be ready to meet our goals to be live at the end of the month. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns and I look forward to getting a opportunity to brief you all on our progress.

Matt

Matthew A. Feinberg, Chief
[redacted]
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -2,3

From: Greenberg, Jay (CID) (FBI)
Subject: Re: BWC update
To: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI); Jones, Darrin E. (STB) (FBI); Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI); Jacobs, Wayne A. (WF) (FBI); Brown, James Robert Jr. (OTD) (FBI); Dunham, Timothy M. (TD) (FBI)
Cc: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Sent: September 15, 2021 8:55 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thank you, Matt. Appreciate all your efforts to enable this capability.

Jay

From: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 7:54:33 PM
To: Jones, Darrin E. (STB) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Greenberg, Jay (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Jacobs, Wayne A. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Brown, James Robert Jr. (OTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Dunham, Timothy M. (TD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC update

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

ALCON,

I wanted to extend my gratitude to all the participants who made today's first body worn camera practical a success. Today we successfully demonstrated the use of BWCs in a training environment at Hogan's Alley and we were able to [REDACTED]

b7E -4,7

[REDACTED] We have already learned valuable lessons which will help us be better prepared for action at the end of the month. It was a great team effort and special thanks to the agents [REDACTED] who selflessly stepped up to be the first to wear BWCs for the FBI. Also my sincere thanks to the support we received from Training Division and OTD who on a very short timeline put together an outstanding training module. We still have a few bugs to work out, but I am confident we will be ready to meet our goals to be live at the end of the month. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns and I look forward to getting a opportunity to brief you all on our progress.

Matt

Matthew A. Feinberg, Chief

[REDACTED]
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

b7E -2,3

From: Barbaricum FBI News Briefing
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Daily News Briefing - September 16, 2021
To: FBINewsBriefing
Sent: September 16, 2021 6:20 AM (UTC-04:00)

[View in Browser](#)



September 16, 2021
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Daily News Briefing

(In coordination with the Office of Public Affairs)

Mobile version and searchable archives available at [\[Redacted\]](#)

b7E -3

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

LEADING THE NEWS

FBI Director, Gymnasts Testify to Congress on Bureau's Investigation of Sexual Abuse Complaints

The Associated Press (9/15, Jalonick, Graves, and Balsamo) reported on the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing that followed a "bombshell" report from the DOJ's inspector general that faulted the FBI for not handling the allegations against Nassar in a serious manner. According to the article, Olympic gold medalist Simone Biles, alongside fellow gymnasts McKayla Maroney, Aly Raisman, and Maggie Nichols, told Congress in "forceful" testimony that federal law enforcement and gymnastics officials turned a "blind eye" to USA Gymnastics team doctor Larry Nassar's sexual abuse of her and hundreds of other women. The Hill (09/15, Williams) added that Director Wray on Wednesday began his testimony "by saying to the brave women who testified this morning ... I'm deeply and profoundly sorry to each and every one of you." In his testimony, Director Wray noted that it is "inexcusable" that the FBI "had their own chance to stop" Nassar in 2015 and failed. Reuters (09/15, Lynch) commented that the hearing "painted a damning picture" of the FBI. Another article from The Hill (09/15, Castronuovo) also added that testimonials heavily criticized the DOJ for not appearing at the hearing, despite an explicit request earlier this month for either Attorney General Merrick Garland or Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco to come before the committee. An additional from The Hill (09/15, Vakil) reported that former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe said that the bureau's handling of the investigation was the worst "dereliction of duty that I have ever seen over the course of my 20-plus years with the FBI." The story was also reported on by CNN (09/15, Sneed), New York Times (09/15, Macur), Washington Post (09/15, Barrett), CNBC (09/15, Shabad), CBS News (09/15, Quinn), NPR (09/15, Naylor), ABC News (09/15, Kindelan), Bloomberg (09/15, Strohm and House), New York Post (09/15, Lapin), The Guardian (09/15, Lutz), BBC News (09/15, Staff Writer), a fourth article from The Hill (09/15, Williams), MLive (09/15, Gibbons), Orlando Sentinel (09/15, Tribou and Hylton), Washington Examiner (09/15, Dunleavy), The Independent (09/15, Bowden), BuzzFeed News (09/15, Hall), HuffPost (09/15, Vagianos), USA Today (09/15, Nakamura and Quarshie), and the Epoch Times (09/15, Stieber).

The New York Post (09/15, Crane) also continued reporting on Michael Langeman, a supervisory special agent in the FBI's Indianapolis office who interviewed Olympic medalist McKayla Maroney in 2015. Langeman and his former boss, special agent-in-charge Jay Abbott, were both criticized in the DOJ's July report by Inspector General Michael Horowitz for their handling of the case. The story was also reported on by Fox News (09/15, Spunt and Pagones), Axios (09/15, Doherty), NBC News (09/15, Shabad), and Insider (09/15, Bostock).

MSNBC (09/15, Video), NBC News (09/15, Video), and USA Today (09/15, Video) posted videos on the hearing.

CNN (09/15, Staff Writer) provided a transcript of the testimony.

Senator Calls for Another Hearing into FBI's Handling of Nassar Probe

The New York Times (09/15, Lapin) also reported that Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) called for another hearing into the FBI's handling of the Larry Nassar investigation, stating that the DOJ needs to answer why no criminal charges were brought against the FBI agents who allegedly failed to properly investigate the case. At a press conference following the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, Sen. Blumenthal referred to the FBI as "an enabler rather than an enforcer." The story was also reported on by The Hill (09/15, Castronuovo).

U.S. Reacts to California Governor Recall Vote

CNN (09/15, Vazquez) reported that President Biden on Wednesday called the results of California's recall vote "a resounding win" for Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom's approach to the Covid-19 pandemic, specifically citing the state's strong vaccine requirements. A Newsom adviser told CNN that Biden's eleventh-hour visit "buoyed" the governor, and the President's aides believed a strong showing could give Democrats and independents a stronger sense of confidence as the administration fights over mask-wearing, vaccines, and more. The New York Times (09/15, Hubler) added that although Gov. Newsom has the advantage of a unified base, a Democratic supermajority in the Legislature, and the state's attention — issues such as reducing carbon emissions, reversing inequalities, and reducing the crime rate are still prevalent. The Washington Post (09/15, Wilson) also reported that Gov. Newsom's victory boosted his national profile and set him up for a "far simpler" reelection race next year. Gov. Newsom's win was also reported on by Forbes (09/15, Kelly), The Guardian (09/15, Singh), Palm Springs Desert Sun (09/15, Coulter), CBS News (09/15, Staff Writer), Epoch Times (09/15, Serna), Associated Press (09/15, Ronayne and Riccardi), NBC News (09/15, Seitz-Wald), Fox News (09/15, Miller), Los Angeles Times (09/15, Myers), The Independent (09/15, Sinclair), an additional CNN (09/15, Merica) article, Wall Street Journal (09/15, Zitner and Mai-Duc), an additional Los Angeles Times (09/15, Stiles) article, Washington Examiner (09/15, Doyle), and the Financial Times (09/15, Grimes and Politi).

The Associated Press (09/15, Thompson and Ronayne) added that hours after Gov. Newsom beat the recall on Wednesday, Democrats in the California State Legislature said that they will push for changes to make it more difficult to challenge a sitting governor. According to the article, their efforts could include increasing the number of signatures needed to force a recall election, raising the standard to require wrongdoing on the part of the officeholder, and changing the process that could permit someone with a small percentage of votes to replace the state's top elected official. The story was also reported on by the Washington Post (09/15, Sullivan and Weigel), NBC News (09/15, Lozano), and the HuffPost (09/15, O'Connor).

CBS News (09/15, Video) and USA Today (09/15, Video) posted a video of Gov. Newsom's response to his recall victory.

Bloomberg Radio (09/15, Audio) posted an audio recording of former California Governor Gray Davis, who discussed the results of the California recall election with Bloomberg's David Westin.

Opinion: Newsom's Recall Win is an Affirmation of Democratic Policies

An opinion article from the Washington Examiner (09/15, Adams) commented that for the "Big Three" Networks (CBS, NBC, and ABC), Gov. Newsom's victory is a referendum not only on his leadership but also on his policies. However, the article noted that the same networks had the exact opposite reaction when former Republican Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker defeated his recall challenger in 2012.

Editorial: California's Rejection of the Recall Validated Newsom and His Pandemic Protections

An editorial from the Los Angeles Times (09/15, LA Times Editorial Board) also commented that validation from Californians should send a powerful message that voters want leaders who embrace science and are willing to impose public health measures to bring the pandemic to an end. The article also commented that with the recall election behind him and public support for the mission, Gov. Newsom can now be focused on responding to and recovering from the pandemic.

Editorial: California Democrats Defeat Trump

An editorial from the Wall Street Journal (09/15, WSJ Editorial Board) also noted that in his public address in Long Beach, CA, President Biden described Larry Elder, the leading republican rival in the recall election, the "closest thing to a Trump clone that [he had] ever seen" in California. The article commented that Democrats will use former President Trump as their "favorite get-out-the-vote foil," and the media will pretend 2022 is a "dry run" for Trump's possible campaign in 2024.

U.S. Capitol Police Request Ability to Receive National Guard Support on Sept. 18

Reuters (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that the U.S. Capitol Police on Wednesday said it has asked the Pentagon to provide National Guard troops to help protect the Capitol on Sept. 18 during a scheduled protest if they are needed. According to the Capitol Police Department, "the USCP has asked the Department of Defense for the ability to receive National Guard support should the need arise on September 18." The article noted that the reinstallation of a tall security fence at the Capitol already has been requested in the run-up to Saturday's rally. The fence, which was first erected following the Jan. 6 attack on the building that houses the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, was dismantled in July. A large group is expected at the Capitol on Saturday to protest the arrests and criminal charges against some 600 people in connection with the January 6 riot. The FBI and other federal agencies will have agents available to monitor developments. The story was also reported on by the Associated Press (09/15, Richer), CNN (09/15, Lieberman and Marquardt), CNBC (09/15, Breuninger), Forbes (09/15, Solender), Washington Examiner (09/15, Brest), The Hill (09/15, Mitchell), Army Times (09/15, Myers), ABC News (09/15, Barr and DuClos), Newsweek (09/15, Villarreal), CBS News (09/15, Van Cleave, Triay, and Kaplan), Axios (09/15, Saric), and the Washington Post (09/15, Silverman).

Lawmakers, Staff Asked to Avoid the Capitol During Pro-Trump Protest

The Hill (09/15, Illis) reported that as Capitol security officials prepare for Saturday's pro-Trump rally in Washington, lawmakers and their aides have been told to steer clear of the building. House Sergeant at Arms William Walker wrote in a memo sent chamber-wide on Tuesday evening that "unless required to be onsite, members and staff are strongly encouraged to avoid the U.S. Capitol Complex on September 18th." The article noted that the blunt guidance is just the latest step adopted by security officials to prevent Saturday's protest from devolving into the same type of violent melee that occurred on Jan. 6.

Republicans, Wary of Political Fallout, Steer Clear of Rally for Riot Suspects

The New York Times (09/15, Broadwater) reported that ever since a pro-Trump mob attacked the Capitol on Jan. 6, Republicans have been trying to shift the national conversation away from that dark, violent day and onto what they say are the problems of the Biden administration: a troubled pullout from Afghanistan, an overtaxed southern border and rising inflation. According to the article, the "Justice for J6" rally has created a predicament for Republicans, who are caught between a hard-right base including many voters who consider the rioters righteous and a desire to distance themselves from the attack and its political fallout. "Anytime the attention is on Joe Biden it's good for Republicans, and anytime the attention is on Jan. 6 it's bad for Republicans," said John Feehery, a Republican strategist, and veteran of Capitol Hill. "The only hope Democrats have of keeping the House is to make Jan. 6 the issue of the campaign. They know that, and we know that. The only people who don't seem to know that are the activists." The story was also reported on by NBC News (09/15, Collins and Zadrozny).

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CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

Florida Oath Keepers Member Pleads Guilty to Jan. 6 Capitol Riot Charges

Reuters (09/15, Hosenball) reported that A former U.S. Marine from Florida on Wednesday became the latest defendant associated with the Oath Keepers militia group to plead guilty to criminal charges related to the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol riot. According to the article, defendants allege that on Jan. 6 Dolan pushed his way to the front of the crowd on the Capitol's east steps and grabbed the arm of a police officer who pushed him away. Half an hour later, the indictment says, Dolan joined a "stack" of Oath Keepers maneuvering its way up the Capitol steps which "forcibly entered the Capitol." Associated Press (09/15, Durkin Richer) adds that Dolan agreed to cooperate with investigators against his fellow extremists, marking another win for the Justice Department in its major conspiracy case stemming from the attack. The Washington Post (09/15, Hsu) and The Hill (09/15, Neidig) also reported on this story.

Capitol Cop Told Friend Where Lawmakers Hid on Jan. 6, Report Says

The *Daily Beast* (09/15, Quinn) reported that three of six Capitol Police officers facing disciplinary action over their handling of the Jan. 6 insurrection are under scrutiny for allegedly posing for selfies with the alleged rioters, while another is accused of divulging the secure location where lawmakers were evacuated during the chaos. According to the article, one of the cases involves a special agent in the department's Protective Services Bureau who is accused of revealing classified information to a friend a week after the deadly riot. The friend, who is not identified in the documents, phoned the FBI's tip line to alert them to the "concerning statements" allegedly made by the agent when he spoke about where lawmakers were held as Trump supporters stormed the Capitol. "I don't want to report a friend of 40 years, but he says enough concerning statements that I feel like I need to do this... he's just fallen into this cult and these beliefs," the friend was quoted as saying. *Business Insider* (09/15, Panetta), *Salon* (09/15, Skolnik), and the *Independent* (09/15, Kilander) also reported on the story.

Jan. 6 Committee Telecom Requests Aim to Recreate Detailed Account of Trump's Actions

USA Today (09/15, Jansen) reported that requests sent to telecom and social media companies, and to federal agencies, from the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol reveal pieces of the puzzle that lawmakers hope to assemble for a minute-by-minute picture of what happened that day. The article asks the questions, "What was the response to desperate pleas for reinforcements from lawmakers and local officials during the hours-long delay before National Guard troops arrived? Who talked to former President Donald Trump that day – and what did he tell lawmakers who called during the siege?" The article noted that there are also requests to eight federal agencies such as the FBI, the Pentagon, and the Department of Homeland Security to seek documents about preparations and response to the attack.

Wisconsin Man Pleads Guilty to Entering US Capitol on Jan. 6

The *Associated Press* (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that a Madison-area man pleaded guilty Wednesday to a misdemeanor charge in connection with the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol. According to the article, Nelson traveled from Madison with Abram Markofski, an Army National Guard member from La Crosse, to attend the rally. The article noted that Nelson and Markofski allegedly entered the Capitol through a door in the Senate wing and were in the building for about 90 minutes.

Minnesota Woman Pleads Not Guilty to January 6 Federal Charges

Duluth News Tribune (09/15, Cutts) reported that a Rochester woman arrested by the FBI this spring for her alleged involvement in the riots at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 pleaded not guilty to four charges Wednesday morning, Sept. 15. According to the article, White was seen in a video arguing with other rioters who were attempting to break the glass of Capitol windows and is seen attempting to physically pull them away from the glass. In the days after the Capitol riot, the FBI received an anonymous tip that White was involved. The tip asserted that White was using a Facebook page under the name "Janice Marie Evans" and that the profile included photos and posts about White's conduct at the Capitol on Jan. 6.

Two Pennsylvania Men Arrested on Charges Related to January 6 Capitol Breach

WHTM (ABC-27) (09/15, Abad) reported that two Midstate men were arrested Monday for charges related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. According to the article, In one instance, the two allegedly shared their intentions and plans to travel to Washington when one wrote, "We going? ...Cause hot damn son I really wanna crack some commie skulls." Discussions also included their intentions to travel with "batons." The article noted that the two miscreants entered the Capitol grounds and posted a photo on Facebook captioned, "We stormed the gates of the Capitol," and proceeded to push a large metal object into a line of Metropolitan Police officers.

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COUNTERTERRORISM

Opinion: The Counterterror War That America Is Winning

An opinion article from *The Atlantic* (09/15, Morse) commented that since the 9/11 attacks, U.S. militarized counterterrorism efforts have somewhat stalled in recrimination and regret. However, the U.S. has worked to debilitate terrorist groups through a separate financial approach, which appears to be the greater success. According to former FBI intelligence analyst Julia Morse, the campaign to stop terrorist financing offers "more cautious optimism." The article highlighted that the U.S. can use markets, rather than simply militaries, to curtail terrorists in the 21st century.

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

Pentagon Asks Personnel to Report Any Symptoms of Mysterious Ailments

The *New York Times* (09/15, Barnes) reported that a message signed by Secretary of Defense Austin asked all military personnel, civilian officials, and contractors to report any anomalous health episodes similar to the illnesses that have befallen diplomats and C.I.A. officers at the American Embassy in Havana. According to the article, the message is an effort to step up reporting from around the globe, and in the United States, to get treatment to those who need it and to help counterintelligence investigators gather more information about the rash of episodes that have injured at least 200 Americans. The memo, along with other documents provided to military counterintelligence officials, lays out suspected signs of the attacks from accounts of the injured, including heat, pressure, and noise. The story was also reported on by *The Hill* (09/15, Vakil).

China Initiative Aims to Stop Economic Espionage. Targeting Academics Over Grant Fraud 'Overkill'?

The *Washington Post* (09/15, Nakashima, Nakamura) reported that over the past several years, the Justice Department has broadened its focus from company insiders, hackers, and suspected Chinese agents to scrutinize researchers at universities and hospitals under a marquee law enforcement program called the China Initiative. According to the article, a string of dismissed cases has amplified concerns among some lawmakers and activists about whether prosecutors have been overzealous in pursuing researchers of Chinese descent. The article noted that the Justice Department separately dropped five other cases in a single day this summer, each involving Chinese nationals doing research in the United States and accused of falsely denying links to the Chinese military on visa applications. The dismissals, defense lawyers said, showed the challenge of bringing criminal cases based on scientific technology that FBI agents and prosecutors are ill-equipped to understand. In the case of Temple's Xiaoxing Xi, leading physicists attested that contrary to the federal charges, schematics he sent to Chinese counterparts were not related to restricted superconductor research. The article goes on to note that in November 2018, then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions launched the China Initiative at a news conference heralding a major indictment of a Chinese state-owned company, a Taiwan company, and three Taiwanese nationals. They were charged with conspiring to steal sensitive U.S. semiconductor technology to benefit China. His announcement came amid a Trump administration trade war with Beijing. The heightened tension was reflected in the language some officials used to frame the cases, with one FBI official calling China "a country bent on economic espionage against the United States."

Three US Ex-Intelligence Officials Admit to Hacking for UAE

The *Express Tribune* (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that three US former intelligence agents admitted in a Virginia court Tuesday to taking part in a United Arab Emirates hacking operation aimed at enemies and rivals of the Gulf country. The article noted that they had worked for a US company providing cyber intelligence operations for the UAE government that met US regulations. They then moved in 2016 to higher-paying jobs at a UAE government-linked company, identified in media reports as DarkMatter, where they began carrying out hacking jobs on designated targets, including servers inside the United States. *Middle East Eye* (09/15, Staff Writer) also reported on this story.

Former U.S. Intel Operatives to Pay \$1.6M for Hacking for Foreign Govt

Sleeping Computer (09/15, Illascu) reported that the U.S. government has entered a Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA) with three former intelligence operatives to resolve criminal charges relating to their offering of hacking services to a foreign government. According to the article, between 2016 and 2019, Marc Baier, Ryan Adams, and Daniel Gericke provided their services to a company that ran sophisticated hacking operations for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) government against various targets. The article noted that as former employees of the U.S. Intelligence Community (USIC) or the U.S. military, the three agreed to pay \$1,685,000 in penalties to not be prosecuted for violations of U.S. export control, computer fraud, and access device fraud laws. *ITPro* (09/15, Millman) also reported on this story.

Florida Police Name Missing Woman's Boyfriend as Person of Interest

Reuters (09/15, Borter) reported that the boyfriend of a 22-year-old woman who went missing while on a cross-country trip with him in a van has been named a person of interest in the case. According to the article, Gabby Petito lost contact with her family in late August, and before that, she was believed to be in Wyoming. Brian Laundrie returned to the home he shared with his family and Petito in North Port, Florida, on Sept. 1, North Port Police said in a statement. Petito's parents reported her missing 10 days later. The Associated Press (09/15, Anderson) noted that Laundrie has not cooperated with police, but has not been charged with any crime; the FBI and the Suffolk County Police Department in New York are assisting in the investigation. The article noted that Police in the southern Utah tourist town of Moab responded to a call about a possible domestic violence incident that officers say was more of a mental health crisis involving the couple on Aug. 12. The officers said in a police report no significant injuries were observed. One witness called 911 and said he saw Laundrie and Petito fighting over a phone, according to the police report. When Laundrie got back into the van, Petito hit him in the arm before trying to climb through the driver's side window. Officers said they pulled the van over near the entrance to Arches National Park and saw Petito crying uncontrollably in the passenger seat. She told officers that she was struggling with her mental health. CNN (09/15, Moshtaghian, Alsharif, Maxouris) reported that in a statement released Tuesday, Petito's parents, Nicole Schmidt and Joseph Petito, said Laundrie was refusing to tell them where he last saw their daughter and "refusing to explain why he left Gabby all alone and drove her van to Florida." The article noted that North Port police are leading the investigation, with help from the FBI. This story was also reported on by the Independent (09/15, Graziosi), the Daily Dot (09/15, Jacobo), NBC News (09/15, Planas), FOX News (09/15, Wallace), CBS News (09/15, Jones, Aracena), The Hill (09/15, Romaine), Wink News (09/15, Petras, Montoya), the New York Post (09/15, Staff Writer), additional reporting by the New York Post (09/15, O'Neil), the Insider (09/15, Asarch), People (09/15, Harris), Herald-Sun (09/15, Capron), The Daily Beast (09/15, Rohrllich), The Salt Lake Tribune (09/15, Pierce), WTVD (ABC-11) (09/15, Staff Writer), KSTU (FOX-13) (09/15, Staff Writer), KKTU (CBS-11) (09/15, Staff Writer), KRQE (CBS-13) (09/15, Morris), Patch (09/15, Razzano), and MEAWW (09/15, Pal).

Police: Lawyer Murdaugh Arranged Own Death But Shot Grazed

The Associated Press (09/15, Collins) reported that a prominent South Carolina lawyer who found the bodies of his wife and son three months ago tried to arrange his own death earlier this month so his son would get a \$10 million life insurance payment, but the planned fatal shot only grazed his head. The shooter, Curtis Edward Smith, was charged with assisted suicide, insurance fraud, and several other counts in the Sept. 4 shooting of Alex Murdaugh on a lonely highway in Hampton County. In a statement to CNN (09/15, Levinson, Watts, Holcombe), Murdaugh's attorney said Murdaugh is cooperating with authorities and continues to deny he had any role in the killings of his wife and son. "On September 4, it became clear Alex believed that ending his life was his only option. Today, he knows that's not true," the attorneys said. "Alex is fully cooperating with SLED in their investigations into his shooting, opioid use, and the search to find the person or people responsible for the murder of his wife and son." This story was also reported on by FOX News (09/15, Casiano), the New York Times (09/15, Bogel Borouhgs), People (09/15, Baker), New York Post (09/15, Brown), The Daily Beast (09/15, Bogel Melendez), additional reporting by CNN (09/15, Levenson), NBC News (09/15, Helsel and Fieldstadt), USA Today (09/15, Miller and Dewitt), and Rolling Stone (09/15, Marks) also reported on the story.

Man Called Largest Child Porn Purveyor Gets 27-year Sentence

The Associated Press (09/15, Kunzelman) reported that a man described by U.S. authorities as the world's most prolific purveyor of child pornography at the time of his arrest in Ireland was sentenced on Wednesday to 27 years in federal prison. According to the article, Eric Eoin Marques, 36, created and operated computer servers on the dark web that enabled users to anonymously access millions of illicit images and videos, many depicting the rape and torture of infants and toddlers. Law enforcement had never seen many of those images before finding them on Marques' servers. Justice Department prosecutor Ralph Paradiso said Marques created an online community for sexual predators to anonymously abuse and exploit children and share the horrific images that they created. "They all got together and they sexually exploited children," he said. "They reveled in that sexual exploitation." The Irish Times (09/15, Gallagher) also reported on this story.

Illinois Man Sentenced to 45 Years in Prison for Sexual Exploitation of Children

WCIA (CBS-3) (09/15, Le) reported that Jeffrey West was sentenced to 45 years in prison for child sexual exploitation offenses. According to the article, a teenage boy reported West for sexually abusing him. During an investigation following this report, police found 1,000 images and videos of child pornography in different devices in West's home and office in Mattoon. West also used the video-chatting website Omegle to entice and coerce young boys to engage in sexually explicit conduct. "Those who choose to sexually abuse children will be caught, prosecuted, and severely punished," said Acting U.S. Attorney Douglas J. Quivey. "I commend the diligent investigators of the Mattoon Police Department, working in conjunction with the FBI, for making our community safer."

Illinois Man Sentenced to Ten Years in Prison for Enticing a Minor

The Daily-Journal (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that Timothy Dean was sentenced Tuesday to 10 years in federal prison, to be followed by eight years of supervised release, for enticement of a minor. According to the article, the evidence presented at trial showed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation identified Dean when he arranged to meet an individual he believed to be a 14-year-old minor for sexual activity on the dating application Grindr. Dean was arrested over Valentine's Day weekend in 2020 as part of an FBI Springfield Division Operation conducted in Kankakee County. Dean was one of 15 men, including 11 from Kankakee County, arrested in the sting.

Former House Speaker Hastert Settles With Sexual Abuse Victim in Lawsuit Over Hush-Money Payments

Chicago Sun-Times (09/15, Seidel) reported that former U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert struck a deal Wednesday with the man at the center of the prosecution that sent Hastert to federal prison five years ago, settling a lawsuit over hush-money payments days before a trial was set to kick off in Kendall County. According to the article, though the agreement would appear to bring some resolution to Browne's client — whose hush-money deal with Hastert over decades-old sexual abuse claims ultimately led to Hastert's disgrace and imprisonment — Browne told reporters, "It's never over for a victim of childhood sexual abuse." The article noted that the FBI confronted Hastert before he could pay the full \$3.5 million. He paid \$1.7 million to Individual A, who then sued for the remaining \$1.8 million.

FBI Says Couple Wanted for Robbing Albuquerque Bank

KRQE (CBS-13) (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that the FBI and the Albuquerque Police Department are looking for a couple who robbed an Albuquerque bank. Investigators say the woman cased the Bank of the West on Juan Tabo and Candelaria Tuesday minutes before the robbery. The woman allegedly held the door open for the man who then walked up to a teller and demanded money.

FBI Investigating Red Line Assault, Ethnic Slur Against Asian Victim as a Hate Crime

The Chicago Tribune (09/15, Rosenberg-Douglas) reported that The FBI has joined Chicago police in investigating an August assault at the CTA Red Line Argyle station that authorities now are classifying as a hate crime, officials said. According to the article, Chicago police previously issued a community alert about the attack. Siobhan Johnson, a spokeswoman for the FBI's Chicago field office, said the victim, a 30-year-old Asian man, entered the station and was followed by a man he didn't know. According to police, the stranger came up behind the victim and "without provocation" hit him in the back of his head, causing him to fall. The FBI announced its involvement this week because the assailant "advised that the victim deserved the assault and used an ethnic slur against the victim and the victim's partner," which prompted investigators to treat it as a hate crime. Nextshark (09/15, Ke) also reported on the story.

Authorities Release an Age-Progression Image of a Missing New Jersey Child

WPVI (ABC-6) (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that Police in Bridgeton, New Jersey released an age-progression photo on Wednesday of what Dulce Maria Alavez might look like today. Dulce was last seen on September 16, 2019, at Bridgeton City Park. She would now be 7 years old. The image was created by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. WCAU (NBC-10) (09/15, Chang) noted that Dulce disappeared from a park in Bridgeton, New Jersey, a small Latino-majority city surrounded by one of the most rural areas of the state. Authorities believe Dulce was abducted as she played with her 3-year-old brother and her 8-year-old niece. Her mother, Noema Alavez Pérez, had been watching the kids from a car when the suspected kidnapper struck. "The offender that took Dulce was likely there for a period of time. It was a crime of opportunity. They were looking for a child, maybe their age or gender," Federal Bureau of Investigations special agent Daniel Garrabrant said. The search for the girl has not ceased and has spanned from western states all the way to Mexico, where the FBI said Dulce's father resides and has been cooperating with authorities. The Patch (09/15, Bellano), the Courier-Post (09/15, Coppola), Florida News-Times (09/15, Bruchesi), and nj.com (09/15, Gray) also reported on the story.

Still No Answers in Disappearance of Lumberton Girl Missing For Four Years

WPDE (ABC-15) (09/15, Altman-Devilbiss) reported that Lumberton police continue their efforts to find Abby Lynn Patterson after she disappeared four years ago on Sept. 5, 2017. According to the article, the FBI created a poster with information on Patterson's disappearance to help "publicize her disappearance and the ongoing investigation to locate her." Parker said detectives have followed a number of leads, but have not determined what happened to Abby after she left her home. WRAL (NBC-5) (09/15, Brown) also reported on the story.

Suspected Quadruple Homicide Perplexes Wisconsin Police

USA Today (09/15, Martinez, Carson) reported that four people found slain in an abandoned SUV in a western Wisconsin cornfield had been shot and were all from Minnesota, authorities said of a case they described as a mystery. Preliminary results of autopsies performed Monday by the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office showed the two men and two women all died of gunshot wounds. According to the article, Authorities believe the four Twin Cities-area residents died less than 24 hours from the time they were found and the location "was a place these victims were randomly brought," Bygd said. "Everybody's a suspect at this point," he said. "We're looking at everybody and every possibility." The Daily Caller (09/15, Hughes) noted that the FBI Minneapolis field office is assisting the local sheriff's office. Newsweek (09/15, Hutzler) and the Daily Beast (09/15, Quinn) also reported on the story.

Texas Man Accused of Killing Woman He Met on Dating App in Custody

KWTX (CBS-10) (09/15, Narvid) reported that a man wanted for the murder of a 21-year-old woman has been caught and appeared in a Harris County courtroom Wednesday morning after being extradited from Oregon. According to the article, the Houston Police Department identified the suspect as Jordon Potts who is charged with the murder of Shawtyeria Waites. Waites was last seen by her friend on July 25th walking into an apartment complex and was reported missing two days later. The article noted that Waites was dropped off at the apartment complex to meet with Potts, who she had previously met on a dating app. Police said an investigation determined Waites was killed inside Potts' apartment and then taken away from the location in the trunk of his vehicle. On August 27th, HPD homicide detectives, with assistance from the FBI found Waites's remains in Brookshire, Texas.

Texas Man Indicted on Capital Murder, Attempted Capital Murder Charges

KCBD (NBC-11) (09/15, Stegall) reported that a man was indicted on a capital murder charge after a deadly SWAT standoff in Levelland on July 15, 2021. He was also indicted on a charge of attempted capital murder of a peace officer. According to the article, Levelland officers were dispatched about an individual, later identified as Omar Soto-Chavira, acting strange by laying down in the street while possessing a large weapon, possibly a rifle. Officers arrived and tried to speak to Soto-Chavira, who had taken refuge in his home. When SWAT arrived, they began relieving the Levelland officers who had been holding their positions while under gunfire. According to the article, that is when Soto-Chavira shot Sgt. Detective Shawn Wilson in the head, Lubbock Deputy Josh Bartlett in the neck, and a third Lubbock Deputy in the hand. Concluding an almost 11-hour standoff with law enforcement including ATF and FBI, power to the city block was cut after sundown. Robots from Lubbock County SWAT and the Lubbock Police Department were used to locate Soto-Chavira alone in the bathroom of the home. After chemical agents were deployed, Soto-Chavira surrendered to officers.

Federal Officials Reportedly Raid Multiple Homes In Texas Border Town

The *Daily Caller* (09/15, Greenlee) reported that 19 individuals, including a Starr County justice of the peace, were arrested in connection to a drug-related conspiracy. Drug Enforcement Administration Assistant Special Agent in Charge Richard Sanchez expects more arrests will be made in connection with the investigation that was opened in June 2020. According to the article, Law enforcement officials have seized over 660 pounds of methamphetamines, 6,600 pounds of marijuana, around two pounds of fentanyl, and some \$100,000 since the investigation began. More than 150 local, state, and federal officials with around 20 different agencies participated in the operation, and agencies including the FBI were reportedly involved in the searches.

Massachusetts Man Convicted of Sending Threatening Emails to Police Commissioner

WHYY-FM (09/15, Staff) reported that a Massachusetts man was convicted at trial Wednesday of sending threatening emails to Philadelphia Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw in June 2020. According to the article, Fratus sent two emails to the Outlaw's City of Philadelphia email address, both allegedly containing racist, offensive, and threatening language, with one communication asking about where the commissioner lived. The article noted that the Philadelphia Police Department and the Dennis Police Department assisted the FBI with the case.

Collaborative Efforts to Reduce Violent Crime in New Hampshire Led to Gang Arrest

Union Leader (09/15, Feely) reported that authorities say the arrest of a gang member whose Manchester apartment contained four guns and two pounds of hard drugs was the result of collaborative efforts between federal, state, and local agencies to reduce violent crime in the Queen City. According to the article, following the arrest of Michael Francis on a weapons possession charge, authorities obtained a warrant and searched his apartment, where they found four firearms, including a stolen Makarov 9mm pistol, a .40-caliber Springfield Armory pistol with a 16-round magazine, a SIG Sauer 9mm pistol with a 15-round magazine and a stolen Glock .40-caliber pistol. The search also uncovered a bag with 248 grams of fentanyl, a bag with 28 grams of crack cocaine, and two baggies with 450 grams of methamphetamine between them. The article noted that the FBI identified Francis as a documented member of the Gangster Disciples street gang.

Alabama Man Sentenced to Jail for Shining Laser Pointer at Police Helicopter

WIAT (CBS-42) (09/15, Taylor) reported that a Jefferson County has been sentenced to nearly a year in prison for aiming a laser pointer at a helicopter flown by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. According to the article, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Star One helicopter was assisting the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency in a nighttime operation to recover stolen firearms. While flying below an approach path for the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport, the helicopter received numerous laser strikes from a residence below. The helicopter's tactical officer was able to determine the street location of the source of the laser strikes, which was relayed to the Birmingham Police Department, who responded to the scene but could not locate a Mathews. However, they gathered information that later assisted the Federal Bureau of Investigation in tracking down Mathews and obtaining a confession. The article noted that the FBI investigated the case, along with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and the Birmingham Police Department.

FBI: Albany Man Arrested for Threats Against Oregon Public Official

Gazette-Times (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that the FBI has arrested an Albany man for allegedly threatening an Oregon public official regarding COVID-19 vaccines and other matters. "... all the people that won't get your FAKE (expletive) vaccine are the same ones who you will see hang you in a public place for crimes against America. I wish you would show your face you punk! I'd take your WORTHLESS SOUL from you. (Expletive) ALL DEMOCRAT COMMUNISTS like you. Resign today! I'd love to get my (expletive) hands around your neck SCUM!!! If you don't call me back, I'm going to start sending threats and then we'll get some of your (expletive) little cop friends down here to see me and I'm going to (expletive) kill them. They come in my (expletive) yard. Anybody from the state or federal come into my yard, I'll kill them." The article noted that "threats of any kind against a public official are not acceptable in this country," said Kieran L. Ramsey, special agent in charge of the Portland field office for the FBI. The story was also reported on by the Associated Press (09/16, Staff Writer).

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CYBER DIVISION

Analysis: Still No Signs of Russian Cooperation on Ransomware

The Washington Post (09/15, Marks) reported that it's been nearly three months since President Biden demanded Russian leader Vladimir Putin take action against ransomware gangs operating in Russian territory. According to the article, officials say there's no evidence the Kremlin is reining in these groups. Those gangs are still "operating in the permissive environment that they've created there," FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate said during the annual Intelligence and National Security Summit. U.S. requests for Russian help extraditing ransomware hackers have produced no results, he said. Bank Info Security (09/15, Schwartz) and Cyber Wire (09/15, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

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LABORATORY

UN Official Wants Moratorium on AI Tools That Violate Human Rights

The Hill (09/15, Choi) reported that Michelle Bachelet, the U.N.'s High Commissioner for Human Rights, called for a moratorium on the sale and use of artificial intelligence (AI) systems that she said can pose a risk to human rights. "Artificial intelligence can be a force for good, helping societies overcome some of the great challenges of our times. But AI technologies can have negative, even catastrophic, effects if they are used without sufficient regard to how they affect people's human rights," Bachelet said. The report also called for a moratorium on the use of "biometric recognition technologies in public spaces" until the recommendations mentioned can be implemented. The article noted that facial recognition technology has long been criticized for misidentifying women and people of color, leading to false arrests. In June, the Government Accountability Office reported that six federal agencies had used facial recognition technology to identify protesters attending racial justice protests last year, including the FBI.

Groundbreaking DNA Software Will Be Used by Rhode Island Forensic Science Lab

Officer.com (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that the Rhode Island Department of Health Forensic Science Laboratory is the latest U.S. forensic lab to announce plans to use STRmix forensic software to resolve mixed DNA profiles previously considered too complex to interpret. According to the article, STRmix's use in interpreting complex DNA evidence has been instrumental in successfully resolving more than 300,000 cases worldwide. This success rate has led to 68 local, state, federal, and private forensic laboratories throughout the U.S. – including those operated by the FBI.

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OTHER FBI NEWS

Officials: Police in Aurora, Colorado Racially Biased

The Associated Press (09/15, Nieberg) reported that a civil rights investigation that was launched amid outrage over the death of Elijah McClain — a Black man put into a chokehold during an encounter with suburban Denver police two years ago — found a deeply engrained culture of racially biased policing within the department, Colorado's attorney general said Wednesday. According to Reuters (09/15, O'Brien), the investigation found "racial disparities, especially with regard to Black people in nearly every significant facet of police contact with the community," he said. The department "treated people of color and Black individuals in particular differently than their white counterparts." New York Times (09/15, Levenson) noted that the report recommended that the Police Department enter into a consent decree that would require changes to policies, training, record-keeping, and hiring. If the department does not agree to enter into such an agreement, the state could seek a court order to force it to make changes, Mr. Weiser said. According to the Wall Street Journal (09/15, Clafas) In June 2020, Gov. Polis, a Democrat, signed a police accountability bill that, in part, gave the attorney general more power to investigate police departments and other government agencies for misconduct. The attorney general's 14-month investigation included 220 hours in ride-along with police and fire officials, analyses of internal Aurora Police Department data since 2018, nine months of weekly police-force review meetings, conversations with the community, and interviews with various police and fire employees. CBS News (09/15, Powell), Denver Post (09/15, Schmeltzer), The Hill (09/15, Choi), The Daily Beast (09/15, Boryga), Colorado Sun (09/15, Paul), CPR (09/15, Sherry, Verlee), and KMGH (ABC-15) (09/15, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

Judge Rejects Delay to Defamation Suit Against Donald Trump

The Associated Press (09/15, Neumeister) reported that a federal judge on Wednesday rejected a request by lawyers for former President Donald Trump to delay the progression of a defamation lawsuit by a woman who accused him of rape. According to the article, Judge Lewis A. Kaplan in Manhattan issued a brief denial of the request the lawyers made in December to delay the lawsuit while an appeals court decides whether the United States can be substituted as the defendant. It was unclear whether he would explain his reasoning in a subsequent filing. The U.S. Justice Department has asserted that Trump cannot be held personally liable for "crude and disrespectful" remarks he made about Carroll because he was president at the time. Carroll says Trump raped her in the mid-1990s in an upscale Manhattan department store. Reuters (09/15, Stempel) also reported on the story.

Former Trump Appointee Possibly Seeking Indictment of Clinton Campaigning Lawyer

The Washington Post (09/15, Barrett) reported that special counsel John Durham, who was appointed during the Trump administration to investigate possible wrongdoing at the FBI and other agencies dating to the 2016 election, is preparing to seek the indictment of Michael Sussmann, whose law firm has close ties to Democrats. According to the article, Sussmann is bracing for the possibility he will be charged with lying to the FBI in September 2016, when he raised concerns about possible ties between a Russia-based bank and a computer server at one of former President Donald Trump's companies. The story was also reported on by the New York Times (09/15, Savage, Goldman, Schmidt, and Rashbaum).

Ex-Cop's Murder Conviction Reversed in 911 Caller's Death

The Associated Press (09/15, Forliti) reported that the Minnesota Supreme Court on Wednesday threw out the third-degree murder conviction of a former Minneapolis police officer who fatally shot a woman who had called 911 to report a possible rape behind her home. According to the article, Noor was convicted of third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in the 2017 death of Justine Ruszczyk Damond, a dual U.S.-Australian citizen who called 911 to report a possible sexual assault behind her home. He was sentenced to 12 1/2 years on the murder count but was not sentenced for manslaughter. The ruling means his murder conviction is overturned and the case will now go back to the district court, where he will be sentenced on the manslaughter count. He has already served more than 28 months of his murder sentence. If sentenced to the presumptive four years for manslaughter, he could be eligible for supervised release around the end of this year. According to CNN (09/15, Jimenez, Park, Sanchez), Noor's lawyer argued that a "perfect storm" of events led to him opening fire on Ruszczyk when she called 911 to report a possible assault in progress in an alley behind her Minneapolis home. Noor testified that he feared for his partner's life as Ruszczyk approached their squad car in the dark, empty alley. But Hennepin County prosecutors said Noor overreacted and failed to properly assess the situation before firing a gunshot into Ruszczyk's abdomen.

Bans on Chokeholds for Federal Officers Latest in Nationwide Push to Hold police to a 'Higher Standard'

CNN (09/15, Tucker) reported that the Justice Department announced Tuesday that federal law enforcement officers will be banned from using neck restraints during arrests and using no-knock entries while executing warrants except in rare cases is part of an ongoing focus on police accountability at local, state and federal levels. According to the article, since May 2020, 47 states and Washington, DC have enacted 390 new laws that address policing policy, and all 50 states and DC have collectively introduced 3,120 laws during that period but not all were enacted. The article noted that these laws address the proper restraint of suspects, how warrants are served, the duty of officers to intervene, and body camera requirements.

Minnesota Supreme Court Fast Tracks Minneapolis Ballot Issue on Police

The Associated Press (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that the Minnesota Supreme Court agreed Wednesday to take up a dispute over whether Minneapolis residents will decide a ballot question on the future of policing in the city where George Floyd died in police custody. According to the article, the proposal has its roots in the "defund the police" movement, which gained momentum after Floyd's death last summer sparked protests, civil unrest, and a national reckoning on racial justice. It would remove the city charter's requirement that Minneapolis have a police department with a minimum staffing level and replace it with a new Department of Public Safety that "could have" police "if necessary."

Former Congressman Sentenced to Prison for Fraud

Common Wealth (09/15, Murphy) reported that a federal judge sentenced former Rep. David Nangle to 15 months in prison on Wednesday after the Lowell Democrat pleaded guilty earlier this year to illegally using campaign funds to fund a lifestyle that included golf club memberships and casino trips to Connecticut, and lying to banks about his debt to obtain mortgages and other loans. "These crimes ought to be investigated and prosecuted, and that's exactly what our judicial system did. I hope David Nangle learns from his mistakes and moves on with his life after completion of his sentence," said House Speaker Ron Mariano, a Quincy Democrat who served many years in the House and in leadership with Nangle.

Elizabeth Holmes Trial: Ex-Employee Says She Was Rebuffed in Attempt to Raise Alarms

The Wall Street Journal (09/15, Randazzo) reported that former Theranos Inc. lab worker, Erika Cheung, testified Wednesday that she raised alarms about the blood-testing startup's practices with colleagues, managers, and even a top executive and a board member but was rebuffed at every turn. According to the article, the testimony bolstered federal prosecutors' case against Theranos founder Elizabeth Holmes, who is battling accusations that she defrauded patients and investors with promises that her technology could test for a range of health conditions using just a few drops of blood from a finger prick.

Dallas Mayor Forms Anti-Hate Advisory Council In Response To Rise In Hate Crimes

KTVT (CBS-11) (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that mayor Eric Johnson announced Wednesday, Sept. 15, he formed the Mayor's Anti-Hate Advisory Council "in light of statistics that show a rising number of hate crimes in Dallas and across the country." According to the article, the announcement comes after the FBI released a new report showing that nationwide, hate crimes hit at a 12-year high in 2020. KDFW (FOX-4) (09/15, Staff Writer) and WBAP-FM (09/15, Neville) also reported on the story.

Fired Little Rock Officer Faced Discrimination, Retaliation From Police Chief and Others

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (09/15, Eley) reported that an internal city email released by court order Monday claims that Little Rock Police Chief Keith Humphrey and two other police officials racially discriminated against and retaliated against an officer earlier this year, resulting in the officer's termination. According to the article, Mattox, who is white, was fired recently after Humphrey, who is Black, sustained findings of untruthfulness and unauthorized investigation. The violations were tied to a police investigation into a man suspected of exposing himself to women. Mattox's wife was reportedly one of the victims.

FBI Launches Campaign to Raise Hate Crime Awareness

The Associated Press (09/15, Staff Writer) reported that the Charlotte division of the FBI says it is launching a campaign across North Carolina to raise awareness about federal hate crimes and to encourage people to report them. According to a news release, the FBI says the campaign is part of a nationwide effort coordinated through FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. Robert Wells, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Charlotte Division, said no one should fear being targeted for violence because of their look, where they are from, or any portion of their identity.

WSJ (CBS-13) (09/15, Staff Writer) added that the Baltimore division of the bureau will also take place in the FBI's nationwide Hate Crime Awareness campaign. According to the article, the campaign will consist of digital billboards, flyers, and ads on buses, social media, and radio throughout Maryland and Delaware. Special Agent in Charge Thomas Sobocinski stated that the "vast majority" of hate crimes are going underreported and that the FBI can only help if the bureau knows about the crime.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

France Says Head of Islamic State in Sahara Has Been Killed

- Associated Press: France Says Head of Islamic State in Sahara Has Been Killed
- Reuters: Macron Says French Forces Killed Islamic State leader in Sahara
- The Hill: French Forces Kill Islamic State in Sahara Leader, Macron Says
- The Epoch Times: France Says It Has Killed ISIS-GS Leader, a Former Al-Qaeda Leader, in Africa
- LA Times:: France Says Head of Islamic State in Sahara Has Been Killed
- Independent: Macron Says ISIS Leader in Sahara Has Been Killed
- The Guardian: France Says It Has Killed Islamic State leader in Greater Sahara, Adnan Abu Walid al-Sahrawi
- Axios: Leader of Islamic State in Sahara Has Been Killed, Macron Says

International Criminal Court Authorizes Investigation into Bloody Philippine Drug War Led by Duterte

- Washington Post: International Criminal Court Authorizes Investigation into Bloody Philippine Drug War Led by Duterte
- Reuters: Philippines Says Won't Cooperate with ICC Probe of 'War on Drugs'

U.S. to Help Australia Acquire Nuclear-Powered Submarines in Counter to China

- The Hill: U.S. to Help Australia Acquire Nuclear-Powered Submarines in Counter to China
- Wall Street Journal: U.S. to Share Nuclear Submarine Technology With Australia in New Pact
- Reuters: Australia to Get U.S. Nuclear Submarine Technology as China Looms Large
- Associated Press: Australia Buys U.S. Nuclear Subs Due to Changed Security Needs
- Washington Post: U.S. Will Share Nuclear Submarine Technology with Australia as Part of New Alliance, a Direct Challenge to China

Australia's New US-UK Security Pact Risks China Trade

- Australia's New US-UK Security Pact Risks China Trade
- U.S. Builds Bulwark Against China with UK-Australia Security Pact

Taiwan Plans \$9b Boost in Arms Spending, Warns of 'Severe Threat'

- Reuters: Taiwan Plans \$9b Boost in Arms Spending, Warns of 'Severe Threat'

Ghani's Escape Derailed Last-Ditch Deal with Taliban, U.S. Envoy Says

- Financial Times: Ghani's Escape Derailed Last-Ditch Deal with Taliban, U.S. Envoy Says

Afghan Killed by Drone Praised by Co-Workers in U.S. Aid Group

- Associated Press: Afghan Killed by Drone Praised by Co-Workers in U.S. Aid Group

Friction Among Taliban Pragmatists, Hard-Liners Intensifies

- Associated Press: Friction Among Taliban Pragmatists, Hard-Liners Intensifies

North Korea Says Recent Missiles Were Test of 'Railway-Borne' System

- The Hill: North Korea Says Recent Missiles Were Test of 'Railway-Borne' System
- Associated Press: North Korea Says It Tested Rail-Launched Ballistic Missiles
- Reuters: North Korea Says It Tested New Railway-Borne Missile System to Strike 'Threatening Forces'
- Wall Street Journal: North Korea Fires Two Ballistic Missiles off Its East Coast, South Korean Military Says

U.S. and EU Plan Agreement to Curb Methane Pollution

- Financial Times: U.S. and EU Plan Agreement to Curb Methane Pollution

Iran's Nuclear Chief Admits Removal of Damaged IAEA Cameras

- Associated Press: Iran's Nuclear Chief Admits Removal of Damaged IAEA Cameras

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OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Biden Backs Top General Milley After Reported 'Secret' Calls With China

- Reuters: Biden Backs Top General Milley After Reported 'Secret' Calls With China
- Associated Press: Milley Defends Calls to Chinese as Effort to Avoid Conflict
- Washington Post: Biden Comes to Milley's Defense After Revelation Top General, Fearing Trump, Conferred with China to Avert War

Joint Chiefs Chairman Milley Becomes Lightning Rod on Right

- The Hill: Joint Chiefs Chairman Milley Becomes Lightning Rod on Right

Senator Threatens to Block National Security Nominees Unless Austin and Blinken Resign over Afghanistan

- Washington Post: Senator Threatens to Block National Security Nominees Unless Austin and Blinken Resign over Afghanistan

In House Tax Bill, Companies Get Return of Higher Rates but Not the Breaks

- Wall Street Journal: In House Tax Bill, Companies Get Return of Higher Rates but Not the Breaks

Senate Bill Could Spell End to ETF Tax Advantage

- Financial Times: Senate Bill Could Spell End to ETF Tax Advantage

Yellen, IRS Push Democrats to Require Banks to Report Taxpayers' Annual Account Flows

- Wall Street Journal: Yellen, IRS Push Democrats to Require Banks to Report Taxpayers' Annual Account Flows

Congress Pushes for a Path to Citizenship for 'Documented Dreamers'

- New York Times: Congress Pushes for a Path to Citizenship for 'Documented Dreamers'

SEC Issues \$114 Million to Two Whistleblowers

- Wall Street Journal: SEC Issues \$114 Million to Two Whistleblowers

Pennsylvania GOP Lawmakers Approve Wide-Ranging Subpoenas for Personal Information of 2020 Voters

- Washington Post: Pennsylvania GOP Lawmakers Approve Wide-Ranging Subpoenas for Personal Information of 2020 Voters

Drug Plan Fails, Signaling Thorny Path for Democrats' \$3.5 Trillion Bill

- New York Times: Drug Plan Fails, Signaling Thorny Path for Democrats' \$3.5 Trillion Bill

FTC Moves Toward Stricter Antitrust Scrutiny of Vertical Mergers

- Wall Street Journal: FTC Moves Toward Stricter Antitrust Scrutiny of Vertical Mergers

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BIG PICTURE

Wall Street Journal

- FDA Says Covid-19 Vaccines Remain Effective Without Boosters
- Covid-19 Pandemic Aid Kept Millions of Americans Out of Poverty in 2020

New York Times

- SpaceX Launches Astronaut Crew Like No Other on Orbital Adventure
- Pope Weighs In on Calls to Deny Communion to Biden Over Abortion
- Federal Regulators Publish the First Analysis of Pfizer's Booster Shot Application

Washington Post

- Biden's 'Incomprehensible' Travel Ban on European Visitors Widens Transatlantic Rift
- Microsoft Is Going Password-Free for Consumer Accounts
- Two Women of Color Will Compete to Become Boston's Next Mayor, Marking Historic Shift

Financial Times

- Cryptocurrency: Rise of Decentralised Finance Sparks 'Dirty Money' Fears

ABC News

- Olympic gymnasts testify in Congress about sexual abuse; Boyfriend named a person of interest in the search for missing woman; SpaceX launches 1st private flight to space.

CBS News

- Gymnasts demand justice in botched Larry Nassar investigation; Man teaches kids life lessons through chess.

NBC News

- U.S. gymnasts testify in Senate hearing on FBI failures in Nassar investigation; Pfizer pushes for Covid vaccine booster ahead of FDA decision; Joint Chiefs Chairman Milley facing backlash over bombshell claims in a new book.

FOX News

- Police not ruling out a potential link between murders in scenic campgrounds and woman's disappearance; US Olympic gymnasts slam Nassar investigation, allege FBI 'turned a blind eye,' falsified report.

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

White House

President

- 1:45 PM: The President delivers remarks on leveling the playing field in our economy to bring down costs and ensure that the backbone of the country, the middle class, can finally get a break

Vice President

- 10:00 AM: The Vice President will receive the Daily Brief

U.S. Senate

- No events scheduled

U.S. House of Representatives

- No events scheduled

Cabinet Members

- Secretary of Defense Austin, Secretary of State Blinken, Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne, and Australian Defence Minister Peter Dutton participate in Australia-U.S. Ministerial (AUSMIN) consultations photo spray, at the Department of State at 9:00 AM.
- Secretary of Defense Austin and Secretary of State Anthony J. Blinken join Australian Defence Minister Peter Dutton and Foreign Minister Marise Payne at a 1:40 PM press availability at the State Department following their 2021 Australia-U.S. Ministerial (AUSMIN) consultations.

Visitors

- Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne and Australian Defence Minister Peter Dutton will visit the State Department.

General Events

- Brookings Institution: Becoming a digital power: Japan's path for domestic transformation and international influence – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 8:00 PM. With the growing risk of the fragmentation of the international digital ecosystem, prioritizing digital transformation has never been more important for Japan. The country's digital transformation will largely determine its ability to adjust to profound demographic changes brought on by an aging and contracting population, find new sources of competitiveness and drivers for productivity at home, and consolidate its international role in securing a data governance regime that delivers on the promise of free data flows with trust. Closing the digitization gap has emerged as a central priority for both government and industry as evidenced in the launch of the new Digital Agency. Can Japan overcome the challenges ahead to become a successful digital power?
- Brookings Institution: Assessing the US-ROK partnership in the global trade agenda: A conversation with South Korean Trade Minister Han-Koo Yeo – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 8:30 AM. The United States and South Korea share deep economic ties cemented by the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement. This partnership, however, requires constant renewal to address rising challenges and seize new opportunities. The emergence of new technologies, the need to shore up supply chains in key sectors like semiconductors, the explosive growth of digital trade, and the reconfiguration of the regional trade architecture with mega trade groupings have transformed the global trade agenda. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for greater supply chain resiliency and the capacity to reliably source coronavirus vaccines, both domestically and for the world. And with the urgent need to address climate change, what role can trade policy play in devising an effective response?
- Center for Strategic and International Studies: New Approaches to Understanding Chinese State Capitalism - Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 10:00 AM. Chinese state capitalism blurs the relationship between commercial actors and the party-state in ways that have no direct comparison in market-oriented liberal democracies. While policymakers have long sounded the alarm on China's use of the commercial sector to pursue national security objectives, the complexity and unfamiliarity of state-business relations in China pose serious challenges for the rule of law-oriented systems. On Thursday, September 16, the CSIS Freeman Chair will host Jason Arterburn, Program Director at C4ADS, to discuss opportunities for using new data solutions in addressing the challenge of Chinese state capitalism. The event will coincide with the release of Party Capital: A Blueprint for National Security Due Diligence on China, a new report from C4ADS demonstrating methods in using publicly available information to address national security threats in China's commercial system.
- American Enterprise Institute: Facing Medicare's fiscal challenges: The 2021 Medicare trustees' report – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 10:00 AM. For the fourth consecutive year, Medicare trustees report that the program will be unable to pay the full cost of health benefits by 2026. The COVID-19 pandemic harmed Medicare's finances, but the mismatch between program spending and revenue has been a long-standing concern. If it continues unabated, the consequences for millions of beneficiaries will be dire. Please join AEI as Medicare's chief actuary summarizes the results of the 2021 trustees' report. A panel of experts will discuss the need for reform and policy options that could improve the program's fiscal condition.

- Atlantic Council: US withdrawal from Afghanistan: What it means for Turkey and the region – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 9:00 AM. Join the Atlantic Council IN TURKEY on September 16, 9:00 a.m. EDT / 4:00 p.m. Turkey time for a virtual discussion on developments in Afghanistan and their implications to Turkey and the region. The Taliban's lightning-fast takeover of Afghanistan in the wake of the United States' withdrawal has upended the regional status quo. Countries across the region are recalibrating their policy in response to the new reality in the country. For Turkey, a NATO member, the picture is multi-dimensional, encompassing strategic, security, and migration issues. The Taliban's advance has pushed thousands of Afghans to seek refuge in neighboring countries, with many making a long trek through Iran to Turkey and beyond. Turkey is not willing to handle the new influx of migration given that it currently hosts 3.7 million Syrian refugees and around three hundred thousand Afghan refugees, which makes it the largest refugee-hosting country in the world. Turkey has beefed up security on its border with Iran in anticipation of an even greater influx following the Taliban's seizure of Kabul.
- Atlantic Council: Future Foreign Policy series: Congress and AUMF repeal – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 1:00 PM. Please join the New American Engagement Initiative on Thursday, September 16, from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. EDT for a virtual discussion featuring Rep. Peter Meijer (R-MI-3) and Rep. Abigail Spanberger (D-VA-7) in conversation with Just Security's Tess Bridgeman about the effort to repeal the 2001 and 2002 Authorizations for Use of Military Force (AUMF). For the first time in a generation, a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers has joined together to reclaim Congress's authority with respect to the power to wage war. Two of the leaders of this effort join us to discuss how they did it, and to explore other ways for Congress to exercise better oversight of US national security. Why is now the time to repeal the AUMFs? How does the end of the war in Afghanistan influence the process to do so? And should the AUMFs just be repealed or should they be replaced with new legislation? The Future Foreign Policy series features new perspectives to expand the US toolkit to address traditional threats, confront emerging challenges, and enable greater and more robust global engagement with allies and partners. To this end, our invitees bring much-needed diversity into the national security dialogue. The speakers include not only those from traditionally underrepresented groups in Washington foreign policy circles but also those who represent a range of viewpoints.
- Atlantic Council: Book launch: From Odessa With Love – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 3:00 PM. Vladislav Davidzon has spent the last decade covering Ukraine during one of the most turbulent and revolutionary periods in its history. A year and a half after the Maidan revolution ushered in a new political reality for Ukraine, Davidzon and his wife founded the Odessa Review, quickly turning it into a top Eastern European cultural publication. Observing and covering Ukraine's travails from its center, Davidzon even found himself pulled into US President Donald Trump's first impeachment as a government witness. In this debut book, "From Odessa With Love: Political and Literary Essays in Post-Soviet Ukraine," Davidzon traces the story of Ukraine's journey over the last decade, and where it may be going next. Vladislav Davidzon, the nonresident fellow at the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center, joins Melinda Haring, deputy director of the Eurasia Center, for a one-on-one conversation about "From Odessa With Love."
- RAND Corporation: College Education in Prisons: A How-To Guide for Corrections Officials – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 11:00 AM. The expansion of national access to higher education in prison programming is on the horizon. December 2020 marked the end of a 26-year period that prevented currently incarcerated students from accessing Pell dollars to fund their education. The passage of Pell Reinstatement can be attributed to the success of the Second Chance Pell experimentation sites initiated under President Obama and expanded during President Trump's tenure, highlighting the bipartisanship and success of higher education in prison.
- Wilson Center: Confronting the China Conundrum: Perspectives Beyond the United States – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 9:00 AM. Tensions between the United States and China have only intensified in recent years, and the wariness of Beijing has become one of the few issues that still garners bipartisan support on Capitol Hill. With great power competition expected to increase even further, Washington is turning to its allies and partners to strengthen efforts to push back against China's economic coercion, violations of human rights, efforts to change the status quo in the Indo-Pacific, and infringements of the rule of law. Yet support for U.S. efforts in competing with China differs between countries as well as on issues. Under the shadow of an ever more aggressive China, both Japan and South Korea have publicly sided

with the United States to reaffirm their joint security commitments to the region, including Taiwan. Yet Tokyo and Seoul diverge from Washington when it comes to defining the economic threat posed by Beijing. Meanwhile, Southeast Asian countries have a more ambiguous attitude towards both the United States and China amidst a reluctance to choose sides.

- Hudson Institute: An Allied Response to Beijing's COVID Obstructionism – Thursday, September 16, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 12:00 PM. Join Hudson Institute CEO John Walters and Senior Fellow David Asher for a conversation with British MP and Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Tom Tugendhat and Australian Senator and Select Committee on COVID-19 Deputy Chair James Paterson on the origins of COVID-19 and how the U.S. and its allies can work together to hold the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) accountable for its obstruction, lies, and malfeasance. Despite offers of assistance, diplomatic entreaties, and polite requests for access to data by governments and health authorities across the globe, the CCP remains committed to obstructing investigations into the origins of COVID-19. Following the inconclusive results of the U.S. intelligence community's inquiry into this matter, how can America work with its closest allies to get to the bottom of one of the most important questions of our time? Please join Hudson Institute for this timely discussion.

Mobile version and searchable archives available at

b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] Body Worn Camera Training
To: [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Cc:
Sent: September 17, 2021 1:57 PM (UTC-04:00)

[REDACTED] will be hosting a conversation with HQ about the draft BWC policy and the implications for [REDACTED]. This session will explain the goals [REDACTED] proposed technical solutions for the BWC program, legal and operational issues. The target audience is [REDACTED]

b7E -4

[REDACTED] Even if you will not be wearing a BWC on ops you should be aware of the implications. Attendance is open to anyone [REDACTED] who wishes to participate and learn [REDACTED]

Please forward to your teams as appropriate.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Learn more about Teams](#)

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: BWC WG meeting
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 1, 2021 10:09 AM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

b5 -2

(And in other news, [redacted] wins the [redacted])

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[redacted]
Assistant General Counsel
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[redacted]

This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling the number listed above.

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:31 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
(FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: BWC WG meeting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks, [redacted]

b5 -1,2
b7E -4

As always, thanks for the help, and let me know if you're not getting what you need to move forward.

Stephen

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 7:03 AM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: BWC WG meeting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Steve --

Thanks much. [redacted]

b5 -2

FBI (22-cv-00149)-4740

b5 -2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks again.

[redacted]
[redacted]
Assistant General Counsel
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[redacted]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 3:50 PM

To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Re: BWC WG meeting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks, [redacted] All very helpful.

b5 -2

Please feel free to circulate the meeting schedules to me, [redacted] and we can try to support as needed.

b6 -1
b7C -1

As always, thank you so much for working on this project; it's incredibly helpful to have your expertise and assistance.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly
Chief, Operational Law Section
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[redacted]

b7E -3

[REDACTED]

From [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:13 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FE [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC WG meeting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[REDACTED] Steve -

The first BWC WG meeting just broke up. Steve, it turned out that there was quite a bit of discussion about whether [REDACTED] so unless you have a contrary view, I don't think your not being able to participate was a problem.

b5 -1,2
b7E -4

b5 -2

They're already talking about meeting again next week, so I wanted to give you a heads up about what's happening.

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[REDACTED]

This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling the number listed above.

From: [REDACTED] (OTD) (FBI)

b6 -1

Subject:

b7C -1

To:

Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI); Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Walker, David
(CIRG) (FBI); Cohen, Jodi (NSB) (FBI); Hensle, Michael E. (INSD) (FBI); Coburn, Jeffrey L. (OTD) (FBI);
Perese, Doran A. (ITADD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Pettus, John C. (OTD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; DiGuseppi, Janeen (ID) (FBI); Cox, Sean M. (SI) (FBI); Godbold, Melissa R. (OC)
(FBI); Santiago, Antonio (INSD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (FBI); Sutton, David Oohiton (SecD) (FBI);

[REDACTED]; Barnes, Steven B. (STB) (FBI); Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD)

Sent:

June 1, 2021 3:56 PM (UTC-04:00)

Sir - are these names you want added to the BWC Technical Working Group?

From: Bulletin Intelligence
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Friday, June 04, 2021
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: June 4, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: FBIDirBriefing210604.doc

b7E -3

This morning's Director's AM News Briefing is attached.

Full-text Links: Clicking the hypertext links in our write-ups will take you to the newspapers' original full-text articles.

Interactive Table of Contents: Clicking a page number on the table of contents page will take you directly to that story.

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b7E -3

FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS – DIRECTOR’S AM NEWS BRIEFING

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021 5:00 AM EDT

DOJ Warns Business To Treat Cyberattacks As Seriously As Terrorism.

NBC Nightly News

(6/3, lead story, 2:45, Snow, 4.9M) reported, “After an alarming number of hacks on US companies and infrastructure with demands for ransom, today the Department of Justice issued guidance that puts business leaders on notice and steps up investigations, essentially treating cyber attacks with the same seriousness as terrorist attacks. The government is asking companies to report cases and telling prosecutors across the country to share technical information, all of it aimed at protecting the economy. By some estimates trillions of dollars are being lost after attacks, a price that’s being passed on to...consumers.” The Administration is “also looking to step up intelligence agency spying on foreign hackers, even mulling initiating offensive cyberattacks against hackers inside Russia, US officials and other sources familiar with the matter tell NBC News.”

ABC World News Tonight

(6/3, story 3, 2:55, Muir, 5.96M) reported that the DOJ has “a new warning for authorities across the nation.” ABC’s Whit Johnson added, “Tonight, after crippling cyberattacks on the US, affecting the US meat supply, the gas supply and transportation, the Justice Department has now sent out notification to US attorneys on how federal law enforcement should respond to these attacks. One official telling Reuters US authorities must investigate ransomware and digital extortion with similar priority as terrorism cases. And tonight, the White House out with a new urgent warning – no company is safe from being targeted by ransomware.”

The CBS Evening News

(6/3, lead story, 3:00, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported, “After a spate of attacks...the White House is now warning all companies to take immediate steps to increase security, saying any business could be targeted by foreign cyber criminals. Tonight, the Justice Department is focused on tracking down the Russian hackers believed to be behind two of the latest attacks, and the White House says it’s not taking any options off the table when it comes to retaliating.” CBS (Pegues) added that the Justice Department is “taking aim at ransomware attackers, vowing to target them like terrorists, noting the destructive and devastating consequences the attacks are having on critical infrastructure, like the JBS meat plant this week, and Colonial Pipeline last month.” Jen Psaki, White House Press Secretary: “We recognize this is an increasing threat.”

Reuters

(6/3, Bing) reports that the Justice Department “is elevating investigations of ransomware attacks to a similar priority as terrorism in the wake of the Colonial Pipeline hack and mounting damage caused by cyber criminals, a senior department official told Reuters.” Reuters adds, “Internal guidance sent on Thursday to US attorney’s offices across the country said information about ransomware investigations in the field should be centrally coordinated with a recently created task force in Washington. ‘It’s a specialized process to ensure we track all ransomware cases regardless of where it may be referred in this country, so you can make the connections between actors and work your way up to disrupt the whole chain,’ said John Carlin, principle associate deputy attorney general at the Justice Department.”

The New York Times

(6/3, Sanger, Perloth, 20.6M) reports, “The White House warned American businesses on Thursday to take urgent security measures to protect against ransomware attacks, as hackers shift their tactics from stealing data to disrupting critical infrastructure.” According to the Times, “The bluntly worded open letter followed a string of escalating ransomware attacks that stopped gasoline and jet fuel from flowing up the East Coast and closed off beef and pork production from one of the country’s leading food suppliers.” Anne Neuberger, “the deputy national security adviser for cyber and emerging technologies, wrote that the Biden administration was working with partners ‘to disrupt and deter’ attacks that deployed ransomware, a form of malware that encrypts data until the victim pays,” but “she urged companies to adopt many of the same defensive steps that it has recently required of federal agencies and companies that do business with the government.”

Reuters

(6/3, Chiacu) reports that Neuberger “said there ‘has been a significant hike in the frequency and size of ransomware attacks. ‘The threats are serious and they are increasing. We urge you to take these critical steps to protect your organizations and the American public,’” Neuberger said.

The Hill

(6/3, Jenkins, 5.69M) reports, “The move follows a ransomware attack against Colonial Pipeline and other entities in the U.S. in recent weeks. Colonial Pipeline, which provides roughly 45 percent of the fuel consumed on the East Coast, faced a cyberattack last month that left many states in the southeast with gasoline shortages.” The Hill adds, “A cyber criminal group that federal authorities traced to Russia was able to infiltrate Colonial Pipeline’s systems and demand a ransom. The company paid the hackers \$4.4 million in order to have control of the systems returned to them.”

The Hill

(6/3, Lane, 5.69M) reports that the Agriculture Department (USDA) said on Thursday “that the ransomware attack on meat conglomerate JBS SA is unlikely to cause major disruptions but exposed the risks created by food industry consolidation.” In a statement, the USDA “said beef and pork production have begun to rebound after a weekend attack forced the country’s second-largest meat producer to shut down its plants.” JBS USA “is responsible for 25 percent of beef and

20 percent of pork and poultry sold in the US. The company said Tuesday it expected to regain full production capacity by the end of Thursday."

NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 2, 1:20, Snow, 4.9M) reported, "Tonight experts are calling it a hidden crisis across America. Cities and towns facing the threat of ransomware attacks. The criminals are so brazen some offer ransomware services for hire online, listing potential targets they can strike for affordable prices. And if anything, they choose smaller targets for smaller paydays to avoid attention." NBC (Ward) added, "From groceries to gas to getting on a bus, ransomware is now part of the American landscape. The insurance industry that covers cyberattacks is now estimated to be worth several billion dollars."

NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 3, 1:30, Snow, 4.9M) interviewed Chris Krebs, "who was the first director of the nation's cybersecurity and infrastructure security agency. Why are we hearing about so many attacks right now? Is there an increase in attacks or are they just more visible to us?" Krebs said, "I think it's actually both. I think we are seeing an increase, particularly of ransomware attacks, but also it's the targets. They're hitting the things that the average American cares about, between gasoline and our meat supply."

FBI Investigating DeJoy Over Political Fundraising Activity While In Private Sector. The CBS Evening News (6/3, story 8, 0:20, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported, "The FBI has opened an investigation into US Postmaster General Louis DeJoy. The probe centers on political fund-raising activity when he was in the private sector. Workers at the North Carolina company where he was CEO told the Washington Post he paid them bonuses for contributing to Republican candidates. DeJoy denies violating any laws." ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 5, 0:25, Muir, 5.96M) reported that "at a congressional hearing last summer, DeJoy called that claim 'outrageous.'"

The Washington Post (6/3, Zapotosky, Bogage, 10.52M) reports that FBI agents "in recent weeks interviewed current and former employees of DeJoy and the business, asking questions about political contributions and company activities, these people said. Prosecutors also issued a subpoena to DeJoy himself for information, one of the people said." The investigation "could signal impending legal peril for the controversial head" of the USPS, though he "has not been charged with any crimes and has previously asserted that he and his company followed the law in their campaign fundraising activity."

The New York Times (6/3, Benner, 20.6M) reports that a spokesman for DeJoy said, "Mr. DeJoy has learned that the Department of Justice is investigating campaign contributions made by employees who worked for him when he was in the private sector," adding, "He has always been scrupulous in his adherence to the campaign contribution laws and has never knowingly violated them."

Politico (6/3, Leonard, 6.73M) reports that Democrats in Congress have previously "grilled DeJoy over the allegations, which he has denied." Asked whether the President believes DeJoy should step down, White House Press Secretary Psaki said that "he'll leave the investigation and the process forward to the Department of Justice."

Reuters (6/3) reports that DeJoy, who was appointed by then-President Trump, "has faced criticism from Democrats over mail service changes and a plan to slow some deliveries to save money. DeJoy previously served as chief executive at North Carolina-based New Breed Logistics."

USA Today (6/3, Phillips, Johnson, 12.7M) and the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) also report on this story.

Supreme Court Narrows Prosecutors' Use Of Anti-Hacking Law. The AP (6/3, Gresko) reports that the Supreme Court on Thursday "limited prosecutors' ability to use an anti-hacking law to charge people with computer crimes." The AP adds, "Conservative and liberal justices joined to vote 6-3 to overturn the conviction of a police sergeant who used a work database to run a license plate search in exchange for money. The justices ruled prosecutors had overreached in using the federal Computer Fraud and Abuse Act to charge him." Attorneys for the police sergeant "had warned when the case was argued in late November that if the court ruled against him it could have sweeping consequences. They argued it could make a federal crime out of using a computer for virtually any unauthorized purpose, from 'checking sports scores at work to inflating one's height on a dating website.' The court agreed, rejecting the arguments of former President Donald Trump's administration for a broad reading of the statute."

The Washington Post (6/3, Barnes, 10.52M) reports that the court "restricted the scope of a federal anti-hacking law, with the majority of justices saying the government's 'breathtaking' interpretation of the statute could make criminals of 'millions of otherwise law-abiding citizens.'" The ruling "split the court in a way never before seen: The three justices nominated by President Donald Trump joined with the court's three liberals to form the majority. If the court's normal procedures prevailed during deliberation, that would mean liberal Justice Stephen G. Breyer, as the senior member in the majority, gave the writing assignment to rookie Justice Amy Coney Barrett."

Reuters (6/3, Chung) reports that the justices “sided with former Cumming, Georgia police sergeant Nathan Van Buren in an appeal of his conviction under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, reversing a lower court ruling that had upheld a jury verdict against him. Van Buren was charged after a 2015 FBI sting operation. The Supreme Court concluded that Van Buren could not be convicted for misusing the database to perform the investigation because the information had been available to him as part of his job. ‘This provision covers those who obtain information from particular areas in the computer – such as files, folders or databases – to which their computer access does not extend. It does not cover those who, like Van Buren, have improper motives for obtaining information that is otherwise available to them,’ Barrett wrote in the ruling.” Reuters notes that “three of the court’s conservative justices, Clarence Thomas, John Roberts and Samuel Alito, dissented from the ruling.”

The New York Times (6/3, Liptak, 20.6M) reports, “Van Buren, agreed to search the license-plate records in exchange for a \$5,000 payment from a man who turned out to be an F.B.I. informant. Though Mr. Van Buren’s job gave him access to the database, his search on that occasion violated department policy because it was not done in connection with his duties.” The Times adds, “Most of Justice Barrett’s opinion was devoted to parsing the statutory text. But she also cautioned that a contrary ruling would have made everyday conduct criminal. ‘The government’s interpretation of the statute would attach criminal penalties to a breathtaking amount of commonplace computer activity,’ she wrote. ‘If the “exceeds authorized access” clause criminalizes every violation of a computer-use policy, then millions of otherwise law-abiding citizens are criminals.”

NBC News (6/3, Williams, 4.91M) reports, “Justice Clarence Thomas dissented, in an opinion joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Samuel Alito. They said the majority’s ruling means the law would not apply to a computer technician who has authority to access a celebrity’s computer to fix a defective hard drive and who then copies and leaks pictures stored on the computer. ‘Using a police database to obtain information in circumstances where that use is expressly forbidden is a crime,’ they said in their dissent.”

Politico (6/3, Geller, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports that in his dissent, Justice Thomas “said the majority’s reading was contrived and off-base. He also said there are many areas of law where permission given to do something for one purpose does not imply permission for an unrelated purpose. ‘A valet, for example, may take possession of a person’s car to park it, but he cannot take it for a joyride,’ Thomas wrote. Thomas also noted that violations of the law are typically a misdemeanor, and he said the breadth of the statute is no reason to misread it. ‘Much of the Federal Code criminalizes common activity,’ he wrote. ‘It is understandable to be uncomfortable with so much conduct being criminalized, but that discomfort does not give us authority to alter statutes.”

The Los Angeles Times (6/3, Savage, 3.37M) reports, “The ACLU welcomed the decision as ‘an important victory for civil liberties and civil rights enforcement in the digital age.’ The group had long challenged the broader view of the computer fraud law that it said ‘would create criminal and civil liability for researchers and journalists who violate website terms of service while undertaking civil rights testing and research online.’ Others said Congress needs to update the law. ‘Given the central role and value of data in today’s commerce and society, it is time to modernize the primary federal computer statute to ensure that appropriate criminal and civil remedies apply to the theft of data,’ said Washington lawyer Mark Krotoski, a former federal prosecutor.” Also covering the ruling are CNN (6/3, Fung, Vogue, Cole, 89.21M), the Washington Times (6/3, Swoyer, 626K), NPR (6/3, Totenberg, 3.69M), Newsweek (6/3, 2.67M), CBS News (6/3, 5.39M), and the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M).

Biden Will Not Form Commission To Investigate January 6th Insurrection. The CNN (6/3, Collins, Zeleny, Vazquez, 89.21M) website reports that President Biden “has no plans to create a presidential commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the Capitol.” The Hill (6/3, Samuels, 5.69M) quotes White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki as saying, “As the President has said, the events of January 6th were an unprecedented assault on our democracy – and he believes they deserve a full, and independent investigation to determine what transpired and ensure it can never happen again.’ ... ‘Congress was attacked on that day, and President Biden firmly agrees with Speaker Pelosi that Congress itself has a unique role and ability to carry out that investigation. Because of that, the President doesn’t plan to appoint his own commission.”

Pence Rejects Trump’s Views On January 6th Insurrection, But Embraces Views On Race. The AP (6/3) reports that in remarks before a “Republican dinner” in New Hampshire on Thursday, former Vice President Mike Pence “said...that he wasn’t sure that he and former President Donald Trump would ever see ‘eye to eye’ over what happened” during the January 6th insurrection at the US Capitol, but added that he would “always be proud of what” the Trump Administration “accomplished for the American people over the last four years.” The New York Times (6/3, Cameron, 20.6M) adds that, during the same speech, Pence – who is considered a potential candidate for the 2024 presidential election – appeared to embrace Trump’s “racial politics” when he “described systemic racism as a ‘left-wing myth.” According to the Times, “the speech illustrated the careful

balance...Pence is aiming to strike in squaring the rhetoric of the Republican Party under ...Trump while standing by his opposition to...Trump's attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 election."

Federal Prosecutors Claim Damage From Capitol Riot Amounts To \$1.5 Million.

The Hill

(6/3, Lonas, 5.69M) reports that in a plea agreement with one of the defendants charged in the January 6th riot at the U.S. Capitol, federal prosecutors states the cost of damage from the incident amounted "nearly \$1.5 million in damage."

Four Additional Oath Keepers Face Charges In Connection With Capitol Riot.

The Hill

(6/3,

Beitsch, 5.69M) reports that DOJ has arrested Joseph Hackett, Jason Dolan, William Isaacs, and Jonathan Walden, all "members of the Oath Keepers," in connection to the January 6th insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. "In a newly unsealed court filing, the US Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia added the four to conspiracy charges facing members of the group, bringing the total to 16 defendants in the case."

Stomach Tattoo Helped Investigators Identify Alleged Capitol Rioter. The Washington Post (6/3, Hawkins, 10.52M) reports, "Authorities investigating the U.S. Capitol riot had zeroed in on the man in the white T-shirt and dark jacket. Videos and photos showed him hitting officers in the building, according to court records, and two tipsters had reported him to the FBI." The Post adds, "To make sure they had the right person, investigators dug deeper. They unearthed a nearly decade-old booking photo showing a distinctive tattoo on the man's stomach: 'King James' written in a semicircle Old English font. The same tattoo was visible in body-camera footage from the Jan. 6 attack, investigators said, flashing into view when the man lifted his shirt to wipe his face." James Burton McGrew "was arrested in Glendale, Ariz., last week on several charges, including acts of physical violence on Capitol grounds and assaulting, resisting or impeding an officer. He made his first court appearance Tuesday in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, records show."

Connecticut Man Charged In Capitol Siege Probe. The AP (6/3, Collins) reports from Hartford, Connecticut, "A Connecticut man seen in photos and video in the U.S. Senate chamber standing with the so-called QAnon shaman during the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection was charged with several crimes Thursday, federal authorities said." Richard Crosby Jr., 25, of Harwinton, Connecticut "appeared before a federal magistrate judge in Bridgeport later in the day via video conference from a detention cell. He was expected to be released under several conditions while the case is pending. Crosby is among more than 400 people who have been arrested in connection with the Capitol breach. Among the charges Crosby faces are obstruction of Congress, knowingly entering or remaining in a restricted building and disorderly conduct in a restricted building."

Florida Woman Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe Is Released On Bond.

Fox News

(6/3,

Wallace, 23.99M) reports, "A Florida woman has been arrested and charged with assaulting a police officer inside the US Capitol on Jan. 6, allegedly using a flag police to push the sergeant through the first set of doors to the House floor, causing him to fall backward and knock his head into a marble statue." Audrey Ann Southard-Rumsey, 52, of Spring Hill, Florida "made her initial court appearance Wednesday in the Middle District of Florida court in Tampa. She faces nine federal counts, which include assault on a federal officer or employee; engaging in an act of physical violence in the grounds or any Capitol building; and obstruction of justice, according to US Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia."

Minneapolis Workers Clear Barricades From Intersection Where George Floyd Was Killed, But Protestors Re-Erect Them.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/3, Du, Galoto, Walsh, 855K) reports that Minneapolis city crews on Thursday "cleared away vehicle barriers and portable toilets to reopen portions of the sprawling memorial at the south Minneapolis intersection where George Floyd was murdered by a police officer more than a year ago." However, "as soon as workers finished, protesters began parking cars and piling pallets in the streets again." The Tribune says that "city leaders have come under increasing pressure to reopen the intersection. George Floyd Square has become an internationally recognized memorial and protest site that hosts large public gatherings, but many residents, business owners and churchgoers say they feel besieged by gang intimidation and gunfire when the crowds leave."

The St. Paul (MN) Pioneer Press (6/3, Ibrahim, 324K) reports that "traffic briefly flowed through the intersection Thursday morning after the concrete barriers were removed, but community members quickly erected new makeshift barriers. Dozens of people gathered near the intersection, singing, chanting Floyd's name and giving speeches expressing frustration and urging people to continue organizing." Mayor Jacob Frey said. "This intersection will forever be changed and we need to be investing in that transformation," although he did not say when the intersection would be fully reopened. The New York Times (6/3, Winter,

Bogel-Burroughs, Gross, 20.6M) reports the Frey said that he was “committed to establishing a permanent memorial at the intersection.” [Bloomberg](#) (6/3, Akinnibi, 3.57M) also reports.

Gannett Fights FBI Subpoena Aimed At Readers Of Florida Shooting Story.

[Politico](#)

(6/3,

Gerstein, 6.73M) reports, “Newspaper publisher Gannett is fighting an effort by the FBI to try to determine who read a specific USA Today story about a deadly shooting in February near Fort Lauderdale, Fla., that left two FBI agents dead and three wounded.” Politico adds, “The subpoena, served on Gannett in April, seeks information about who accessed the news article online during a 35-minute window starting just after 8 p.m. on the day of the shootings. The demand – signed by a senior FBI agent in Maryland – does not appear to ask for the names of those who read the story, if the news outlet has such information,” but instead “seeks internet addresses and mobile phone information that could lead to the identities of the readers. The information being sought ‘relates to a federal criminal investigation being conducted by the FBI,’ the subpoena says.”

Judge Permits Information From CIA Interrogation In Gitmo Terror Case.

[The New York Times](#) (6/3,

Rosenberg, 20.6M) reports, “The military judge presiding in the death penalty case of a man accused of orchestrating the U.S.S. Cole bombing has agreed to consider information obtained during the man’s torture by C.I.A. interrogators to support an argument in pretrial proceedings at Guantánamo Bay.” Defense attorneys “cast the decision as the first time that a military judge at the war court is publicly known to have agreed to consider information obtained through the C.I.A. torture of a prisoner, and on Thursday they asked a higher court to reverse it.” Army Col. Lanny J. Acosta Jr. ruled on May 18 “that prosecutors may invoke such information to be used narrowly, not necessarily for the truth of it, before a jury begins hearing a case.”

Group Asks DOJ IG To Investigate Department Lawyers’ Handling Of Barr Memo.

[The Hill](#)

(6/3, Beitsch, Kruzel, 5.69M) reports the Justice Department is under growing pressure concerning “its handling of a Trump-era legal memo that critics say former Attorney General William Barr used to create a misleading impression of former special counsel Robert Mueller’s findings.” In a letter Thursday, the government watchdog group Project on Government Oversight “asked the DOJ’s independent inspector general to investigate whether department attorneys committed perjury or other crimes through a potentially improper attempt to keep the memo’s contents concealed amid a public records request.” The letter to the IG said, “If it turns out that they committed crimes in the process of doing so, they will have magnified the harm to the department’s already damaged reputation and compounded the effect of Barr’s lies to the American people.”

House Panel Set To Interview McGahn.

[The AP](#) (6/3, Jalonick, Tucker) reports, “The House Judiciary Committee is

poised to question former White House counsel Don McGahn behind closed doors on Friday, two years after House Democrats originally sought his testimony as part of investigations into former President Donald Trump.” The AP adds, “The long-awaited interview is the result of an agreement reached last month in federal court. House Democrats – then investigating whether Trump tried to obstruct the Justice Department’s probes into his presidential campaign’s ties to Russia – originally sued after McGahn defied an April 2019 subpoena on Trump’s orders. That same month, the Justice Department released a redacted version of special counsel Robert Mueller’s report on the matter. In the report, Mueller pointedly did not exonerate President Donald Trump of obstruction of justice but also did not recommend prosecuting him, citing Justice Department policy against indicting a sitting president. Mueller’s report quoted extensively from interviews with McGahn, who described the president’s efforts to stifle the investigation.”

DOJ Probing Potential “Illegal Lobbying” By Firm Tied To Hunter Biden, Burisma.

[Politico](#)

(6/3, Swan, Lippman, 6.73M) reports that the Justice Department is investigating Blue Star Strategies, a “consulting firm linked to” Hunter Biden over “potential illegal lobbying.” Politico says Blue Star Strategies “took on as a client the Ukrainian energy company Burisma while Hunter Biden served on its board.” According to Politico, “The Delaware U.S. Attorney’s Office is involved in the probe, and is coordinating with lawyers in the National Security Division at DOJ’s Washington headquarters.” Politico goes on to report that “there has been grand jury activity in connection to the probe,” but “there is no indication that Hunter Biden is a target of the investigation.” Politico notes that “the Delaware office is also investigating Hunter Biden for potential tax violations.”

Former Treasury Adviser Sentenced To Prison For Leaking Sensitive Documents To Reporter.

[Reuters](#)

(6/3, Stempel) reports that Natalie Mayflower Sours Edwards, “a former senior adviser in [the] Treasury Department’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network,” has “pleaded guilty to conspiring to give a reporter sensitive information about Donald Trump’s onetime campaign chairman Paul Manafort and others was sentenced on Thursday to six months in prison.” Reuters says “Edwards was accused of making unauthorized disclosures of suspicious activity reports...to a BuzzFeed

News reporter using an encrypted messaging program.” District Judge Gregory Woods, who sentenced Edwards, said that “blowing the whistle through proper channels is an incredibly valuable exercise,” although exposing approximately 50,000 documents went too far.

Politico (6/3, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports that “Edwards delivered a largely unrepentant eight-minute statement to the court, saying she ‘could not stand by aimlessly’ in the face of misconduct she saw at Treasury. She also suggested FBI agents violated her rights by questioning her after she asked for an attorney.”

Prosecutors Propose Former Federal Judge To Review Giuliani’s Mobile Devices, Computers. The Washington Post (6/3, Jacobs, 10.52M) reports from New York, “Prosecutors who orchestrated the seizure of electronic devices from Rudolph W. Giuliani’s home and office have proposed that the same former federal judge who screened records belonging to Michael Cohen – another lawyer who represented former president Donald Trump – should be tapped to oversee privilege review for the former New York mayor.” The Post adds, “The retired judge, Barbara Jones, should be appointed to handle the sensitive matter ‘because her background and the resources available to her at her law firm will allow her to complete a privilege review in a fair and efficient manner,’ Assistant U.S. Attorneys Rebekah Donaleski, Aline R. Flodr and Nicolas Roos wrote in a letter to U.S. District Court Judge J. Paul Oetken that was filed to the court docket Thursday night.”

AP: Biden’s Bid To Abandon Surveillance Of Journalist May Be Challenging. The AP (6/3, Tucker) reports that one of the Biden DOJ’s “first big moves has been to alert reporters at three major news organizations that their phone records were seized as part of leak investigations under the Trump administration, with President Joe Biden promising to abandon the practice of spying on journalists.” However, while Biden’s “stated commitment has won support from press freedom groups, it remains unclear if that promise can be kept, especially because Democratic and Republican administrations alike have relied on reporters’ phone records to suss out leaks of classified information.”

DOJ Looking At Possible Obstruction In Gaetz Sex Crime Investigation. NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 7, 1:20, Snow, 4.9M) reported that Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL) “is facing more legal trouble” amid reports that the “the Justice Department is looking into whether he obstructed” an investigation into possible sex trafficking. “At issue, according to a law enforcement official familiar with the case, is a phone call that an ex-girlfriend of...Gaetz was having with another young woman. During that call...the ex-girlfriend conferenced in Gaetz, and because that other young woman is a potential witness in a federal investigation of whether Gaetz was illegally involved in relations with underage women, federal investigators are looking at whether the phone call could amount to obstruction of justice.”

ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 6, 0:35, Muir, 5.96M) reported that meanwhile, sentencing for Gaetz’s “former associate, Joel Greenberg, is now set for August 19th, after he pleaded guilty to a host of crimes, including sex trafficking of a minor.” ABC added that as part of his plea deal, Greenberg has promised “to cooperate” with federal investigators.

Prosecutors Stepping Up Enforcement Of Hate Crime Laws. The AP (6/3, Balsamo) reports, “The Justice Department is stepping up its enforcement of hate crimes and other bias-related incidents, furthering a promise by Attorney General Merrick Garland to focus on civil rights violations.” The AP adds, “Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke, recently sworn in and the first Black woman to hold the position, said the effort has led to indictments in multiple cases over the past six months. But the number of hate crimes has grown: In November, the FBI said they’d reached the highest level in more than a decade. ‘Hate crimes are especially pernicious because they harm targeted individuals and the entire community to which the individual belongs,’ she said in a statement to The Associated Press. ‘No community should live in fear because of who they are, where they are from, or what they believe, and it is our goal to make that a reality.’”

EU Investigations Of Amazon, Microsoft Renew Data Privacy Concerns. Compliance Week (6/4, Hodge, 75K) reports the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), which oversees “compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in EU institutions, on May 27 opened two investigations into the tech giants over concerns EU data that is meant to be protected could still be accessed through cloud services by U.S. authorities under national surveillance laws, despite contractual terms agreed with the European Commission.” The probes are likely “to raise deeper questions about Europe’s reliance on non-EU based cloud services providers and what actions data protection authorities (DPAs) might have to take to protect citizens’ data.” Jane Sarginson, attorney at law firm St Philips Chambers, says “as far as the United States is concerned, Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and Executive Order 12333 remain in force. For as long as they do, negotiations will remain difficult.”

House Republicans Target Susan Hennessey's Hiring In Letter To AG.

The Hill

(6/3, Beitsch,

5.69M) reports that House Judiciary Committee Republicans are targeting former NSA attorney Susan Hennessey, who "joined the Department of Justice's national security division last month after stints at the Brookings Institution and Lawfare. Republicans are now asking the DOJ to turn over information on her hiring." The Hill says that "GOP lawmakers are focused on comments she made over the last four years where she was a frequent critic of former President Trump and then-Attorney General William Barr's handling of the investigation by former special counsel Robert Mueller." Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) authored a letter to AG Garland which alleges that, "In several recent Justice Department investigations involving national security matters, Ms. Hennessey has been an outspoken and partisan critic of Republicans." It adds that, "Your decision to hire Ms. Hennessey to a senior position within the [national security division] suggests that rather than execute the law impartially and without fear or favor, you intend to continue the Obama-Biden Administration's politicization and weaponization of our national security laws."

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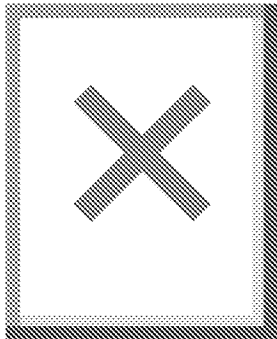
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TO: THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF
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LEADING THE NEWS

DOJ Warns Business To Treat Cyberattacks As Seriously As Terrorism.

NBC Nightly News^{*} (6/3, lead story, 2:45, Snow, 4.9M) reported, "After an alarming number of hacks on US companies and infrastructure with demands for ransom, today the Department of Justice issued guidance that puts business leaders on notice and steps up investigations, essentially treating cyber attacks with the same seriousness as terrorist attacks. The government is asking companies to report cases and telling prosecutors across the country to share technical information, all of it aimed at protecting the economy. By some estimates trillions of dollars are being lost after attacks, a price that's being passed on to...consumers." The Administration is "also looking to step up intelligence agency spying on foreign hackers, even mulling initiating offensive cyberattacks against hackers inside Russia, US officials and other sources familiar with the matter tell NBC News."

ABC World News Tonight^{*} (6/3, story 3, 2:55, Muir, 5.96M) reported that the DOJ has "a new warning for authorities across the nation." ABC's Whit Johnson added, "Tonight, after crippling cyberattacks on the US, affecting the US meat supply, the gas supply and transportation, the Justice Department has now sent out notification to US attorneys on how federal law enforcement should respond to these attacks. One official telling Reuters US authorities must investigate ransomware and digital extortion with similar priority as terrorism cases. And tonight, the White House out with a new urgent warning – no company is safe from being targeted by ransomware."

The CBS Evening News^{*} (6/3, lead story, 3:00, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported, "After a spate of attacks...the White House is now warning all companies to take immediate steps to increase security, saying any business could be targeted by foreign cyber criminals. Tonight, the Justice Department is focused on tracking down the Russian hackers believed to be behind two of the latest attacks, and the White House says it's not taking any options off the table when it comes to retaliating." CBS (Pegues) added that the Justice Department is "taking aim at ransomware attackers, vowing to target them like terrorists, noting the destructive and devastating consequences the attacks are having on critical infrastructure, like the JBS meat plant this week, and Colonial Pipeline last month." Jen Psaki, White House Press Secretary: "We recognize this is an increasing threat."

Reuters (6/3, Bing) reports that the Justice Department "is elevating investigations of ransomware attacks to a similar priority as terrorism in the wake of the Colonial Pipeline hack and mounting damage caused by cyber criminals, a senior department official told Reuters." Reuters adds, "Internal guidance sent on Thursday to US attorney's offices across the country said

information about ransomware investigations in the field should be centrally coordinated with a recently created task force in Washington. 'It's a specialized process to ensure we track all ransomware cases regardless of where it may be referred in this country, so you can make the connections between actors and work your way up to disrupt the whole chain,' said John Carlin, principle associate deputy attorney general at the Justice Department."

The New York Times (6/3, Sanger, Perlroth, 20.6M) reports, "The White House warned American businesses on Thursday to take urgent security measures to protect against ransomware attacks, as hackers shift their tactics from stealing data to disrupting critical infrastructure." According to the Times, "The bluntly worded open letter followed a string of escalating ransomware attacks that stopped gasoline and jet fuel from flowing up the East Coast and closed off beef and pork production from one of the country's leading food suppliers." Anne Neuberger, "the deputy national security adviser for cyber and emerging technologies, wrote that the Biden administration was working with partners 'to disrupt and deter' attacks that deployed ransomware, a form of malware that encrypts data until the victim pays," but "she urged companies to adopt many of the same defensive steps that it has recently required of federal agencies and companies that do business with the government."

Reuters (6/3, Chiacu) reports that Neuberger "said there 'has been a significant hike in the frequency and size of ransomware attacks. 'The threats are serious and they are increasing. We urge you to take these critical steps to protect your organizations and the American public,'" Neuberger said.

The Hill (6/3, Jenkins, 5.69M) reports, "The move follows a ransomware attack against Colonial Pipeline and other entities in the U.S. in recent weeks. Colonial Pipeline, which provides roughly 45 percent of the fuel consumed on the East Coast, faced a cyberattack last month that left many states in the southeast with gasoline shortages." The Hill adds, "A cyber criminal group that federal authorities traced to Russia was able to infiltrate Colonial Pipeline's systems and demand a ransom. The company paid the hackers \$4.4 million in order to have control of the systems returned to them."

The Hill (6/3, Lane, 5.69M) reports that the Agriculture Department (USDA) said on Thursday "that the ransomware attack on meat conglomerate JBS SA is unlikely to cause major disruptions but exposed the risks created by food industry consolidation." In a statement, the USDA "said beef and pork production have begun to rebound after a weekend attack forced the country's second-largest meat producer to shut down its plants." JBS USA "is responsible for 25 percent of beef and 20 percent of pork and poultry sold in the US. The company said Tuesday it expected to regain full production capacity by the end of Thursday."

NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 2, 1:20, Snow, 4.9M) reported, "Tonight experts are calling it a hidden crisis across America. Cities and towns facing the threat of ransomware attacks. The criminals are so brazen some offer ransomware services for hire online, listing potential targets they can strike for affordable prices. And if anything, they choose smaller targets for smaller paydays to avoid attention." NBC (Ward) added, "From groceries to gas to getting on a bus, ransomware is now part of the American landscape. The insurance industry that covers cyberattacks is now estimated to be worth several billion dollars."

NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 3, 1:30, Snow, 4.9M) interviewed Chris Krebs, "who was the first director of the nation's cybersecurity and infrastructure security agency. Why are we hearing about so many attacks right now? Is there an increase in attacks or are they just more visible to us?" Krebs said, "I think it's actually both. I think we are seeing an increase, particularly of ransomware attacks, but also it's the targets. They're hitting the things that the average American cares about, between gasoline and our meat supply."

FBI Investigating DeJoy Over Political Fundraising Activity While In Private Sector.

The CBS Evening News (6/3, story 8, 0:20, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported, "The FBI has opened an investigation into US Postmaster General Louis DeJoy. The probe centers on political fund-raising activity when he was in the private sector. Workers at the North Carolina company where he was CEO told the Washington Post he paid them bonuses for contributing to Republican candidates."

DeJoy denies violating any laws." ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 5, 0:25, Muir, 5.96M) reported that "at a congressional hearing last summer, DeJoy called that claim 'outrageous.'"

The Washington Post (6/3, Zapotosky, Bogage, 10.52M) reports that FBI agents "in recent weeks interviewed current and former employees of DeJoy and the business, asking questions about political contributions and company activities, these people said. Prosecutors also issued a subpoena to DeJoy himself for information, one of the people said." The investigation "could signal impending legal peril for the controversial head" of the USPS, though he "has not been charged with any crimes and has previously asserted that he and his company followed the law in their campaign fundraising activity."

The New York Times (6/3, Benner, 20.6M) reports that a spokesman for DeJoy said, "Mr. DeJoy has learned that the Department of Justice is investigating campaign contributions made by employees who worked for him when he was in the private sector." The spokesman added, "He has always been scrupulous in his adherence to the campaign contribution laws and has never knowingly violated them."

Politico (6/3, Leonard, 6.73M) reports that Democrats in Congress have previously "grilled DeJoy over the allegations, which he has denied." Asked whether the President believes DeJoy should step down, White House Press Secretary Psaki said that "he'll leave the investigation and the process forward to the Department of Justice."

Reuters (6/3) reports that DeJoy, who was appointed by then-President Trump, "has faced criticism from Democrats over mail service changes and a plan to slow some deliveries to save money. DeJoy previously served as chief executive at North Carolina-based New Breed Logistics."

USA Today (6/3, Phillips, Johnson, 12.7M) and the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) also report on this story.

Supreme Court Narrows Prosecutors' Use Of Anti-Hacking Law.

The AP (6/3, Gresko) reports that the Supreme Court on Thursday "limited prosecutors' ability to use an anti-hacking law to charge people with computer crimes." The AP adds, "Conservative and liberal justices joined to vote 6-3 to overturn the conviction of a police sergeant who used a work database to run a license plate search in exchange for money. The justices ruled prosecutors had overreached in using the federal Computer Fraud and Abuse Act to charge him." Attorneys for the police sergeant "had warned when the case was argued in late November that if the court ruled against him it could have sweeping consequences. They argued it could make a federal crime out of using a computer for virtually any unauthorized purpose, from 'checking sports scores at work to inflating one's height on a dating website.' The court agreed, rejecting the arguments of former President Donald Trump's administration for a broad reading of the statute."

The Washington Post (6/3, Barnes, 10.52M) reports that the court "restricted the scope of a federal anti-hacking law, with the majority of justices saying the government's 'breathtaking' interpretation of the statute could make criminals of 'millions of otherwise law-abiding citizens.'" The ruling "split the court in a way never before seen: The three justices nominated by President Donald Trump joined with the court's three liberals to form the majority. If the court's normal procedures prevailed during deliberation, that would mean liberal Justice Stephen G. Breyer, as the senior member in the majority, gave the writing assignment to rookie Justice Amy Coney Barrett."

Reuters (6/3, Chung) reports that the justices "sided with former Cumming, Georgia police sergeant Nathan Van Buren in an appeal of his conviction under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, reversing a lower court ruling that had upheld a jury verdict against him. Van Buren was charged after a 2015 FBI sting operation. The Supreme Court concluded that Van Buren could not be convicted for misusing the database to perform the investigation because the information had been available to him as part of his job. 'This provision covers those who obtain information from particular areas in the computer -- such as files, folders or databases -- to which their computer access does not extend. It does not cover those who, like Van Buren, have improper motives for obtaining information that is otherwise available to them,' Barrett wrote in the ruling." Reuters notes that "three of the court's conservative justices, Clarence Thomas, John Roberts and Samuel Alito, dissented from the ruling."

The New York Times (6/3, Liptak, 20.6M) reports, "Van Buren, agreed to search the license-plate records in exchange for a \$5,000 payment from a man who turned out to be an F.B.I. informant. Though Mr. Van Buren's job gave him access to the database, his search on that occasion violated department policy because it was not done in connection with his duties." The Times adds, "Most of Justice Barrett's opinion was devoted to parsing the statutory text. But she also cautioned that a contrary ruling would have made everyday conduct criminal. 'The government's interpretation of the statute would attach criminal penalties to a breathtaking amount of commonplace computer activity,' she wrote. 'If the "exceeds authorized access" clause criminalizes every violation of a computer-use policy, then millions of otherwise law-abiding citizens are criminals.'"

NBC News (6/3, Williams, 4.91M) reports, "Justice Clarence Thomas dissented, in an opinion joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Samuel Alito. They said the majority's ruling means the law would not apply to a computer technician who has authority to access a celebrity's computer to fix a defective hard drive and who then copies and leaks pictures stored on the computer. 'Using a police database to obtain information in circumstances where that use is expressly forbidden is a crime,' they said in their dissent."

Politico (6/3, Geller, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports that in his dissent, Justice Thomas "said the majority's reading was contrived and off-base. He also said there are many areas of law where permission given to do something for one purpose does not imply permission for an unrelated purpose. 'A valet, for example, may take possession of a person's car to park it, but he cannot take it for a joyride,' Thomas wrote. Thomas also noted that violations of the law are typically a misdemeanor, and he said the breadth of the statute is no reason to misread it. 'Much of the Federal Code criminalizes common activity,' he wrote. 'It is understandable to be uncomfortable with so much conduct being criminalized, but that discomfort does not give us authority to alter statutes.'"

The Los Angeles Times (6/3, Savage, 3.37M) reports, "The ACLU welcomed the decision as 'an important victory for civil liberties and civil rights enforcement in the digital age.' The group had long challenged the broader view of the computer fraud law that it said 'would create criminal and civil liability for researchers and journalists who violate website terms of service while undertaking civil rights testing and research online.' Others said Congress needs to update the law. 'Given the central role and value of data in today's commerce and society, it is time to modernize the primary federal computer statute to ensure that appropriate criminal and civil remedies apply to the theft of data,' said Washington lawyer Mark Krotoski, a former federal prosecutor." Also covering the ruling are CNN (6/3, Fung, Vogue, Cole, 89.21M), the Washington Times (6/3, Swoyer, 626K), NPR (6/3, Totenberg, 3.69M), Newsweek (6/3, 2.67M), CBS News (6/3, 5.39M), and the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M).

CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

Biden Will Not Form Commission To Investigate January 6th Insurrection.

The CNN (6/3, Collins, Zeleny, Vazquez, 89.21M) website reports that President Biden "has no plans to create a presidential commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the Capitol." The Hill (6/3, Samuels, 5.69M) quotes White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki as saying, "As the President has said, the events of January 6th were an unprecedented assault on our democracy – and he believes they deserve a full, and independent investigation to determine what transpired and ensure it can never happen again.' ... 'Congress was attacked on that day, and President Biden firmly agrees with Speaker Pelosi that Congress itself has a unique role and ability to carry out that investigation. Because of that, the President doesn't plan to appoint his own commission.'"

Pence Rejects Trump's Views On January 6th Insurrection, But Embraces Views On Race. The AP (6/3) reports that in remarks before a "Republican dinner" in New Hampshire on Thursday, former Vice President Mike Pence "said...that he wasn't sure that he and former President Donald Trump would ever see 'eye to eye' over what happened" during the January 6th insurrection at the US Capitol, but added that he would "always be proud of what" the Trump

Administration “accomplished for the American people over the last four years.” The New York Times (6/3, Cameron, 20.6M) adds that, during the same speech, Pence – who is considered a potential candidate for the 2024 presidential election – appeared to embrace Trump’s “racial politics” when he “described systemic racism as a ‘left-wing myth.’” According to the Times, “the speech illustrated the careful balance...Pence is aiming to strike in squaring the rhetoric of the Republican Party under ...Trump while standing by his opposition to...Trump’s attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 election.”

Federal Prosecutors Claim Damage From Capitol Riot Amounts To \$1.5 Million.

The Hill (6/3, Lonas, 5.69M) reports that in a plea agreement with one of the defendants charged in the January 6th riot at the U.S. Capitol, federal prosecutors states the cost of damage from the incident amounted “nearly \$1.5 million in damage.”

Four Additional Oath Keepers Face Charges In Connection With Capitol Riot.

The Hill (6/3, Beitsch, 5.69M) reports that DOJ has arrested Joseph Hackett, Jason Dolan, William Isaacs, and Jonathan Walden, all “members of the Oath Keepers,” in connection to the January 6th insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. “In a newly unsealed court filing, the US Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia added the four to conspiracy charges facing members of the group, bringing the total to 16 defendants in the case.”

Stomach Tattoo Helped Investigators Identify Alleged Capitol Rioter.

The Washington Post (6/3, Hawkins, 10.52M) reports, “Authorities investigating the U.S. Capitol riot had zeroed in on the man in the white T-shirt and dark jacket. Videos and photos showed him hitting officers in the building, according to court records, and two tipsters had reported him to the FBI.” The Post adds, “To make sure they had the right person, investigators dug deeper. They unearthed a nearly decade-old booking photo showing a distinctive tattoo on the man’s stomach: ‘King James’ written in a semicircle Old English font. The same tattoo was visible in body-camera footage from the Jan. 6 attack, investigators said, flashing into view when the man lifted his shirt to wipe his face.” James Burton McGrew “was arrested in Glendale, Ariz., last week on several charges, including acts of physical violence on Capitol grounds and assaulting, resisting or impeding an officer. He made his first court appearance Tuesday in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, records show.”

Connecticut Man Charged In Capitol Siege Probe.

The AP (6/3, Collins) reports from Hartford, Connecticut, “A Connecticut man seen in photos and video in the U.S. Senate chamber standing with the so-called QAnon shaman during the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection was charged with several crimes Thursday, federal authorities said.” Richard Crosby Jr., 25, of Harwinton, Connecticut “appeared before a federal magistrate judge in Bridgeport later in the day via video conference from a detention cell. He was expected to be released under several conditions while the case is pending. Crosby is among more than 400 people who have been arrested in connection with the Capitol breach. Among the charges Crosby faces are obstruction of Congress, knowingly entering or remaining in a restricted building and disorderly conduct in a restricted building.”

Florida Woman Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe Is Released On Bond.

Fox News (6/3, Wallace, 23.99M) reports, “A Florida woman has been arrested and charged with assaulting a police officer inside the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, allegedly using a flag police to push the sergeant through the first set of doors to the House floor, causing him to fall backward and knock his head into a marble statue.” Audrey Ann Southard-Rumsey, 52, of Spring Hill, Florida “made her initial court appearance Wednesday in the Middle District of Florida court in Tampa. She faces nine federal counts, which include assault on a federal officer or employee; engaging in an act of physical violence in the grounds or any Capitol building; and obstruction of justice, according to U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia.”

PROTESTS

Minneapolis Workers Clear Barricades From Intersection Where George Floyd Was Killed, But Protestors Re-Erect Them.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/3, Du, Galimoto, Walsh, 855K) reports that Minneapolis city crews on Thursday "cleared away vehicle barriers and portable toilets to reopen portions of the sprawling memorial at the south Minneapolis intersection where George Floyd was murdered by a police officer more than a year ago." However, "as soon as workers finished, protesters began parking cars and piling pallets in the streets again." The Tribune says that "city leaders have come under increasing pressure to reopen the intersection. George Floyd Square has become an internationally recognized memorial and protest site that hosts large public gatherings, but many residents, business owners and churchgoers say they feel besieged by gang intimidation and gunfire when the crowds leave."

The St. Paul (MN) Pioneer Press (6/3, Ibrahim, 324K) reports that "traffic briefly flowed through the intersection Thursday morning after the concrete barriers were removed, but community members quickly erected new makeshift barriers. Dozens of people gathered near the intersection, singing, chanting Floyd's name and giving speeches expressing frustration and urging people to continue organizing." Mayor Jacob Frey said, "This intersection will forever be changed and we need to be investing in that transformation," although he did not say when the intersection would be fully reopened. The New York Times (6/3, Winter, Bogel-Burroughs, Gross, 20.6M) reports the Frey said that he was "committed to establishing a permanent memorial at the intersection." Bloomberg (6/3, Akinnibi, 3.57M) also reports.

COUNTER-TERRORISM

Gannett Fights FBI Subpoena Aimed At Readers Of Florida Shooting Story.

Politico (6/3, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports, "Newspaper publisher Gannett is fighting an effort by the FBI to try to determine who read a specific USA Today story about a deadly shooting in February near Fort Lauderdale, Fla., that left two FBI agents dead and three wounded." Politico adds, "The subpoena, served on Gannett in April, seeks information about who accessed the news article online during a 35-minute window starting just after 8 p.m. on the day of the shootings. The demand – signed by a senior FBI agent in Maryland – does not appear to ask for the names of those who read the story, if the news outlet has such information," but instead "seeks internet addresses and mobile phone information that could lead to the identities of the readers. The information being sought 'relates to a federal criminal investigation being conducted by the FBI,' the subpoena says."

Judge Permits Information From CIA Interrogation In Gitmo Terror Case.

The New York Times (6/3, Rosenberg, 20.6M) reports, "The military judge presiding in the death penalty case of a man accused of orchestrating the U.S.S. Cole bombing has agreed to consider information obtained during the man's torture by C.I.A. interrogators to support an argument in pretrial proceedings at Guantánamo Bay." Defense attorneys "cast the decision as the first time that a military judge at the war court is publicly known to have agreed to consider information obtained through the C.I.A. torture of a prisoner, and on Thursday they asked a higher court to reverse it." Army Col. Lanny J. Acosta Jr. ruled on May 18 "that prosecutors may invoke such information to be used narrowly, not necessarily for the truth of it, before a jury begins hearing a case."

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

Group Asks DOJ IG To Investigate Department Lawyers' Handling Of Barr Memo.

The Hill (6/3, Beitsch, Kruzell, 5.69M) reports the Justice Department is under growing pressure

concerning "its handling of a Trump-era legal memo that critics say former Attorney General William Barr used to create a misleading impression of former special counsel Robert Mueller's findings." In a letter Thursday, the government watchdog group Project on Government Oversight "asked the DOJ's independent inspector general to investigate whether department attorneys committed perjury or other crimes through a potentially improper attempt to keep the memo's contents concealed amid a public records request." The letter to the IG said, "If it turns out that they committed crimes in the process of doing so, they will have magnified the harm to the department's already damaged reputation and compounded the effect of Barr's lies to the American people."

House Panel Set To Interview McGahn.

The AP (6/3, Jalonick, Tucker) reports, "The House Judiciary Committee is poised to question former White House counsel Don McGahn behind closed doors on Friday, two years after House Democrats originally sought his testimony as part of investigations into former President Donald Trump." The AP adds, "The long-awaited interview is the result of an agreement reached last month in federal court. House Democrats – then investigating whether Trump tried to obstruct the Justice Department's probes into his presidential campaign's ties to Russia – originally sued after McGahn defied an April 2019 subpoena on Trump's orders. That same month, the Justice Department released a redacted version of special counsel Robert Mueller's report on the matter. In the report, Mueller pointedly did not exonerate President Donald Trump of obstruction of justice but also did not recommend prosecuting him, citing Justice Department policy against indicting a sitting president. Mueller's report quoted extensively from interviews with McGahn, who described the president's efforts to stifle the investigation."

DOJ Probing Potential "Illegal Lobbying" By Firm Tied To Hunter Biden, Burisma.

Politico (6/3, Swan, Lippman, 6.73M) reports that the Justice Department is investigating Blue Star Strategies, a "consulting firm linked to" Hunter Biden over "potential illegal lobbying." Politico says Blue Star Strategies "took on as a client the Ukrainian energy company Burisma while Hunter Biden served on its board." According to Politico, "The Delaware U.S. Attorney's Office is involved in the probe, and is coordinating with lawyers in the National Security Division at DOJ's Washington headquarters." Politico goes on to report that "there has been grand jury activity in connection to the probe," but "there is no indication that Hunter Biden is a target of the investigation." Politico notes that "the Delaware office is also investigating Hunter Biden for potential tax violations."

Former Treasury Adviser Sentenced To Prison For Leaking Sensitive Documents To Reporter.

Reuters (6/3, Stempel) reports that Natalie Mayflower Sours Edwards, "a former senior adviser in [the] Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network," has "pleaded guilty to conspiring to give a reporter sensitive information about Donald Trump's onetime campaign chairman Paul Manafort and others was sentenced on Thursday to six months in prison." Reuters says "Edwards was accused of making unauthorized disclosures of suspicious activity reports...to a BuzzFeed News reporter using an encrypted messaging program." District Judge Gregory Woods, who sentenced Edwards, said that "blowing the whistle through proper channels is an incredibly valuable exercise," although exposing approximately 50,000 documents went too far.

Politico (6/3, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports that "Edwards delivered a largely unrepentant eight-minute statement to the court, saying she 'could not stand by aimlessly' in the face of misconduct she saw at Treasury. She also suggested FBI agents violated her rights by questioning her after she asked for an attorney."

Prosecutors Propose Former Federal Judge To Review Giuliani's Mobile Devices, Computers.

The Washington Post (6/3, Jacobs, 10.52M) reports from New York, "Prosecutors who orchestrated the seizure of electronic devices from Rudolph W. Giuliani's home and office have proposed that

the same former federal judge who screened records belonging to Michael Cohen – another lawyer who represented former president Donald Trump – should be tapped to oversee privilege review for the former New York mayor.” The Post adds, “The retired judge, Barbara Jones, should be appointed to handle the sensitive matter ‘because her background and the resources available to her at her law firm will allow her to complete a privilege review in a fair and efficient manner,’ Assistant U.S. Attorneys Rebekah Donaleski, Aline R. Flodr and Nicolas Roos wrote in a letter to U.S. District Court Judge J. Paul Oetken that was filed to the court docket Thursday night.”

Much-Anticipated UFO Report Expected To Provide Only Limited Clarity.

The New York Times (6/3, Barnes, Cooper, 20.6M) reports that US intelligence officials “have found no evidence that aerial phenomena witnessed by Navy pilots in recent years are alien spacecraft, but they still cannot explain the unusual movements that have mystified scientists and the military, according to senior administration officials briefed on the findings of a highly anticipated government report.” The report found that a “vast majority” of the approximately 120 incidents did not originate due to US technology, but that is “about the only conclusive finding in the classified intelligence report, the officials said.” An unclassified version is expected to be released to Congress by June 25. Intelligence officials believe “at least some of the aerial phenomena could have been experimental technology from a rival power, most likely Russia or China.” One senior official “briefed on the intelligence said without hesitation that US officials knew it was not American technology,” and The Hill (6/3, Choi, 5.69M) reports a senior official “told the Times that there was concern that China or Russia could be experimenting with hypersonic technology.”

The Washington Post (6/3, Ryan, Horton, 10.52M) says that report “finds no proof of extraterrestrial activity, but cannot provide a definitive explanation for scores of incidents in which strange objects have been spotted in the sky, officials said on Thursday.” The findings of the report, expected to be provided by ODNI to Congress “as this month, will offer no firm conclusions about what the objects...might be, according to two officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity to address a document that is not yet public.”

The report is being prepared by ODNI and the UAP Task Force. A Pentagon official told ABC News (6/3, 2.44M), “The protection of methodologies is an important part of how the UAP Task Force operates. This is an intelligence-driven effort, and in intelligence matters, you always try to protect the sources and methods used in order to prevent potential adversaries from getting an idea of how we learn things.”

The New York Times (6/3, Jett, 20.6M) separately looks at the growing interest in the UFO issue, and its acceptance, among the government and media.

Reuters (6/4) also reports.

UN Suspends Voting Rights For Iran, Four African Nations Over Unpaid Dues.

The New York Times (6/3, Gladstone, Fassihi, 20.6M) reports the UN “said Thursday that it had suspended the voting rights of Iran and four smaller countries for delinquent dues.” The move provoked a “furious reaction from Iran, which called it ‘astonishingly absurd’ and blamed the country’s arrears on US sanctions that had frozen Iranian funds in banks worldwide.” In addition to Iran, Secretary General António Guterres cited the Central African Republic, Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe, and Somalia for failing to meet financial obligations under the UN Charter. In Tehran on Thursday, “a spokesman for Iran’s Foreign Ministry, Saeed Khatibzadeh, said the Office of Foreign Assets Control, part of the U.S. Treasury Department, had granted a license for Iran to transfer the owed money to the United Nations from a bank in South Korea, one of several around the world where Iranian funds are impounded.”

Despite CFIUS Scrutiny, Tencent Expanding Los Angeles Presence.

The Los Angeles Times (6/3, Lee, 3.37M) reports Chinese tech giant Tencent is “significantly expanding its footprint in Los Angeles, opening an office in Playa Vista that could house 300 employees.” Tencent and other Chinese companies “have faced growing scrutiny from the US government,” and Tencent is also “under scrutiny by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the

United States (CFIUS) regarding its ownership stakes in U.S.-based gaming companies due to security concerns, Reuters reported."

AP: Biden's Bid To Abandon Surveillance Of Journalist May Be Challenging.

The AP (6/3, Tucker) reports that one of the Biden DOJ's "first big moves has been to alert reporters at three major news organizations that their phone records were seized as part of leak investigations under the Trump administration, with President Joe Biden promising to abandon the practice of spying on journalists." However, while Biden's "stated commitment has won support from press freedom groups, it remains unclear if that promise can be kept, especially because Democratic and Republican administrations alike have relied on reporters' phone records to suss out leaks of classified information."

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

DOJ Looking At Possible Obstruction In Gaetz Sex Crime Investigation.

NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 7, 1:20, Snow, 4.9M) reported that Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL) "is facing more legal trouble" amid reports that the "the Justice Department is looking into whether he obstructed" an investigation into possible sex trafficking. "At issue, according to a law enforcement official familiar with the case, is a phone call that an ex-girlfriend of...Gaetz was having with another young woman. During that call...the ex-girlfriend conferenced in Gaetz, and because that other young woman is a potential witness in a federal investigation of whether Gaetz was illegally involved in relations with underage women, federal investigators are looking at whether the phone call could amount to obstruction of justice."

ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 6, 0:35, Muir, 5.96M) reported that meanwhile, sentencing for Gaetz's "former associate, Joel Greenberg, is now set for August 19th, after he pleaded guilty to a host of crimes, including sex trafficking of a minor." ABC added that as part of his plea deal, Greenberg has promised "to cooperate" with federal investigators.

Prosecutors Stepping Up Enforcement Of Hate Crime Laws.

The AP (6/3, Balsamo) reports, "The Justice Department is stepping up its enforcement of hate crimes and other bias-related incidents, furthering a promise by Attorney General Merrick Garland to focus on civil rights violations." The AP adds, "Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke, recently sworn in and the first Black woman to hold the position, said the effort has led to indictments in multiple cases over the past six months. But the number of hate crimes has grown: In November, the FBI said they'd reached the highest level in more than a decade. 'Hate crimes are especially pernicious because they harm targeted individuals and the entire community to which the individual belongs,' she said in a statement to The Associated Press. 'No community should live in fear because of who they are, where they are from, or what they believe, and it is our goal to make that a reality.'"

Florida Runaways Who Shot At Sheriff's Deputies Face Charges.

ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 10, 0:20, Muir, 5.96M) reported that a 12-year-old boy who is one of the two children "authorities say opened fire" on sheriff's deputies in Enterprise, Florida appeared in court Thursday on charges of "attempted murder and armed burglary." The CBS Evening News (6/3, story 4, 2:05, O'Donnell, 3.64M) added the boy's companion, a 14-year-old girl, will also face an attempted murder charge, but is still recovering from "gunshot wounds" she sustained in a shoot-out with deputies that began when she opened fire on them. NBC Nightly News (6/3, story 6, 1:25, Snow, 4.9M) said the children had fled "a nearby group home" and "broke into a house," where they obtained "a shotgun and AK-47." NBC noted that statements from the 12-year-old suggest the pair may have been inspired in by the video game Grand Theft Auto.

Reward For Information In California Road-Rage Killing Grows To \$450K.

USA Today (6/2, Vargas, 12.7M) reports "the reward for information leading to an arrest in an apparent road rage shooting" that left 6-year-old Aiden Leos dead "has increased to \$450K." According to USA Today, Leos "was sitting in the backseat of his mother's car as she drove him to kindergarten when another driver shot him on May 21" after his mother made "a hand gesture" to the driver for cutting her off. The reward "is made up of donations from anonymous donors, government officials and community members."

FBI Joins Search For Missing Iowa Boy.

CNN (6/3, Elamroussi, 89.21M) reports, "Authorities are seeking the public's help in the search for an 11-year-old boy who remains missing in Central Iowa after hundreds of people spent part of Memorial Day weekend looking for him." Xavier Harrelson "was reported missing May 27 in Montezuma, Iowa, nearly 60 miles east of Des Moines, the Poweshiek County Sheriff's Office said in a Facebook post. The FBI is assisting local authorities in the search, Amy Adams, a spokeswoman for the FBI Omaha field office, said on Thursday." CNN adds, "The boy was reported missing less than a week after completing the fourth grade at Montezuma Elementary School, Principal Kurt Hanna told CNN."

The AP (6/3, Foley) reports from Iowa City, Iowa, "Detectives are considering several possibilities in the disappearance of Xavier Harrelson, including that he was abducted, that he suffered some kind of accident or that he ran away, Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation assistant director Mitch Mortvedt said." Police "are confident that they have searched and cleared the areas where the boy could have gone on his own, including a large nearby county park with woods and a lake, Mortvedt said. They have asked homeowners or businesses with surveillance footage from the day he disappeared to come forward, along with any tips or information that might be of assistance. The FBI said earlier this week that it has joined the investigation and offered 'every resource available' to state and county departments leading the case."

FBI Trying To Identify Slain Boy In Nevada.

The AP (6/3) reports from Las Vegas, "The FBI joined Las Vegas police Thursday to offer a \$10,000 reward for information just to identify a boy whose body was found hidden near the main highway between Las Vegas and rural Pahrump. Police have said it's clear the child was killed, but haven't disclosed how. They say they think he was between 8- and 12-years-old and was from somewhere in southern Nevada or nearby Southern California." The AP adds, "Las Vegas police Lt. Ray Spencer said homicide detectives have checked hundreds of tips following earlier appeals since hikers found the body May 28 off a trail near State Route 160 in the Mountain Springs area. Spencer says the body was probably left after dark May 27."

FBI Offers \$30K Reward For Information On 1997 California Bank Robbery, Murder.

The AP (6/3) reports from Thousand Oaks, California that the FBI "has offered a \$30,000 reward for information that leads to suspects in a killing during a Southern California bank robbery 24 years ago." According to the AP, "Two men dressed as construction workers held up Western Financial Bank in Thousand Oaks on April 28, 1997. While handcuffing bank teller Monica Leech, one of the robbers shot her in the back of the head. The 39-year-old Camarillo resident died at the scene." The AP adds, "Investigators have in recent years been able to use traces of DNA left on the handcuffs and other evidence from the scene to create new DNA profiles for the suspects. However, investigators said more information is to determine the suspects in the murder, the Ventura County Star reported Wednesday."

FBI Investigating Bank Robbery In Missouri.

The Lee's Summit (MO) Tribune (6/3) reports the FBI "is investigating a bank robbery...of Great Southern Bank" in Lee's Summit, Missouri. According to the FBI, the robbery occurred on Thursday afternoon. The suspect "is a white male approximately 5'9" to 5'10" tall, thin build. Wearing a new white cap, black COVID style face mask, long sleeve button down shirt and dark pants." KCTV-TV Kansas City, MO (6/3, Melas, 188K), KMBC-TV Kansas City, MO (6/3, 212K), and KSHB-TV Kansas City, MO (6/4, 147K) also reports.

Missouri Woman Escapes Kidnapping In Texas.

KXII-TV Sherman, TX (6/4, Dedmon) reports that on Thursday morning in Sherman, Texas, a woman from Joplin, Missouri escaped Cilrestor Riddley, her boyfriend, after he "kidnapped her at gunpoint" and drove "across state lines" for two days. Officers from the Sherman Police Department detained Ridley after the woman was able to contact police from a gas station. KXII notes that the Sherman Police Department is "working with both Joplin Police Department and the FBI in this case since it crossed state lines."

FBI Investigating Bank Robbery In Iowa.

KSFY-TV Sioux Falls, SD (6/3) reports that the FBI "is taking over the investigation" into a robbery that occurred around noon on Thursday at Iowa State Bank in Sheldon, Iowa. KSFY says the suspect, who is at large, is "a black male, 6'2", wearing white gloves and blackish-grey pants" and "reportedly made off with a sum of cash in two light tan-colored canvas bags."

FBI Raid At New Orleans Hotel Centers On Art.

WDSU-TV New Orleans (6/3, Mackel, 101K) reports that the FBI raid at Magnolia Mansion, the New Orleans hotel owned by boxer-turned-businessman Fouad Zeton, "centers on art." According to "multiple sources," the "packages" that the FBI "removed from the bed and breakfast" during yesterday's raid contain "pieces of art." WWL-TV New Orleans (6/3, Murphy, 172K) quotes Zeton as saying, "I don't have anything to hide. I don't sell drugs. I'm not a criminal businessman. I'm an honest man."

Newsweek (6/3, 2.67M) also reports on the FBI raid and notes that Zeton "has given campaign donations to candidates from both major parties and has been a fixture at political events down the years."

Former Municipal Chief Gets 21 Months For Bribery In Cleveland.

The Twinsburg (OH) Patch (6/3, 1.44M) reports that a federal court sentenced Rufus Taylor, "the former chief of the city of Cleveland's Demolition Bureau," to 21 months in prison after he "pleaded guilty to bribery...and extortion under color of official right." According to court filings, Taylor "received cash bribes from two contractors in exchange for preferential treatment and information on Cleveland's upcoming demolition projects." The Patch notes that the FBI, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Internal Revenue Service "led the investigation into Taylor."

Florida Man Faces Child Porn Charges.

The Published Reporter (6/3, Mcfadyen) reports that in Florida, Bruce Cahill is facing "ten counts of possession of photographs of sexual performance by a child and one count compiling computer pornography involving a minor." The Reporter notes that members of the Fort Myers FBI Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office had previously conducted a raid against Cahill's home in December 2020 after receiving a Cyber-Tip Report from the National Center for Missing and exploited Children.

Trafficking Case Against Hindu Temple Call Attention To Caste Discrimination.

NPR (6/3, Mogul, 3.69M) reports the recently filed federal class-action lawsuit that alleges the BAPS Hindu temple in New Jersey exploited "some 200 workers" whom it brought to the US under R-1 visas as "religious volunteers" is calling attention to caste-based discrimination among American Hindus. NPR explains, "Some Indian Americans in the area were shocked at the allegations, but many immigrants with Dalit backgrounds say they were not surprised. They say discrimination is far more widespread in the U.S. than many of their fellow Hindus believe, existing for both manual laborers and white-collar workers in the information economy."

Arkansas Gang Leader Gets 15 Years For Gun, Drug Crimes.

The [Newton County \(AR\) Times](#) (6/3, 7K) reports that on Thursday, a federal court sentenced Machita "Frog" Mitchell, Jr., the former leader of the Wolfe Street Crips, a gang in Little Rock, to 15 years in prison "for his role in a marijuana conspiracy as well as possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime." The Times notes the investigation into Mitchell's case "was conducted by the FBI GETROCK Task Force and the Little Rock Police Department with assistance from Arkansas Community Corrections."

Michigan Detective Faces Drug Trafficking Charges.

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (6/3, Durr, 828K) reports that DOJ is prosecuting Tiffany Lipkovitch, a detective with the Highland Park Police Department in Michigan, as well as her friend Amber Bellamy on charges of distributing "fentanyl-laced heroin." MLive notes the case against the two women was investigated by the FBI Detroit Area Public Corruption Task Force along with the SONIC task force and the Drug Enforcement Administration. [WJBK-TV Detroit](#) (6/3, Murdoch, 381K) notes the FBI used an undercover informant to expose the detective.

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (6/3, Baldas, 2.16M) profiles Lipkovitch, saying the detective "isn't new to controversy" as she was "fired more than a decade ago by the Wayne County sheriff's office for allegedly fraternizing with felons and helping them smuggle drugs into prison."

Forty Alleged Members Of Gang Involved With Drug Trafficking Indicted.

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (6/3, 2.16M) reports, "Saying Detroit's violent crime is out of control again, the federal government on Thursday announced the indictment of 40 alleged" members of the Almighty Vice Lord Nation gang. Authorities "say the gang's main purpose is to sell drugs, protect its turf, provide money to jailed members and preserve its power through fear and intimidation." Running the same online coverage of this story, [WXYZ-TV Detroit](#) (6/3, 201K) and [WSYM-TV Lansing, MI](#) (6/3) report that the indicted individuals in this case "are charged with...drug trafficking" and violent crimes that include murder. The [WJBK-TV Detroit](#) (6/3, 381K) website publishes a similar article. Another online [WJBK-TV Detroit](#) (6/3, Nissen, 381K) report has more coverage of this story. The [Detroit News](#) (6/3, Snell, 1.16M) and the [WDIV-TV Detroit](#) (6/3, Williams, 568K) website also cover the Almighty Vice Lord Nation gang indictment.

Baltimore Gang Indictment Charges 15 People With Conspiring To Distribute Narcotics.

The [Washington Post](#) (6/3, Davies, 10.52M) reports a recently unsealed federal indictment "charges 15 alleged members and associates of" Triple C, a street gang in Baltimore, Maryland, "with conspiring to distribute narcotics and possess firearms to further their drug trafficking business." The FBI participated in the investigation that led to the indictment, which also charges 11 of those defendants "with participating in a racketeering conspiracy."

The Triple C gang indictment is also covered by other media outlets, including the [AP](#) (6/3), the [WBAL-TV Baltimore](#) (6/3, Collins, 219K) website, the [Baltimore Sun](#) (6/3, Fenton, 629K) and the [WMAR-TV Baltimore](#) (6/3, Dickstein) website.

Large Amount Of Cocaine Seized From Crashed Vehicle In Texas.

In online coverage, [NBC News](#) (6/4, Helsel, 4.91M) reports approximately 180 pounds of cocaine was seized from a vehicle that was involved in a Memorial Day crash in Texas. The vehicle's unidentified driver "faces drug possession charges," according to the Texas Department of Public Safety, which announced Monday's seizure. It is "unclear where the" cocaine that was seized from the crashed vehicle in Texas came from, but "the Drug Enforcement Administration said in a recent report that Mexican criminal organizations dominate the wholesale distribution of" that drug in the US. The [San Antonio Express-News](#) (6/3, Pettaway, 685K) and the [KAGS-TV Bryan, TX](#) (6/3) website also cover the Memorial Day cocaine seizure in Texas.

Driver Sought By DEA Taken Into Custody Following Police Chase In Texas.

On its website, [KTVT-TV Dallas](#) (6/3) reports Rodolfo Gutierrez-Tapia was taken into custody following a Thursday police chase in Texas. The chase began after DEA agents asked the Garland

Police Department to stop Gutierrez-Tapia's pickup truck. In similar online coverage, [KDFW-TV Dallas](#) (6/3, 372K) reports Gutierrez-Tapia "was wanted by the DEA," according to the Garland Police Department. The [Dallas Morning News](#) (6/3, 772K) and the [KXAS-TV Dallas](#) (6/3, 255K) website also cover this story.

Missoula Man Gets 12 Years For Trafficking Meth.

The [Missoulian \(MT\)](#) (6/3, Buchli, 124K) reports that in Montana on Wednesday, a federal court sentenced Dylan Roy Mace to 12 years and seven months in prison after pleading guilty to "meth trafficking charges." According to court documents, "officials allege that over the course of about a year, beginning in November 2019," Mace and his partner, Leon Kavis, "conspired to distribute meth." Kavis has also pleaded guilty to drug trafficking charges and is awaiting sentencing.

Four Dallas Men Plead Guilty In Scheme To Rob Gay Men Using Grindr.

The [Dallas Observer](#) (6/3, Strickland, 216K) reports that in Dallas, Daniel Jenkins, Michael Atkinson, Daryl Henry, and Pablo Cenicerros-Deleon have pleaded guilty to hate crime charges after the group lured gay men on Grindr and then "held their victims at gunpoint, robbed them, lugged them to ATMs to withdraw cash and mocked them with homophobic slurs." The Observer quotes Matthew DeSarno, Special Agent In Charge of the FBI's Dallas field office as saying that investigating hate crimes "remains 'one of the FBI's highest priorities.'" DeSarno added, "No one should have to live in fear of violence because of who they are, where they are from or what they believe.' ... 'We will continue working with our law enforcement and community partners to detect and prevent violent incidents motivated by hate or bias.'" The [AP](#) (6/3) also reports.

Georgia Governor Suspends Sheriffs Indicted On Federal Civil Rights Charges.

The [Arizona Republic](#) (6/3, Fernando, 1.05M) reports Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp "signed an executive order suspending Clayton County Sheriff Victor Hill from office" after a panel that included the state attorney general and two other sheriffs advised that Hill's indictment by a federal grand jury in April for using "unreasonable force" while "ordering pretrial detainees to be restrained for hours even as they complied with police" justified his suspension.

[USA Today](#) (6/3, Aspegren, Fernando, 12.7M) reports that Hill's "actions have garnered controversy since his first day of office in 2005 when he fired 27 deputies. ... As part of a tough-on-crime stance, Hill used tanks and military equipment during drug raids. Hill was acquitted of more than two dozen corruption charges in 2013 and pleaded no contest to a reckless conduct charge in 2016 after shooting and injuring a woman in May 2015."

Four Drug Case Defendants Sentenced.

An online [KIMT-TV Rochester, MN](#) (6/3) article says Minnesota residents Katherine Byrd Campbell, Brandon Earl Swanson, Jared William Merta and Wayde Salem Salwei have been sentenced for participating in "a Twin Cities drug dealing conspiracy." Campbell was sentenced to "time served and five years of supervised release," while Swanson, Merta and Salwai were sentenced to 144 months, 170 months and 132 months, respectively, in prison. Like Campbell, Swanson, Merta and Salwai were also sentenced to "five years of supervised release." The DEA and a number of other organizations conducted the investigation that led to those sentences.

FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

Prosecutors Seek More Than Two Years In Prison For Former UAW Leader.

The [Detroit News](#) (6/3, Beggin, 1.16M) reports, "Prosecutors want former United Auto Workers President Gary Jones to spend more than two years in federal prison for helping steal as much as \$1.5 million from union members." The News adds, "In revealing the desired 28-month prison term Thursday, prosecutors also requested that Jones pay \$550,000 in restitution to the UAW, \$42,000 to the IRS and a forfeiture of \$151,377 for his role in a conspiracy that undermined members' faith in union leadership and led to prolonged government oversight. In a separate

filing, Jones's lawyer asked U.S. District Judge Paul Borman for 'a significant downward departure' from the sentencing guidelines and asked that he serve any prison sentence in a Texas prison near his wife, though he did not specify how many months imprisonment he feels is appropriate."

CYBER DIVISION

FBI Identifies REvil As JBS Ransomware Attacker.

Gov Info Security (6/3, McGee) reports, "The identity of the ransomware operation that hit meat processing giant JBS has been revealed: It was the REvil gang, aka Sodinokibi, that did it." The FBI, "late on Wednesday, issued a statement attributing the attack to that ransomware-as-a-service - aka RaaS - operation, which appears to be run from Russia. 'As the lead federal investigative agency fighting cyber threats, combating cybercrime is one of the FBI's highest priorities,' the bureau says in its statement. 'We have attributed the JBS attack to REvil and Sodinokibi and are working diligently to bring the threat actors to justice.'" JBS, "based in Sao Paulo, is the world's largest meat processor, and discovered the attack on Sunday. In response, the company shut down servers in North America and Australia, and experts warned that any prolonged outage could noticeably impact the global supply of meat. The company has not disclosed if it received any ransom demand."

Ransomware Attack Continues To Affect Massachusetts Ferry Service.

The Boston Herald (6/3, 327K) reports, "The Steamship Authority urged people to bring cash for tickets while the online booking system remained down. 'The Steamship Authority is continuing to work with our team internally, as well as with local, state, and federal officials externally, to address Wednesday's incident,' the Authority wrote on its website. 'The ticketing processes, including online and phone reservations, will continue to be affected today, Thursday.'" The Herald adds, "Meanwhile, New York transit officials this week confirmed that hackers had infiltrated computer systems for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The officials said the agency received an alert from the FBI and other federal agencies saying three of its 18 computer systems were put at risk."

Australian Signals Director Warned Two Organizations Of Ransomware Attack.

The Guardian (UK) (6/3, Taylor, 5.53M) reports Australia's cybersecurity agency alerted "two other organisations they were targeted by the same ransomware attackers who crippled Nine Entertainment thanks to the agency's 'classified' powers." The director general of the "Australian Signals Directorate, Rachel Noble, has told a Senate estimates hearing that assisting Nine allowed the ASD to avert two other planned attacks." Noble said on Wednesday, "We were very engaged with them and the technical information that they were able to provide us about what happened on their network helped us using our more classified capabilities to warn two other entities they were about to be victims as well to prevent them from becoming victims." Abigail Bradshaw, the head "of the Australian Cyber Security Centre, said the centre had a direct link to the federal health department to feed it information regarding any potential attacks."

LABORATORY

WPost: Prosecutors Must Review DC Crime Lab Cases.

The Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) editorializes that, amid news the District of Columbia's Consolidated Forensic Laboratory "has run afoul of its national accreditation board and the lab's director has been ousted" for the second time in six years, federal prosecutors "shouldn't have to be persuaded" to conduct "a post-conviction review for cases" in which the lab provided scientific analysis. The Post also commends the District attorney general for already committing to undertake such a review for cases his office handled.

LAWFUL ACCESS

EU Investigations Of Amazon, Microsoft Renew Data Privacy Concerns.

Compliance Week (6/4, Hodge, 75K) reports the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), which oversees "compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in EU institutions, on May 27 opened two investigations into the tech giants over concerns EU data that is meant to be protected could still be accessed through cloud services by U.S. authorities under national surveillance laws, despite contractual terms agreed with the European Commission." The probes are likely "to raise deeper questions about Europe's reliance on non-EU based cloud services providers and what actions data protection authorities (DPAs) might have to take to protect citizens' data." Jane Sarginson, attorney at law firm St Philips Chambers, says "as far as the United States is concerned, Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and Executive Order 12333 remain in force. For as long as they do, negotiations will remain difficult."

OTHER FBI NEWS

House Republicans Target Susan Hennessey's Hiring In Letter To AG.

The Hill (6/3, Beitsch, 5.69M) reports that House Judiciary Committee Republicans are targeting former NSA attorney Susan Hennessey, who "joined the Department of Justice's national security division last month after stints at the Brookings Institution and Lawfare. Republicans are now asking the DOJ to turn over information on her hiring." The Hill says that "GOP lawmakers are focused on comments she made over the last four years where she was a frequent critic of former President Trump and then-Attorney General William Barr's handling of the investigation by former special counsel Robert Mueller." Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) authored a letter to AG Garland which alleges that, "In several recent Justice Department investigations involving national security matters, Ms. Hennessey has been an outspoken and partisan critic of Republicans." It adds that, "Your decision to hire Ms. Hennessey to a senior position within the [national security division] suggests that rather than execute the law impartially and without fear or favor, you intend to continue the Obama-Biden Administration's politicization and weaponization of our national security laws."

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Biden: US Will Immediately Donate 25M Vaccine Doses For Other Countries.

ABC World News Tonight[®] (6/3, story 2, 3:40, Muir, 5.96M) reported that the US is "donating 80 million doses of extra vaccines to countries around the world by the end of the month." The White House announced Thursday it "will start with 25 million doses across Latin America, Asia, and Africa, along with Gaza and the West Bank." The AP (6/3, Miller) reports the donation will come "through the UN-backed COVAX program, promising infusions...at a time of glaring shortages abroad and more than ample supplies at home." According to the AP, "The doses mark a substantial – and immediate – boost to the lagging COVAX effort, which to date has shared just 76 million doses with needy countries."

The Hill (6/3, Weixel, 5.69M) reports that in a statement on Thursday, President Biden said, "We are sharing these doses not to secure favors or extract concessions. We are sharing these vaccines to save lives and to lead the world in bringing an end to the pandemic, with the power of our example and with our values." NBC Nightly News[®] (6/3, story 4, 1:50, Snow, 4.9M) reported Biden said, "We need to help fight the disease around the world to keep us safe here at home," and Roll Call (6/3, McIntire, 130K) quotes Biden as saying, "As long as this pandemic is raging anywhere in the world, the American people will still be vulnerable. ... And the United States is committed to bringing the same urgency to international vaccination efforts that we have demonstrated at home." The CBS Evening News[®] (6/3, story 2, 2:30, O'Donnell, 3.64M) said the

donation "comes as the White House is trying to improve low vaccination rates back here at home."

Bloomberg (6/3, Wingrove, 3.57M) reports that "through the World Health Organization-backed Covax program, the US plans to distribute an initial 6 million shots to Central and South America, 7 million to Asia including hard-hit India and 5 million to Africa, the White House said in a statement. The US will directly send another 6 million shots to places including Mexico, Canada, South Korea and the Palestinian territories." The New York Times (6/3, Stolberg, 20.6M) reports that the White House has been "besieged with requests from other nations to share excess doses of coronavirus vaccine." Officials "said the Biden administration would donate additional doses throughout the summer as they become available." White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Jeffrey Zients said, "This is just the beginning. ... Expect a regular cadence of shipments around the world, across the next several weeks."

Axios (6/3, Rummler, 1.26M) says, "The US had until recently been the only major vaccine producer to keep virtually its entire supply at home, while countries looked to Russia or China for doses." On Thursday, National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said, "We want to save lives and thwart variants that place all of us at risk. ... And as the president has said, the United States will not use its vaccines to secure favors from other countries. ... We also know that this won't be enough to end or reduce the life-span of the pandemic, and that's why we're working with allies and partners to expand the production of vaccines and raw materials."

The Washington Post (6/3, Diamond, Rauhala, McGinley, 10.52M) says that "for months, public health officials, the leaders of developing nations and foreign experts have been warning of what they call 'vaccine apartheid' and urging rich countries, particularly the United States, to do more to share surplus doses and boost total supply."

Politico (6/3, Banco, 6.73M) reports that the White House announcement "comes after months of debate within the administration about whether it could spare shots despite weakening U.S. demand and a growing surplus of doses." Politico says "the donation will come from the U.S. stockpile of Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer and Moderna vaccines," and notes that although Biden "said in late April that the U.S. would send 60 million doses of AstraZeneca's vaccine abroad" by July 4, "problems with the AstraZeneca doses available slowed the White House's roll out. The shots were manufactured by a contractor, Emergent BioSolutions, at the same plant where 15 million doses of Johnson & Johnson's vaccine were contaminated in March." Reuters (6/3, O'Donnell, Mason) reports that "international organizations including the United Nations and the World Bank welcomed the announcement. 'It's a good start, and I am hoping that more doses will be made available,' World Bank President David Malpass told Reuters."

US Eases DPA Rules To Alleviate Global Vaccine Materials Shortages. The AP (6/3) reports that White House officials "say US producers of vaccine materials and ingredients will no longer have to prioritize orders from three companies working on COVID-19 shots." According to the AP, "The change is expected to ease global shortages of key vaccine materials for overseas companies and governments." The AP says the Biden Administration is "dropping its use of the Defense Production Act to prioritize supply orders from AstraZeneca, Novavax and Sanofi. Those three companies have not yet won U.S. authorization for their COVID-19 shots, despite receiving funding from the federal government for development and manufacturing."

IMF's Georgieva, World Bank's Malpass Urge G7 To Release Excess COVID-19 Vaccines. Reuters (6/3, Shalal) reports that IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva and World Bank President David Malpass, in a joint statement on Thursday, "urged the Group of Seven advanced economies to release any excess COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries as soon as possible, and called on manufacturers to ramp up production." They "also called on governments, pharmaceutical companies and groups involved in vaccine procurement to boost transparency about contracting, financing and deliveries." They said, "Distributing vaccines more widely is both an urgent economic necessity and a moral imperative. ... The coronavirus pandemic will not end until everyone has access to vaccines, including people in developing countries."

EU Pushes Back Against Calls To Temporarily Waive IP Rights For COVID-19 Vaccines. The Wall Street Journal (6/3, A1, Shah, Steinhauser, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports the EU is pushing back against calls to waive IP rights for COVID-19 vaccines. As an

alternative, the EU is preparing a plan to boost vaccine supplies in poorer countries, while still protecting the IP of vaccine manufacturers.

Fauci Says He Thinks It Is Unlikely That Pandemic Started With Lab Leak.

In an appearance on CNN's New Day⁸ (6/3, 8:02 a.m. ET, 584K), NIAID Director Anthony Fauci was asked about some of his emails that were recently released following a FOIA request. Fauci said, "I have always said, and will say today...that I still believe the most likely origin is from an animal species to a human. But I keep an absolutely open mind that if there may be other origins of that, there may be another reason. It could have been a lab leak. I believe, if you look historically what happens in the animal/human interface that, in fact, the more likelihood is that you're dealing with a jump of species. But I keep an open mind all the time. And that's the reason why I have been public that we should continue to look for the origin."

On MSNBC's Morning Joe⁹ (6/3, 7:28 a.m. ET, 953K), Fauci was asked, "Did you agree...in April of 2020 that the lab leak theory was a conspiracy theory?" Fauci replied, "No, not necessarily at all. The situation was we didn't know and we still don't know what the origin is. ... You can say you think one thing is more likely than the other, but the fact that it could have been something else clearly was there. It was low on the list of what we thought the likelihood was. But, in fact, that's the reason why we all are now saying there's a considerable amount, appropriately, of interest in trying to find out what the origin is. And that's why we're all in favor of a fair, open investigation to see if we can actually find out the origin. Because we want to make sure this doesn't happen again."

Fauci Says Email About Lab Leak Was Misconstrued. CNN (6/3, Howard, 89.21M) reports that in an interview with CNN on Thursday, Fauci "said that an email he received last year from an executive at the US-based EcoHealth Alliance has been misconstrued and offered a hint of regret about a February 2020 email downplaying the need to wear a mask." In an email sent to Fauci in April, "an executive at EcoHealth Alliance, the global nonprofit that helped fund some research at China's Wuhan Institute of Virology, thanked Fauci for publicly stating that scientific evidence supports a natural origin for the coronavirus and not a lab release." Fauci "emphasized that the email was sent to him, and he noted the origins of the coronavirus are still uncertain."

Fox News (6/3, Phillips, 23.99M) reports White House press secretary Jen Psaki on Thursday defended Fauci, saying, "He's been an undeniable asset in our country's pandemic response. ... It's obviously not that advantageous for me to relitigate the substance of emails from 17 months ago."

In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says that because the NIH sent \$3.4 million to China's Wuhan Institute of Virology through EcoHealth Alliance, the US should investigate the country's links to the WIV and its risky research.

Collins Says NIH Never Authorized Funds For Virus That Would Infect Humans. Asked on PBS NewsHour¹⁰ (6/3, 672K) about whether China could have used NIH funds to make COVID more dangerous, NIH Director Francis Collins said, "As the NIH – the largest supporter of medical research in the world – I think it would have been irresponsible for us not to see what we could learn about coronaviruses in China. ... And so, we did through a subcontract to the Wuhan Institute of Virology support the collection of...bat viruses to understand what was there and to try to understand their properties. We never authorized any support of a virus that would infect a human to make it more lethal or more transmissible. That would have been absolutely off limits. ... I can't tell you whether they...were doing other things that they didn't tell us about, but I will tell you that what NIH supported, what we approved, was not something that would have contributed to the arrival of this very dangerous pandemic."

Rand Paul: Fauci Is "Not Being Honest With The American Public." In an appearance on Fox News' Fox & Friends (6/3, 831K), Sen Rand Paul (R-KY) said Fauci's emails paint "a disturbing picture." According to Paul, Fauci "gets an e-mail or notification of what's going on in Wuhan, and he immediately sends something to his assistant an e-mail saying 'we must meet immediately, read this article' – and in the subject line, in the article it says 'gain of function research in Wuhan.' Well, he still denies, to this day, he was funding it. And...gain of function is where you take an animal virus and you make it into a super-virus that infects humans. They were doing this at the Wuhan lab. Dr. Fauci still denies it to this day. ... Fauci is not being honest with

the American public.” Paul added, “Fauci, to this day, says he still trusts the Chinese scientists. ... I don’t think that having trusted Chinese scientists with gain of function research was very wise. In fact, it was so naive that we shouldn’t have Dr. Fauci in a position of advising...anybody.” Fox News (6/3, 23.99M) and the New York Post (6/3, Chamberlain, 7.45M) both draw attention to Paul’s allegations about Fauci.

NIH’s Collins: “Natural Origin” Most Likely Explanation For Coronavirus. Asked on PBS NewsHour (6/3, 672K) whether public health officials should have taken the COVID lab leak theory more seriously earlier in the pandemic, NIH Director Francis Collins said, “I do think we need to get answers here. An investigation is very much needed. ... The idea that...this virus was actually engineered intentionally – that it was a product of bioweapon manufacture – that, when you looked at the actual letters of the code of this virus, was not tenable. ... The idea that it was, on the other hand, a lab accident where they were studying this virus, which maybe did occur in nature, but it got loose in the lab, that theory didn’t get nearly as much attention perhaps as it should have. ... At the present time, we have no more or less data to support that. ... I still think a natural origin is the most likely explanation.”

Former State Dept Official Says He Was Pressured Not To Probe Pandemic’s Potential Links To Wuhan Lab.

Axios (6/3, Basu, 1.26M) draws attention to an article from Vanity Fair (6/3, Eban, 9.04M) based on “a months-long investigation that included interviews with more than 40 people and a review of hundreds of pages of government documents.” According to Axios, “One of those documents was an internal memo sent by former assistant secretary of state Thomas DiNanno, a Trump appointee, alleging that staff within the department had warned leaders ‘not to pursue an investigation into the origin of COVID-19’ because it could ‘open a can of worms.’” Axios says Vanity Fair reports that late last year, “an official warned colleagues not to ask questions about the Wuhan Institute of Virology’s controversial coronavirus research, as it would call attention to U.S. government support for that research. ... The warnings ‘smelled like a cover-up,’ DiNanno told Vanity Fair, ‘and I wasn’t going to be part of it.’”

Chinese Researchers Under Growing Scrutiny Amid Questions About Coronavirus Origins. The Washington Post (6/3, A1, Dou, Kuo, 10.52M) reports on a video “released by national science authorities and Chinese state broadcaster CCTV on Dec. 10, 2019” and “designed to promote China’s world-leading viral research.” The video “offers a rare glimpse of field conditions on the eve of the pandemic,” but it “is perhaps even more notable for what it doesn’t reveal. Nothing is known outside China about the science gleaned from that expedition by the Wuhan CDC – the same agency that oversaw China’s early pandemic response.” Unsuccessful attempts at contacting both a bat scientist in the video and China’s most notable coronavirus researcher highlight “a challenge facing independent probes: Many of those in Wuhan who may hold key information are quiet.” The Post adds, “The silencing of scientists, the blanket denials, the careful guarding of raw data and biological samples – these elements have been emblematic of the approach by Chinese authorities at every stage of the coronavirus outbreak.”

Thiessen: As Long As China Blocks Investigation, Assumption Should Be That Wuhan Lab Leaked Coronavirus. Marc Thiessen writes in the Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) that as former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb has said, evidence that the COVID pandemic occurred naturally “has contracted” while there is mounting evidence that the virus leaked from a Wuhan lab. Gottlieb has said it should be Beijing’s responsibility to “provide evidence that would be exculpatory.” Thiessen argues, “So long as the Chinese Communist Party fails to provide that exculpatory evidence, and obstructs an impartial international investigation, then the assumption should be that the Wuhan lab was the source of the pandemic – and that Beijing must be held to account.”

Former State Dept Staffer: US Should Use All Tools To Determine COVID’s Origin. Former State Department staffer David Asher writes in the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) that the world deserves to know where COVID-19 originated and says the US should use all its tools to get around the Chinese Community Party’s attempts to distort facts and control the narrative surrounding the pandemic.

CDC's Walensky: Officials Need To Better Understand The Causes Of Vaccine Hesitancy.

CNBC (6/3, Rattner, 7.34M) reports on its website that "federal data shows the pace of daily reported vaccinations fell to a seven-day average of 1.1 million, the lowest level in months. ... About 51% of the total U.S. population and 63% of American adults have received one vaccine shot or more, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

In an appearance on NBC's Today (6/3, 7:09 a.m. ET, 3.02M), CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said, "We have had days in the last month where we've been over four million shots a day. We're now at 500,000 coming off of a long holiday weekend where people might not have been focusing and getting their vaccine. And that is really what the push is for June moving forward. And that is to understand all the of the reasons why people might not have yet rolled up their sleeves and meet them where they are."

On ABC's Good Morning America (6/3, 7:09 a.m. ET, 3.13M), Walensky said, "I am looking forward to this June month of action where we canvas America, we work together, we collaborate as a nation in all walks of who we are from mayors to colleges from businesses to athletes, really working together to reach that 70 percent goal." In an interview with CBS This Morning (6/3, 7:05 a.m. ET, 2.48M), Walensky said, "We need to understand that people may not have gotten vaccinated to date for various reasons. It may not have been easy. It may not have been convenient. They may not have had the incentive that they wanted or needed. Or they may have questions about the science. ... So really what this month is going to be about is meeting people where they are, understanding what they need in order to get vaccinated - the information that they need, the resources that they need, the access that they need."

The Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) reports that at a briefing on Thursday, Walensky "urged teens and adolescents to get vaccinated and recommended that parents who have questions speak with their child's health providers, or with local pharmacists or health departments. 'I strongly encourage parents to get their teens vaccinated, as I did mine,' she said during a Thursday briefing."

NIH's Collins Says National Month Of Action Will Help Efforts To Reach 70% Vaccination. Asked on CNN's Cuomo Prime Time (6/3, 954K) whether it is feasible for the country to reach President Biden's goal of a 70 percent vaccination rate by July 4, NIH Director Francis Collins said, "I think we can make it, but it's going to take a push. And that's why the President announced this... National Month of Action to try to activate that push. ... There are 12 states that are already at 70 percent. I worry about the ones that are way below that, and they are sitting ducks for the next outbreak of COVID-19, which shouldn't have to happen now."

New US Cases At Lowest Level Since March 2020.

Axios (6/3, Baker, Witherspoon, 1.26M) reports that new coronavirus infections are "down to the lowest level since March 2020" in the US. According to Axios, "The US averaged roughly 16,500 new cases per day over the past week, a 30% improvement over the week before. New cases declined in 43 states and held steady in the other seven. The official case counts haven't been this low since Americans went into lockdown in March last year." The Hill (6/3, Sullivan, 5.69M) reports CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said Thursday during a White House press briefing, "This is the type of news I like to deliver, and certainly these data are encouraging and uplifting as we battle this pandemic."

Biden Proposes 15% Minimum Corporate Tax In Return For \$1T In New Infrastructure Spending.

Citing "two sources familiar with the matter," Reuters (6/3, Renshaw, Shepardson) says President Biden "offered to scrap his proposed corporate tax hike during negotiations with Republicans" in "what would be a major concession by the Democratic president as he works to hammer out an infrastructure deal." Biden "offered to drop plans to raise corporate tax rates as high as 28% and instead set a minimum 15% tax rate aimed at ensuring all companies pay taxes. ... In return, Republicans would have to agree to at least \$1 trillion in new infrastructure spending." The AP (6/3, Boak) reports White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki "said Biden examined possible tax code

changes from his plans that Republicans might support" and he "concluded that a minimum corporate tax could provide some common ground." The AP says the offer was made Wednesday to Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) "as part of the bipartisan negotiations and did not reflect a change in Biden's overall vision for funding infrastructure."

Bloomberg (6/3, Sink, Davison, 3.57M) reports that, "according to a person familiar with the discussions," the offer "does not mean that Biden is abandoning his larger ambitions to raise taxes on corporations and wealthy individuals." The person "characteriz[ed] the proposal as simply a bid to find common ground in the Capito talks." Likewise, the Washington Post (6/3, Min Kim, Romm, 10.52M) says the President "still intends to seek the tax increase...meaning the White House could pursue the policy outside of the infrastructure debate – or in the case that bipartisan negotiations ultimately collapse." The two sides "are set to meet again Friday, though Republican leaders are still deciding whether to put forward another counteroffer or to walk away from the negotiations entirely." Even "with the potential concession on taxes," the Post says "the White House's roughly \$1 trillion plan still amounts to four times as much as Republicans have been willing to spend." ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 4, 2:35, Bruce, 5.96M) reported that "even though Biden is willing to hit pause on raising corporate taxes to 28%, saying they'll just push others to pay their fair share at 15%, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell says it's still a nonstarter."

CNBC (6/3, Pramuk, 7.34M) reports on its website that Biden told Capito Wednesday that "he wants the plan to include \$1 trillion in new spending – or above the baseline set under existing policy, NBC News reported." Republicans "most recently sent Biden a \$928 billion counteroffer," but "it included only about \$250 billion in new money."

On its website, CNN (6/3, Lobosco, 89.21M) says the two sides "remain billions of dollars apart," and the New York Times (6/3, Tankersley, Cochrane, 20.6M) reports although Biden "offered a series of concessions...narrowing both his spending and tax proposals," a deal "still appears to be a long shot. ... But the continued movement underscored his hopes for a revival of bipartisanship." The Washington Post (6/3, Wagner, 10.52M) reports Psaki "said Thursday that Biden remains engaged in 'good-faith discussions'" Psaki said, "I'm not going to prejudge what Senator Capito will come to the table with tomorrow. ... We'll leave that to her to speak to, and other Republicans who have been a part of these good-faith discussions and negotiations." The Wall Street Journal (6/3, Peterson, Restuccia, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage, as did the CBS Evening News (6/3, story 3, 1:10, O'Donnell, 3.64M) Thursday evening.

Meanwhile, Politico (6/3, Everett, Stein, 6.73M) says "while talks with the Senate GOP drag on, congressional Democrats are making backup plans to advance an infrastructure package this month on their own," and "even Democrats who want a bipartisan deal are starting to speak with more urgency." Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) "said on Thursday that his party would give the GOP about 10 days before making moves toward passing a package using budget reconciliation," which "allows certain spending bills to evade the Senate's 60-vote requirement."

Strassel: Parliamentarian's Ruling Undercut Biden's Agenda. Kimberley A. Strassel writes in the Wall Street Journal (6/3, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) that Senate Parliamentarian Elizabeth MacDonough's ruling last week that there are limits on how reconciliation can be used have undercut Democratic plans to use the process to pass what Strassel describes as President Biden's expansion of government. Strassel argues the left should not blame MacDonough. If Biden is unable to deliver on many of his promises, she argues, it is because he overreached.

New Economic Report Suggests Job Market Strength Ahead Of Friday's May Jobs Report.

The CBS Evening News (6/3, story 5, 2:00, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported "some good economic news," as the weekly jobs report shows that 385,000 Americans filed for first-time jobless benefits last week, "the lowest number since the pandemic started." However, CBS goes on to examine the struggles of several service-industry businesses to find workers for open positions. ABC World News Tonight (6/3, story 8, 0:10, Muir, 5.96M) also briefly reported on the numbers.

CNBC (6/3, Cox, 7.34M) reports that new unemployment benefits claims represented a "decline from the previous week's 405,000 and below the Dow Jones estimate of 393,000. The last time claims were lower was the week of March 14, 2020, with 256,000." Still, the AP (6/3) reports that while the data is the latest sign that "U.S. job market is regaining its health as the economy further reopens," the economy "remains down 8.2 million jobs from its level in February 2020, just before the virus tore through the economy."

Bloomberg (6/3, Lubbers, 3.57M) reports that the numbers "come ahead of Friday's Labor Department employment report, which is expected to show the economy added 655,00 jobs in May, according to a Bloomberg survey." Reuters (6/3) says that the ADP National Employment Report for May, released earlier on Thursday, showed "private payrolls increased by 978,000 jobs, the biggest increase since June last year, after rising 654,000 in April. Economists had forecast private payrolls would increase by 650,000 jobs in May." However, Reuters says that the ADP "has a poor track record predicting the private payrolls count in the" Labor Department monthly employment report "because of methodology differences."

China Threat Sparks Bipartisan Push For Increased US R&D Spending.

Bloomberg (6/3, Decker, Tanzi, 3.57M) says, "Federal money for research and development, as a share of the economy, has been at historically low levels. But President Joe Biden has made support for innovation a key part of his program, calling for increased funding to key industries like semiconductor manufacturing, cybersecurity and electric vehicles." Bloomberg adds that Congress is "moving toward a wide-ranging plan, with backing in both parties, that could inject about \$190 billion into new and existing programs, though some of that replaces current funding. It targets areas like artificial intelligence where China is committed to becoming a world leader – through the kind of focused, government-led program that the U.S. is now moving to emulate."

Landlords Ask SCOTUS To End Nationwide Eviction Freeze.

The Hill (6/3, Kruzel, 5.69M) reports a group of landlords led by the Alabama Association of Realtors "on Thursday asked the Supreme Court to end a nationwide freeze on evictions so that property owners can proceed with removing financially distressed renters from their homes." The emergency request, which came "a day after a federal appeals court in Washington, D.C., rebuffed the group's bid to nullify the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) eviction moratorium," asked Chief Justice John Roberts, who handles emergency requests related to Washington, DC-based litigation, "to reinstate a lower court ruling that found public health officials had overstepped their authority in halting evictions across the U.S." The brief read, "Landlords have been losing over \$13 billion every month under the moratorium, and the total effect of the CDC's overreach may reach up to \$200 billion if it remains in effect for a year."

AP: Guatemalans Migrating To US Seek To Break Cycle Of Poverty.

The AP (6/3, Perez D.) reports that the "thousands of Guatemalans" who migrate to the US "are driven by the chance of breaking the cycle of poverty that affects 60% of the country's population." While the COVID pandemic "initially blunted migration to the U.S. last year... numbers were soon on the rise again." Customs and Border Protection "reported more than 30,000 encounters with Guatemalan migrants at the Southwest border this April." The Biden Administration "fears that an unmanageable number of migrants, especially children and families at the southwest border, will distract from its domestic policy goals even as it tries to present a more compassionate face than its predecessor."

Influx Of Migrants At US-Mexico Border Creating Concern Over Deaths Over Summer.

The Washington Post (6/3, Miroff, 10.52M) reports that a "sharp increase" in the number of people coming into the US "through remote desert areas along the US-Mexico border has officials and rights advocates worried that this summer will be especially lethal, with the potential for a spike in migrant deaths." In southern Arizona, "more migrants have been traveling north along treacherous routes typically used by drug smugglers... putting them in greater peril, US Customs and Border Protection officials say." The agency is on track to rescue more than 10,000 people

during fiscal 2021, "twice the number recorded in 2019 and 2020, CBP data show." Border officials "acknowledge that the increase in single adult migrants is partly driven by higher numbers of repeat or 'recidivist' crossers attempting the journey."

GAO May Release Verdict On President's Hold On Border Wall Funds Soon.

Roll Call (6/3, Krawzak, 130K) reports that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has begun "working on a legal opinion of President Joe Biden's hold on border wall construction funds that could emerge as soon as this month," though "even if the GAO decides the Biden hold is illegal, there are no penalties in current law." The GAO is investigating the President's "pause on the funding after the president announced on Jan. 20 he was stopping construction of the southern border wall and freezing funds for it." In a letter Wednesday to House Budget Committee ranking member Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO) responding to the panel's request for information on the investigation in May, GAO General Counsel Thomas Armstrong said, "We reach our conclusions after careful research and independent analysis of statutory and case law as well as consideration of analogous precedent and legal principles."

Border Community Leaders Urge Administration To Listen, Meet With Local Officials.

USA Today (6/3, Morin, 12.7M) reports that border communities like the Rio Grande Valley along the Texas border play "an outsize role in caring for migrants once they are out of Customs and Border Protection custody," and although the White House "acknowledges border communities are important to handling an influx of arrivals at the border, community leaders and officials want more communication from Washington as localities shoulder the day-to-day processing of migrants." According to USA Today, "Mayors and community leaders said they don't necessarily have to see Biden or Vice President Kamala Harris...come to the Rio Grande Valley," but they hope to communicate with them and give their input on Administration policies.

Harris Announces \$1B In Grants For Broadband On Tribal Lands.

The Washington Post (6/3, Wagner, 10.52M) reports during an event on the White House campus Thursday, Vice President Harris "announced...that the Biden administration is making available \$1 billion in grants to improve high-speed Internet in tribal lands and argued that passage of an infrastructure proposal pending in Congress would help others across the country who lack the benefits of broadband." Harris said, "As some Americans have been able to connect to high-speed Internet for school and for health and for work and to run their businesses and see their families, many others across the country, including those in rural and tribal communities, have indeed been left behind. ... We must keep going until we connect every American household. With the American jobs plan, President Joe Biden and I are determined to get to 100 percent coverage." On its website, USA Today (6/3, 12.7M) features video from the AP of Harris announcing the grants.

The Verge (6/3, Lyons, 1.54M) says the funds, "from the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), will be made to eligible Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian entities for broadband deployment, to support digital inclusion, workforce development, telehealth, and distance learning." CNET News (6/3, Crist, 3.77M) provides similar coverage.

Armed Services Committee Leaders Remain Opposed To Changes To Handling Of Military Sexual Assault Cases.

The New York Times (6/3, Steinhauer, 20.6M) reports that although Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) has obtained broad backing on legislation that "would overhaul the way the military handles sexual assault and other serious crime," she is "running up against a final hurdle: opposition from the leaders of her chamber's Armed Services Committee," Sens. Jack Reed (D-RI) and James Inhofe (R-OK), who want to "delay any move toward a swift vote." According to the Times, "The landscape is emblematic of a growing bipartisan discontent in Congress with military leaders on a number of fronts, and in tandem, with old-line congressional deference to commanders on policy."

Court Sides With Cruz In Campaign Finance Case.

Roll Call (6/3, Ruger, Ackley, 130K) reports a three judge panel of the US District Court for the District of Columbia on Thursday sided with Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) "to strike down a 'somewhat obscure' section of a 2002 campaign finance law, which is expected to give a boost to wealthier candidates who self-fund their campaigns." The panel "found that Section 304 of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act unconstitutionally infringes on candidates' free speech rights." The section "prohibits federal candidates who made personal campaign loans before the election from using more than \$250,000 in post-election contributions to repay them." While the FEC argued "that Congress could impose the limit to stop the risk and appearance of corruption when elected officeholders solicit contributions that will be used to repay their personal loans," the court "wrote that there are no examples of that kind of quid pro quo corruption."

Facebook Changing Its Policy On Posts By Politicians Who Break Its Rules.

The New York Times (6/3, Isaac, 20.6M) cites "two people with knowledge" of Facebook's plans who said the company will "announce on Friday that it will no longer keep posts by politicians up on its site by default if their speech breaks its rules." According to the people, "under the change, politicians' posts will no longer be presumed newsworthy. ... Politicians will be subject to Facebook's content guidelines that prohibit harassment, discrimination or other harmful speech, they said." The Times says the change is "tied to Facebook's decision to bar former President Donald J. Trump from its site." The Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) calls the change "a major reversal after years of criticism that it was too deferential to powerful figures during the Trump presidency."

F. Lee Bailey Dead At 87.

The AP (6/3, Pratt) reports that F. Lee Bailey, "the celebrity attorney who defended O.J. Simpson, Patricia Hearst and the alleged Boston Strangler...has died" at the age of 87, according to former colleague Kenneth Fishman on Thursday. The AP says that "Fishman did not disclose the cause of death but said Bailey had moved to Georgia about a year ago to be closer to one of his sons and had been dealing with several medical issues for the past few months."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

WHO Warns Africa Is On The Brink Of Third Wave.

The New York Times (6/3, Dahir, 20.6M) reports that the World Health Organization warned on Thursday that "a sudden, sharp rise in coronavirus cases in many parts of Africa could amount to a continental third wave" and "a portent of deeper trouble for a continent whose immunization drives have been crippled by shortfalls in funding and vaccine doses." The WHO "said test positivity had risen in 14 African countries over the last seven days, with eight reporting a surge of over 30 percent in new cases." The Times adds, "Infections are steadily climbing in South Africa, where four of nine provinces are battling a third wave. There has also been a sharp increase in cases in Uganda."

China Aiming To Vaccinate More Than 1B Of Its Citizens By Year's End.

The AP (6/3, Wu) reports that "in the span of just five days last month, China gave out 100 million shots of its COVID-19 vaccines." According to the AP, "After a slow start, China is now doing what virtually no other country in the world can: leveraging the power and all-encompassing reach of its one-party system and a maturing domestic vaccine industry to administer shots at a staggering pace." The AP adds, "The rollout is far from perfect, including uneven distribution, but Chinese public health leaders now say they're hoping to inoculate 80% of the population of 1.4 billion by the end of the year."

Chinese Health Official Says Country Cannot Reopen Like Others Despite Vaccination Efforts. Bloomberg (6/3, 3.57M) reports China's Center for Disease Control and Prevention Deputy Director Feng Zijian on Thursday warned that China should not begin easing pandemic restrictions, even though its vaccination efforts are accelerating, because the country

cannot analyze the efficacy of the vaccines in a population that is largely free of COVID-19. Speaking at a conference in Qingdao, Zijian said, "I don't think we've got to that point – if we try to open even when 60% or 80% of population are vaccinated, it could still lead to a severe outbreak." According to Bloomberg, "Feng's comment signals that China intends to remain closed off even as other major economies race to open up following large-scale vaccine efforts."

China's Sinopharm Vaccine Failed To Curb Rise In COVID Cases In Bahrain, UAE.

The Washington Post (6/3, Taylor, Schemm, 10.52M) reports that a vaccination drive in Bahrain "that relied heavily" on a vaccine developed by the China National Pharmaceutical Group, known as Sinopharm, "has so far produced at best mixed results and failed to curb a rise in new cases." Nearly 50% of Bahrain "has been fully vaccinated, according to The Washington Post's tracking, but the country has seen its worst wave of cases yet in the past few weeks, and the government has implemented a two-week lockdown in a bid to tame the outbreak."

Reuters (6/3) reports the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain "have made the Pfizer/BioNTech, coronavirus vaccine available as a booster shot to those initially immunised with a vaccine developed by" Sinopharm. According to the article, "Bahrain is currently fighting its biggest wave of infections, while the UAE is recording nearly twice as many COVID-19 cases as it was seven months ago."

Canadian Immigration Minister Says Country Is Talking With NHL, MLB About Border Exemptions.

Politico (6/3, Blatchford, 6.73M) reports that Canadian officials "are in talks with both the National Hockey League and Major League Baseball about exemptions that could open a path for professional athletes to cross the heavily restricted US-Canada border." Canadian Immigration Minister Marco Mendicino "told POLITICO in an interview Thursday that separate discussions with the leagues could result in 'national interest exemptions,' which would allow players to avoid some of the pandemic-driven border measures." However, Mendicino "stressed the proposals must first get a green light from public health authorities," and the players would remain subject to 14-day quarantines.

Tokyo Olympics Organizers Insist Games Will Still Be Held.

The CBS Evening News (6/3, story 7, 1:45, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported, "Organizers of the Tokyo Olympics insist the games will be held, but 50 days out, much of Japan is still in a COVID emergency. Ten thousand volunteers have quit, and calls to cancel the games are getting louder." Michael Osterholm, Director, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, said, "There surely is a possibility the Olympics could become a source for virus transmission around the world." CBS (Ramy Inocencio) added, "But \$16 billion is the estimated cost of cancelling the games, and the first international athletes from Australia's women's softball have already arrived. Every Olympian has to sign a waiver releasing Tokyo from any liability, but if the games do go on, about 15,000 spectators from nearly 200 countries still have to fly home. And if there's an Olympic surge, we may be facing another wave around the world."

Biden Directs US Agencies To Increase Their Effort To Target Corruption.

Politico (6/3, Toosi, 6.73M) reports that President Biden is "formally directing federal departments and agencies to make fighting global corruption a priority." On Thursday, Biden "issued a 'national security study memorandum' that directs the U.S. government to send to him in 200 days a report and recommendations on how the United States can better use its resources and partner with other countries to battle corruption."

The Hill (6/3, Chalfant, 5.69M) adds that in a statement accompanying the directive, Biden "described corrupt activities as a threat to democracy and U.S. national security." The Hill quotes the president as saying, "Fighting corruption is not just good governance. It is self-defense. It is patriotism, and it's essential to the preservation of our democracy and our future."

CNBC (6/3, Wilkie, 7.34M) reports on its website that an unidentified "Administration official"

made the case that "the memo is important because it publicly notifies federal agencies that they need to 'up their anti-corruption game,'" and "said major parts of the directive will be focused on financial crimes, including steps to modernize existing anti-corruption laws to confront cryptocurrencies and cybercrime. 'We are looking at crypto as a means of illicit finance,' the official said."

Ignatius: Anti-Corruption Directive Will Mark Important Turn In US Foreign Policy If Successful. David Ignatius writes in the Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) that if President Biden "is serious" about the anti-corruption directive he announced on Thursday, "and frankly, that's still a big 'if,'" it could "mark a significant turn in U.S. foreign policy." Ignatius says "the sad truth is that the corrupt oligarchs of the world do their business in dollars. U.S.-trained lawyers create their shell companies; U.S.-educated bankers help them hide their assets; U.S. foreign policy often tolerates or even encourages their thievery." Biden's plan, Ignatius writes, "proposes better intelligence collection about the crooks, new tools to expose their shell companies and new penalties for illicit activity." It "appears to have some teeth. Here's hoping they bite."

NYTimes Analysis: International Maritime Organization "Repeatedly Delayed" Curbing Commercial Shipping Emissions.

The New York Times (6/3, Apuzzo, Hurtes, 20.6M) reports on the International Maritime Organization (IMO), which the Times says is "a clubby United Nations agency...that regulates international shipping," has "repeatedly delayed and watered down climate regulations, even as emissions from commercial shipping continue to rise, a trend that threatens to undermine the goals of the 2016 Paris climate accord," according to internal documents. The Times argues that the reason for this is that the IMO "is a regulatory body that is run in concert with the industry it regulates."

Arrest Of Opposition Leader In Nicaragua Leads To Calls For A National Strike.

Reuters (6/3) reports that a "group representing Nicaraguan political prisoners and the mothers of those killed protesting President Daniel Ortega's authoritarian government called Thursday for a national strike after the house arrest of opposition leader Cristiana Chamorro." Reuters says that "Chamorro had recently emerged as a possible unity candidate who could possibly rally a fractured opposition in the November vote to defeat Ortega, the 75-year-old leftist who has been in power since 2007 and aims to be re-elected in November for the third consecutive time, after ruling in the 1980s."

China Still Attempting To Erase Public Memory And Mention Of Tiananmen Square Massacre.

The AP (6/3, Kang) reports that over 30 years after the Tiananmen Square massacre, the Chinese government has "imprisoned or driven activists into exile and largely succeeded in ensuring young people know little about June 4. Still, after more than three decades and three changes of leadership, they are relentless in trying to prevent any mention of the attack that killed hundreds and possibly thousands of people." The AP says that, "Relatives of those who died are watched and, ahead of the anniversary, some are detained or forced to stay temporarily away from home to prevent them from doing anything that might draw attention. Public memorials on the mainland always have been prohibited."

Exiled Uyghurs Speak Of Torture, Forced Abortions In Xinjiang Ahead Of Tribunal Hearings.

The AP (6/3, Wieting) reports that, "Three Uyghurs who fled from China to Turkey have described forced abortions and torture by Chinese authorities in China's far western Xinjiang region, ahead of giving testimony to a people's tribunal in London that is investigating if Beijing's actions against ethnic Uyghurs amount to genocide." The tribunal begins four days of hearing starting Friday. The AP says that although "the tribunal's judgment is not binding on any government, organizers hope the process of publicly laying out evidence will compel international action to tackle growing concerns about alleged abuses in Xinjiang against the Uyghurs."

Afghan Pilot Wanted By Taliban Arrives In US.

The New York Times (6/3, Zucchini, Hayeri, 20.6M) reports that Maj. Naiem Asadi, decorated Afghan Air Force helicopter pilot, and his family received USCIS humanitarian parole and arrived in the US this week. The DOD had rejected Asadi's refugee application due it not being "fully vetted." Maj. Robert Lodewick, a Pentagon spokesman said that the DOD "would have been in the position of abetting the desertion of a serving Afghan officer as Major Asadi had not informed his chain of command of his parole application." Lt. Col. Jalauddin Ibrahimkhel, Afghan Air Force spokesman said, "He (Asadi) did this to escape from serving his homeland," and that others were more likely to "make excuses and escape." Maj. Asadi had gone AWOL after a decade in the Afghan Air Force to protect his family, targeted by the Taliban, and due to discrimination due to Asadi being a member of the Hazara minority group.

The Wall Street Journal (6/3, Rasmussen, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that USCIS approved Maj. Asadi's parole in October, and granted him parole last month.

WSJournal: US, Allies Must Push Back On Global Censorship By Chinese Communist Party.

The Wall Street Journal (6/3, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorializes that a recent incident in which Wix, an Israeli tech company, complied with demands by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to remove a website by pro-democracy activists from Hong Kong, shows the CCP's power to censor dissent extends beyond China's borders, and the Journal says the US and its allies must push back.

Biden To Meet With Johnson, Erdogan, Putin During First Overseas Trip.

Reuters (6/3) reports that the White House has announced that President Biden's "first overseas trip will include meetings with the leaders of Turkey, the United Kingdom and Russia." Biden is scheduled to meet British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on June 10 "before attending the Group of Seven Summit from June 11-13 in Cornwall in the United Kingdom, where he will hold bilateral meetings with other G7 leaders." Biden "will meet with Queen Elizabeth at Windsor Castle on June 13," and then "travel to Brussels for the NATO summit on June 14, meeting with Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan, and attend the U.S.-EU summit there the following day." Reuters notes that Biden's Geneva summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin is scheduled for June 16.

Axios (6/3, Knutson, 1.26M) reports that Biden and Erdogan "have had a strained relationship in the past, which has been exacerbated by Biden's decision in April to formally recognize the mass killing of Armenians by Ottoman Turkish forces as an act of genocide." According to Axios, "Biden's recognition of the 1915 genocide was highly controversial within Turkey and came despite a prior warning from Erdoğan that it would harm U.S.-Turkey relations."

The New York Times (6/3, Kwai, 20.6M) reports, "The world's longest reigning monarch, Elizabeth has met with every American president since Harry S. Truman except Lyndon B. Johnson," and "will celebrate her 70th year on the throne next year." Bloomberg (6/3, Sink, 3.57M) has more on Biden's scheduled meeting with Queen Elizabeth.

In Response To Sanctions, Belarus Cuts US Diplomatic Presence.

CNN (6/3, Ullah, Yahrova, Hansler, Sierra, Kottasová, 89.21M) reports that Belarus has "struck back" against the US, "slashing the number of staff permitted at the US embassy in Minsk, in response to sanctions imposed on some of its state-owned enterprises." In a statement, the Belarusian Foreign Ministry "said it was reducing the number of both 'diplomatic and administrative-technical' staff at the embassy, without specifying the number of staff that will be affected."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/3) reports that in his third appearance on state TV since being seized off a diverted flight last month, opposition journalist Roman Protasevich "tearfully" confessed his role in anti-government protests "in an interview which the opposition said was made under duress." Franak Viacorka, a top adviser to exiled opposition figure Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, said, "It's painful to see 'confessions' of Raman Pratasevich. His parents believe he was tortured. This is

not Raman I know."

Effective Low-Cost Drones Altering Landscape Of The Battlefield.

The Wall Street Journal (6/3, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that smaller militaries worldwide have begun equipping their forces with inexpensive, missile-equipped drones to counter enemy armored forces, which has proven successfully in tipping the balance of power in several conflicts. The Journal says that the success of such drones, such as those made in Turkey, heralds a future of warfare that is impacted as much by cheap, effective technologies as much as it is by high-tech weapon systems.

Czech Government Survives Motion Of No Confidence Over Handling Of COVID-19 Pandemic.

Reuters (6/3, Muller) reports that on Thursday the Czech government survived a motion of no confidence "after a party holding decisive votes shunned the opposition's attempt to overthrow Prime Minister Andrej Babis' minority Cabinet months before a general election." The confidence motion was brought "over the government's handling of the coronavirus pandemic and investigations into billionaire Babis' alleged conflicts of interest." Prime Minister Babis denied wrongdoing and said, "We don't want the European Parliament to control our country. Nobody from abroad will stick his nose in here."

Netanyahu Pushes Back At Coalition As Pressure Mounts.

The CBS Evening News (6/3, story 6, 1:45, O'Donnell, 3.64M) reported that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "is still fighting to keep his job, but he could be out within days." However, Tao Snyder, Political Correspondent for The Times of Israel, says, "I think a terror attack or escalation in Gaza or any other escalation in one of Israel's borders, this is a major risk for this coalition."

Reuters (6/2, Lubell) reports that on Thursday, Netanyahu "scorned as 'dangerous' and 'left-wing' a cross-partisan coalition cobbled together by his rivals to unseat him, even as the nationalist named to lead it echoed his hard line on the Palestinians." Netanyahu tweeted, "All legislators elected by votes from the right must oppose this dangerous left-wing government." Avigdor Lieberman, a former defense minister and leader of a coalition member party Yisrael Beiteinu, said on Channel 13 TV, "We launched the move, but we haven't completed it. There will be 12 days that won't be easy, and in the end, there will be a government."

The AP (6/3, Kellman) reports that opponents of Netanyahu "pushed Thursday for a quick parliament vote to formally end his lengthy rule, hoping to head off any last-minute attempts to derail their newly announced coalition government." The AP says that "it was not able to unseat the parliament speaker, a Netanyahu ally, later on Thursday and it remained unclear how events would play out over the next few days." Netanyahu's Likud party has mounted pressure on right-wing members of the coalition.

The New York Times (6/3, Kingsley, Nagourney, 20.6M) says, "The agreement on a coalition that would oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and include an Arab party in government has prompted indignation and relief in roughly equal measure among Palestinian citizens of Israel." The reason for indignation is because Naftali Bennett, who is slated to become prime minister, "is a right-wing leader aligned with religious nationalists in strong opposition to a Palestinian state." On the other hand, some are relieved "because Mr. Netanyahu, while sometimes courting Israeli Arabs of late, has often used their presence to generate fear among his base, famously warning in 2015 that they were voting 'in droves.' He has fanned division where possible and declared that Israel is 'the nation-state, not of all its citizens, but only of the Jewish people.'"

The New York Times (6/3, Kingsley, Rasgon, 20.6M) says that "for some, the real architect of Mr. Netanyahu's potential downfall is Mr. Netanyahu himself. Three of the eight parties in the new coalition are led by hard-right lawmakers who were once key allies of the prime minister. Two of them...were even chiefs of staff to Mr. Netanyahu." Mitchell Barak, a pollster and political analyst, said, "If you look at Netanyahu's greatest nemeses in this whole thing, they are people that worked for him." He added, "It's not just the public who are tired," but "it's people that worked for

him who are tired."

Thomas L. Friedman writes in the New York Times (6/3, 20.6M) that like former President Donald Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's "main political strategy for winning elections has been to foster an intense personality cult and try to gain and hold power with slim majorities by dividing Israel along as many lines as possible – in his case, primarily Jews versus Arabs, left versus right, religious versus secular and patriots versus traitors." Netanyahu "was perfectly happy to undermine Israel's democratic institutions, the press and the rule of law – anything that could restrain his quest to retain power after 12 years in office." Friedman also argues that "the unlikely coalition that has come together in Israel to try to unseat Bibi is Israel's equivalent of Bidenism – a movement of people who believe that society has to repair its torn political fabric, back away from the brink and restore respect for institutions and for one another."

WPost: New Coalition Government Could Restart Israel's Relations With Biden. The Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) editorializes, "Despite his nationalist agenda, Mr. Bennett...could give Israel a fresh start with the Biden administration. Mr. Netanyahu poisoned his relations with Democrats by strongly aligning himself with the Republican Party and former president Donald Trump, and by militantly campaigning against the nuclear agreement with Iran negotiated by the Obama administration." The Post concludes that the "new Israeli regime will not welcome the renewal of that accord that President Biden seeks, but if it refrains from efforts to block or sabotage it, it will improve on Mr. Netanyahu's record."

Israeli Defense Minister Signals Shift In Tone On Iran As Strategic Dialogue To Continue In "Private." The AP (6/3, Knickmeyer) reports that "Israel's visiting defense minister said Thursday that Israel will stay engaged on the terms as the US tries to return to a nuclear deal with Iran, sidestepping what's long been an area of open disagreement between the United States and the now-jeopardized government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu." Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz said, "Our dialogue is so important to ensuring that any deal effectively meets its goal of keeping Iran away from nuclear weapons." He added, "We will continue this important strategic dialogue in private discussion...only, not in the media in a provoking way." Defense Secretary Austin said that President Biden "has expressed his full support for replenishing Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system, which saved so many lives." Austin added, "We are committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge and ensuring that Israel can defend itself."

Iron Dome Funding Could Be Included In Broader Security Bill. Meanwhile, Roll Call (6/3, Shutt, 130K) reports that additional funding for Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile system "could get wrapped into a stalled Capitol Hill security spending bill as Democrats and Republicans look for a way forward on both matters in the Senate." White House Press Secretary Psaki "told reporters Thursday that a 'readout' of the latest on the missile defense funding situation wasn't available yet. 'It may be that we have to consider their request and I'm not sure we'll have a rapid response. But I will check with our team and see if we have any update,' she said."

Thomas-Greenfield Looks To Keep Russia From Closing Key Border Crossing Into Syria.

NBC Nightly News^{*} (6/3, story 8, 2:10, Snow, 4.9M) reported that in Syria, "a critical border crossing used to bring aid for refugees could be shut down by Russia." NBC (Mitchell) says that the crossing is the "last lifeline for millions of desperate Syrian refugees." US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield, NBC adds, has arrived in the region to deal with the situation and to provide an additional \$239 million in US aid. She said, "You know, I think I have seen firsthand the importance of this border crossing. And you don't want on your shoulders the desperation of the people on the other side of the border."

Menendez, Graham Call For Broad Look At Relations With Iran.

Sens. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) write in the Washington Post (6/3, 10.52M) that "there is an opportunity for President Biden to think beyond the mere restoration of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the deal that the Obama administration, its European partners, China and Russia reached with Iran in 2015." They argue there is "a way to achieve a compromise that will find support among the countries of the region, meet Iran's stated

goal for peaceful nuclear power and avoid an arms race in the Middle East," and they "strongly encourage the Biden administration, the Iranians and our international negotiating partners to think beyond the past and look toward what we can achieve for the future. Refusing to do so would risk a tremendous opportunity for peace."

France Suspends Joint Operations With Malian Forces To Pressure Junta To Restore Government.

Reuters (6/3) reports that "France said on Thursday it was suspending its joint military operations with local troops in Mali as part of efforts to pressure the military junta there to restore a civilian-led government." Reuters says that "Mali's military arrested interim President Bah Ndaw and Prime Minister Moctar Ouane last week and pressured them to resign, derailing a transition to democratic elections after another military coup last August. Former vice president Assimi Goita, a colonel who led the August coup and last week's revolt, was declared president on Friday." Although France was suspending operations with Malian force, it said it would continue its operations within the country.

UN Report Suggests Drone May Have Autonomously Targeted Militia Fighters In Libya In 2020.

The New York Times (6/3, Cramer, 20.6M) says that a UN report by independent experts "suggested that a drone, used against militia fighters in Libya's civil war [last year], may have selected a target autonomously." The report published in March states, "Once in retreat, they were subject to continual harassment from the unmanned combat aerial vehicles and lethal autonomous weapons systems." Commenting on the report, Zachary Kallenborn, a research affiliate at the University of Maryland, said, "What's not clear is whether the drone was allowed to select its target autonomously and whether the drone, while acting autonomously, harmed anyone. The UN report heavily implies, but does not state, that it did."

THE BIG PICTURE

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

William Ackman SPAC Nears \$40 Billion Universal Music Deal
AMC Shares Sink On Stock Sale Plan And Warning To Buyers
Europe Pushes Alternative To Waiving Patents On Covid-19 Vaccines
Armed Low-Cost Drones, Made By Turkey, Reshape Battlefields And Geopolitics
How Pitchers Are Conquering Baseball's Home Run Revolution
United Plans To Buy 15 Supersonic Planes

New York Times:

Biden Narrows Infrastructure Request, But Hurdles Remain For Bipartisan Deal
For Years, Netanyahu Outlasted His Rivals. What Changed This Week?
Tasked To Fight Climate Change, A Secretive U.N. Agency Does The Opposite
See Which States Are Falling Behind Biden's Vaccination Goal
U.S. Finds No Evidence Of Alien Technology In Flying Objects, But Can't Rule It Out, Either
F. Lee Bailey, Lawyer For Patty Hearst and O.J. Simpson, Dies at 87

Washington Post:

Biden Hints At A Tax Concession
FBI Investigating DeJoy About Past Fundraising
A Tubman \$20 Remains Far Off, Despite Biden's Pledge
Lab-Leak Theory Casts Focus On Star Chinese Researchers
Afghan War Takes A Brutal Turn

Financial Times:

[Beijing Cancels Annual Hong Kong Rally To Mark Tiananmen Massacre](#)
[Global Food Prices Post Biggest Jump In Decade](#)
[Engine No 1, The Giant-Killing Hedge Fund, Has Big Plans](#)
[Genetic Code Breakthrough Opens Door To Advanced Materials](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Severe Weather; COVID Update; Cyberattacks; Biden-Infrastructure; DeJoy Investigation; Gaetz Investigation; Duke Coach Retires; Jobs; United Airlines-Supersonic Jets; Florida-Kids Shoot At Deputies; Death of F. Lee Bailey; Earthquakes; FLOTUS Birthday; Track Team Supports Teammate With Cancer.

CBS: Cyberattacks; COVID Update; Biden-Infrastructure; Florida-Kids Shoot At Deputies; Jobs; Israel-Netanyahu; Tokyo Olympics; DeJoy Investigation; Death of F. Lee Bailey; United Airlines-Supersonic Jets; 93-Year-Old Receives Diploma.

NBC: Cyberattacks; Cyberattack Targets; Chris Krebs Interview; COVID Update; Prostate Cancer Breakthrough; Florida-Kids Shoot At Deputies; Gaetz Investigation; Syria/Russia; United Airlines-Supersonic Jets; Summer Sales; Princess Di Dress On Display; Duke Coach Retires.

Network TV At A Glance:

Cyberattacks – 8 minutes, 40 seconds
COVID Update – 8 minutes, 0 seconds
Florida-Kids Shoot At Deputies – 3 minutes, 50 seconds
United Airlines-Supersonic Jets – 2 minutes, 10 seconds

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

- President Biden — receives the Presidents' Daily Brief; **delivers remarks on the May jobs report**; reconnects with Republican Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, following their meeting at the White House earlier this week to 'continue bipartisan negotiations about investing in the middle class and economic growth through infrastructure.'
- Vice President Harris — has no public schedule released.

US Senate:

- [Senate on recess from 28 May – 7 Jun](#)

US House:

- [House meets in pro forma session](#) – House of Representatives meets in pro forma session * Chamber on recess from 28 May – 7 Jun
Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC; 9:30 AM
- [House Oversight Committee roundtable on 'Examining the Long-Term Impacts of the Gender Wage Gap on Moms'](#) – House Committee on Oversight and Reform roundtable on 'Examining the Long-Term Impacts of the Gender Wage Gap on Moms', held in New York, featuring New York State Sen. Jessica Ramos, Yale Law School Visiting Professor of Law and Senior Research Scholar Julie Chi-hye Suk, DoSomething.org CEO DeNora Getachew, and Legal Momentum and The Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund Senior Attorney for Economic Empowerment Seher Khawaja (10:00 AM EDT) * Before the roundtable, Committee Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney and State Sen. Ramos hold media availability (9:30 AM EDT)

Location: Hunter College, 912 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY; 10:00 AM

Cabinet Officers:

- [No public schedules released.](#)

Visitors:

- No visitors scheduled.

General Events:

- Monthly Employment Report – The Employment Situation: Unemployment Rate, Average Workweek, Average Hourly Earnings, Manufacturing Payrolls, Nonfarm payrolls * Last month's data showed that total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 266,000 in April, while the unemployment rate rose to 6.1%, as the labor market continued its recovery from the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; 8:30 AM
- NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg keynotes Brookings event on NATO 2030 – North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the German Council on Foreign Relations, and Brookings co-host NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, who delivers a keynote address and discusses the NATO 2030 agenda. Other speakers include German Council on Foreign Relations Designated Director and CEO Cathryn Cluver Ashbrook and Brookings Institution Fritz Stern Chair on Germany and Trans-Atlantic Relations Constanze Steizenmuller

Location: Virtual Event; 10:00 AM

- House Judiciary Committee holds closed transcribed interview with former White House counsel Don McGahn – House Committee on the Judiciary holds closed transcribed interview with former White House counsel Don McGahn, after an agreement was reached between the Committee and the Department of Justice. Questions must reportedly be limited to information attributed to him, or events involving him, in the publicly available portions of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report on potential Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election * McGahn was originally subpoenaed to testify to the Committee in 2019, following the issuance of Mueller's report, but the White House blocked his cooperation and argued that he was 'immune' from testifying. The Committee appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and although a three-judge panel originally dismissed the case by saying that the court lacked the authority, the full court eventually took on the case on appeal, until lawyers last month submitted a request for its removal so they could implement their agreement; 10:00 AM
- Washington Post Live event with bipartisan Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick and Josh Gottheimer – Washington Post Live hosts discussion on the 117th Congress with Problem Solvers Caucus co-Chairs Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick and Democratic Rep. Josh Gottheimer

Location: Virtual Event; 10:30 AM

- Republican Rep. Kat Cammack tours Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) cargo and cruise facilities

Location: Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT), 2831 Talleyrand Ave, Jacksonville, FL; 10:30 AM

- Wilson Center discussion on esports at HBCUs, with Dem Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson – 'Esports & Education: How HBCUs are Leveling the Field' Wilson Center book discussion, featuring Democratic Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson and Serious Games Initiative Director Elizabeth Newbury

Location: Virtual Event; 12:00 PM

- Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jen Psaki; 1:00 PM
- CDC celebrates 70th anniversary of the Epidemic Intelligence Service program (virtual) – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention celebrates the 70th anniversary of its Epidemic Intelligence Service program, which has served on the front lines of public health investigating threats in the U.S. and around the world. Speakers include CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, Principal Deputy Director Anne Schuchat, Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development Director Patricia Simone, EIS Program Chief Eric Pevzner, Global Immunization Division Senior Epidemiologist Susan Chu, Division of High Consequence Pathogens and Pathology Deputy Director Jennifer McQuiston, and Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion Medical Officer Isaac Benowitz; former CDC Director William Foege; USAID Senior Scientific Advisor on Global Tuberculosis Kenneth Castro; Fulton County Board of Health District Health Director Lynn Paxton; Wisconsin state Rep. Sara Russell Rodriguez; and Stanford University

Stanford Health Communication Initiative Director Seema Yasmin

Location: Virtual Event; 1:00 PM

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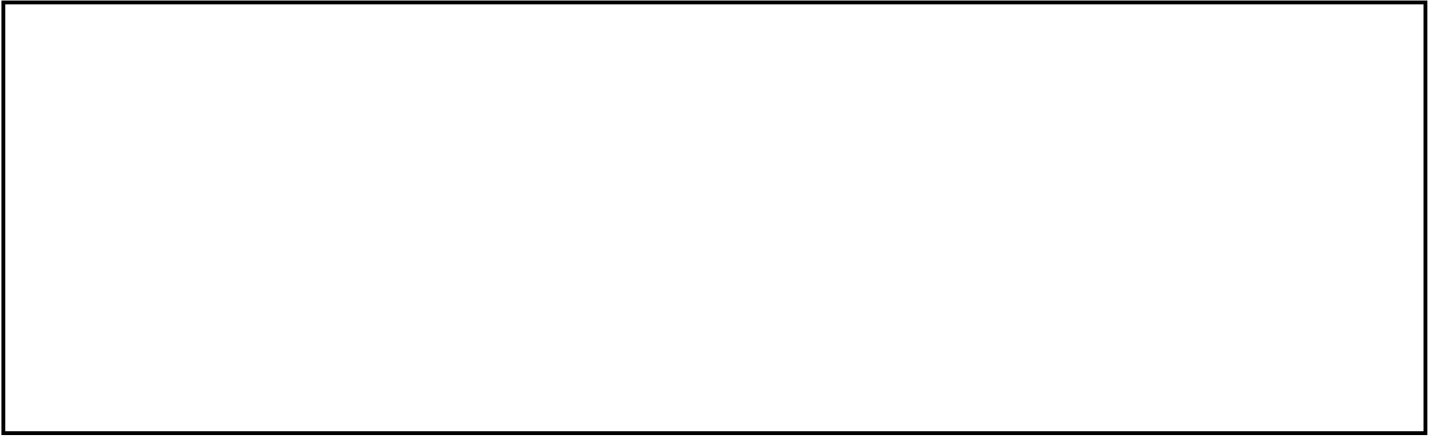
b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: ILU Awards
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 4, 2021 4:50 PM (UTC-04:00)
Hi [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thank you so much for entering my write-ups into the forms. I have 80 hours and \$1,500.00 in awards which are being awarded as follows:

b6 -1
b7C -1



Please let me know if you need me to do anything else.

Thanks.

[Redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

SSA

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

*Investigative Law Unit
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation*

[Redacted]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Read: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - RE: BWC Meeting
To: [REDACTED] (USMS)
Sent: June 7, 2021 9:22 AM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -5
b7C -5

From:
Subject: FW: BWC Memo
To: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 7, 2021 4:17 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: BWC DAG Directive (Fed Agents) 6-3-21.docx

I just got this from Tim.

Looks like they are issuing the DAG memo today and making a public announcement.

Stephen

From: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:02 PM
To: Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Tyson, Jill Courtney (OCA) (FBI) [REDACTED] Shivers, Calvin A. (CID) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] Rich, Oliver E. Jr. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (CID) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Pettus, John C. (OTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC Memo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

EAD Turner,

At approximately 3:34 pm this afternoon, I received a call from Adam Braverman of the ODAG. Adam told me that the DAG was in the process of signing the memo to component agencies directing the adoption of a BWC program. A previously provided draft of that memo is attached.

Adam said he expected the signed memo would be transmitted to component agencies within the next 20-30 minutes and that he expected some time of public announcement around 5:00 pm EST.

Thanks,
Tim

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: BWC Memo
To: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 7, 2021 4:30 PM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: BWC DAG Directive (Fed Agents) 6-3-21.docx, BWC DAG Directive (Fed Agents) 6-3-21 (1).docx

I just got this from Tim.

Looks like they are issuing the DAG memo today at 5 and making a public announcement. CID got a 90 minute heads up.

We now have 30 days to draft and finalize a policy. I will work with Tim on this.

Stephen

From: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:02 PM
To: Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Tyson, Jill Courtney (OCA) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Shivers, Calvin A. (CID) (FBI)
[REDACTED]; Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Rich, Oliver E. Jr. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]; Dnks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (CID) (FBI)
[REDACTED]; Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Pettus, John C. (OTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC Memo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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Thanks,
Tim

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: BWC Memo
To: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (CID) (FBI)
Sent: June 7, 2021 4:33 PM (UTC-04:00)
Thanks, Tim.

b6 -1
b7C -1

Looks like we have 30 days to pull this all together.

I spoke to [REDACTED] today, and I'm happy to help in any way that I can.

If we need a quick working draft combining the draft DoJ policy and our internal draft SOPs, just let me know. I'd be happy to take a swing at it.

Just let me know what you need.

Stephen

From: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:02 PM
To: Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Shivers, Calvin A. (CID) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] Rich, Oliver E. Jr. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Pettus, John C. (OTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC Memo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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Thanks,
Tim

<< File: BWC DAG Directive (Fed Agents) 6-3-21.docx >>

From: [REDACTED] MW) (FBI)
Subject: BWC Question
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 7, 2021 6:06 PM (UTC-04:00)
Hello, Steve –

b6 -1
b7C -1

I have what I think are fairly basic issues regarding the TFO BWC situation. The policies of our local partners vary somewhat, but some things they are absolutely consistent about: [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

So my question for you is 2-pronged:

[REDACTED]

I am happy to chat about this if you like.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Associate Division Counsel, Milwaukee
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: FW: BWC Memo
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 7, 2021 9:24 PM (UTC-04:00)
Thanks [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

I did get the note from Tim, and should have forwarded it to you and [REDACTED]

Anyway, I guess we have 30 days to do it all again!

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly
Chief, Operational Law Section
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:46 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fw: FW: BWC Memo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FYI...the DOJ memo directing each agency to create its own policy.

SSA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
*Investigative Law Unit
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation*

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:03 PM
To: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: FW: BWC Memo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[REDACTED]
Federal Bureau of Investigation
[REDACTED]

Mobile [REDACTED]

b7E -3

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Rich, Oliver E. Jr. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: Jun 7, 2021 6:58 PM

Subject: FW: BWC Memo

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

FYSA

From: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:02 PM

To: Turner, Brian C. (CCRSB) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] Shivers, Calvin A. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] Fomby,
Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] Rich, Oliver E. Jr. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Pettus, John C. (OTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Subject: BWC Memo

EAD Turner,

At approximately 3:34 pm this afternoon, I received a call from Adam Braverman of the ODAG. Adam told me that the DAG was in the process of signing the memo to component agencies directing the adoption of a BWC program. A previously provided draft of that memo is attached.

Adam said he expected the signed memo would be transmitted to component agencies within the next 20-30 minutes and that he expected some time of public announcement around 5:00 pm EST.

Thanks,
Tim

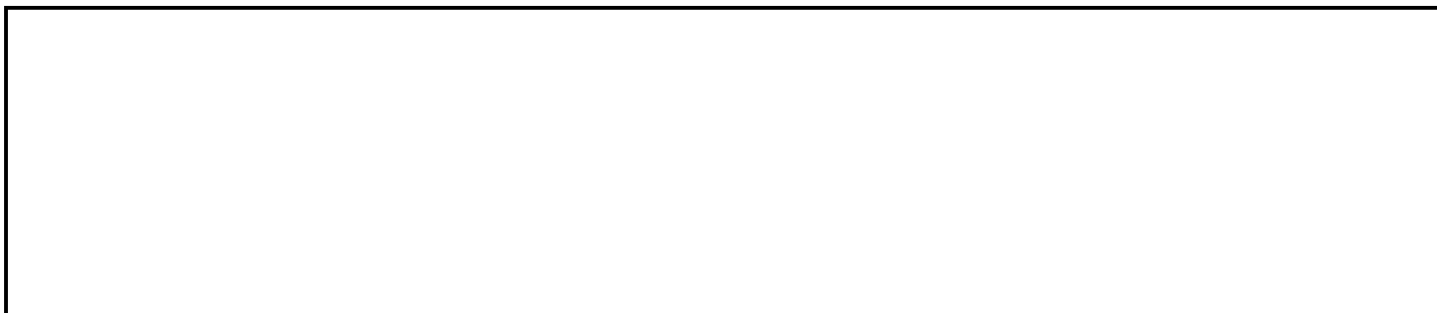
From: [REDACTED] (DEA)
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - RE: Sorry, my phone crapped out on me...
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 8, 2021 6:23 AM (UTC-04:00)
I am pretty much open most of the day. Call when convenient.

b6 -5
b7C -5



From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Sorry, my phone crapped out on me...

b6 -5
b7C -5
b7E -3



b5 -1,2

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly
Chief, Operational Law Section
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation

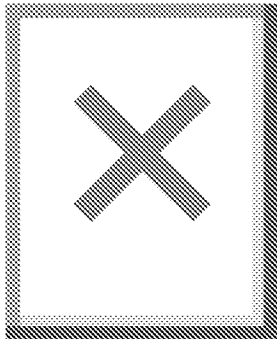


b7E -3

From: Bulletin Intelligence
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs News Briefing Tuesday, June 08, 2021
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: June 8, 2021 6:29 AM (UTC-04:00)

b7E -3

Mobile version and searchable archives available [REDACTED]



TO : THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF
DATE : TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021 6:30 AM EDT

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LEADING THE NEWS

DOJ Seizes Bitcoin Paid To Colonial Pipeline Ransomware Attackers.

The New York Times (6/7, Rogers, 20.6M) reports that on Monday, the Justice Department "said...that it had recovered much of the ransom paid to hackers last month who shut down the computer systems of Colonial Pipeline, a critical pipeline operator." Colonial "had paid a ransom worth roughly \$4.4 million in Bitcoin to the Russian hacking group DarkSide after it used ransomware...to hold up the company's business networks in May. That payment cleared the way for Colonial to resume pumping fuel through its pipeline." According to the Times, "The seizure on Monday marked a first-of-its-kind effort by a new Justice Department task force to hijack a cybercriminal group's profits through a hack of its Bitcoin wallet. The Justice Department said that it had seized 63.7 Bitcoins, currently valued at about \$2.3 million. (The value of a Bitcoin has dropped over the past month.)"

NBC Nightly News (6/7, story 5, 1:05, Holt, 4.76M) reported that the Justice Department "says the hackers ended up with virtually nothing after the US turned the tables on them." NBC (Williams) added, "What thousands of Americans didn't know as they waited in long lines for gasoline after Colonial Pipeline revealed that it was hit with a ransomware attack is that the FBI was already investigating DarkSide." Colonial, "it turns out, quickly told the FBI about the attack, and agents were able to find the bitcoin account where the ransom was sent. The FBI figured out the password and took nearly all the money back out, says the deputy attorney general Lisa Monaco." Lisa Monaco, Deputy Attorney General: "Today, we turned the tables on DarkSide."

The CBS Evening News (6/7, story 3, 1:50, O'Donnell, 3.96M) reported on the "remarkable development," saying "newly released court documents show investigators used what they uncovered to track those funds to an online digital wallet operated by the cybergang. And then obtained the wallet's private key-enabling agents to seize the funds." Monaco: "The Department of Justice has found and recaptured the majority of the ransom Colonial paid." CBS (Pegues) added, "Experts say they are fighting an uphill battle against cybercriminals, which FBI director Christopher Wray compared on Friday to the 9/11 terror attacks."

ABC World News Tonight (6/7, lead story, 3:05, Muir, 6.3M) reported, "The hack crippled pipeline operations for six days, triggering gas shortages and panic buying. The company ultimately paid the \$4.3 million ransom. The CEO saying it was the right call." Joe Blount, CEO, Colonial Pipeline: "You don't want to pay these contemptible criminals. But our job and our duty is to the American public. It was the right decision to make for the country."

The AP (6/7, Tucker) reports, "The ransomware variant used by DarkSide, which has been the subject of an FBI investigation since last year, is one of more than 100 that law enforcement officials are now scrutinizing, said FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate." The AP adds, "Cryptocurrency is favored by cybercriminals because it enables direct online payments regardless of geographical location, but in this case, the FBI was able to identify a virtual currency wallet used by the hackers and recovered the proceeds from there, said the FBI's Abbate. The Justice Department did not provide details about how the FBI had obtained a 'key' for the specific bitcoin address, but said law enforcement had been able to track multiple transfers of the cryptocurrency."

CNN (6/7, Perez, Cohen, Marquardt, 89.21M) reports, "Colonial Pipeline Co. CEO Joseph Blount told The Wall Street Journal in an interview published last month that the company complied with the \$4.4 million ransom demand because officials didn't know the extent of the intrusion by hackers and how long it would take to restore operations," but "behind the scenes, the company had taken early steps to notify the FBI and followed instructions that helped investigators track the payment to a cryptocurrency wallet used by the hackers, believed to be based in Russia."

The Hill (6/7, Schnell, 5.69M) reports, "The FBI recommends against paying the ransom, as it may encourage the hackers to go after another group, and the payment may be used for criminal operations. The Biden administration has reiterated this stance in recent weeks." Blount "applauded the FBI for their 'swift work and professionalism in responding to this event,' and stressed in a statement that 'the private sector also has an equally important role to play' in