

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
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FOI/PA# 22-cv-149

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From: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Quick Questions Re: BWC Policy
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 10, 2021 9:47 AM (UTC-04:00)

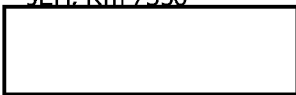
Hi Stephen,

If we finish before 11, yes. Otherwise, I have an 11 am with the GC to discuss exceptional awards.


Erin



Erin M. Prest

Deputy General Counsel
Investigative and Administrative Law Branch
Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
JEH. Rm 7350





b7E -3

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) 
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:31 AM
To: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) 
Subject: Quick Questions Re: BWC Policy

b7E -3

Erin -

I'm working on the BWC policy and trying to deal with some of the 
 I will send an early draft for you and the PCLU folks to review, but I had a couple questions even before sending it to you.

b5 -1

Do you have a couple of minutes after our 10:30 to discuss?

Thanks.

Stephen

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



b7E -3

From: [REDACTED] DEA)
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - RE: Quick Question: BWC Policy
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 10, 2021 9:59 AM (UTC-04:00)
Thanks.

b6 -5
b7C -5

[REDACTED]
Drug Enforcement Administration
[REDACTED]

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:38 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Quick Question: BWC Policy

b6 -5
b7C -5
b7E -3

FYI. Here is Adam's response to my question [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

I'll be on the 3:00 pm today.

Stephen

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

From: Braverman, Adam L. (ODAG) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:31 AM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - RE: Quick Question: BWC Policy

b6 -5
b7C -5
b7E -3

Hi Stephen
This is one of the topics we will discuss this afternoon.
Thanks
Adam

From: Stephen Kelly [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:29 AM
To: Braverman, Adam L. (ODAG) [REDACTED]
Subject: Quick Question: BWC Policy

b5 -1,2
b6 -5
b7C -5
b7E -3

Adam -

We are working on the internal FBI policy for BWCs [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Any guidance on this would be appreciated.

Thanks.

Stephen

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

[REDACTED]

b7E -3

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Accepted: BWC policy training meeting
To: [REDACTED] (USAEO)
Sent: June 10, 2021 2:05 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -5
b7C -5

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Accepted: TFO BWC Program Update
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: June 10, 2021 3:01 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -5
b7C -5

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: FYI -- Justice Department expands use of body-worn cameras by feds
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 10, 2021 3:59 PM (UTC-04:00)
Hi Stephen,

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thank you. Yes, I'd be happy to take a look at the draft, thank you for including me. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

I'll be taking a compliance course Mon - Wed in the afternoons (12pm - 4pm) but can certainly look at draft(s) before/after the class. Or during, since you're on a tight timeframe.

I'll let the CDAC know to reach out to DAD Tim Dunham to get [REDACTED]

Thanks again,
[REDACTED]

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

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 2:43 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FYI -- Justice Department expands use of body-worn cameras by feds

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Thanks [REDACTED]

Just so you know, we got about a 90 minute heads up on this, and CID was supposed to be in charge of communicating this to the field. I believe they are sending out communications on this, and I will endeavor to get whatever they send to the field.

b5 -1,2

[REDACTED] Let me know if you have time to review. I'd appreciate it.

Stephen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:40 AM
To: HQ-DIV09-CDC [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

FBI (22-cv-00149)-5130

Subject: Fw: FYI -- Justice Department expands use of body-worn cameras by feds

All,

I know this is generating a lot of questions. This was a sudden DOJ announcement and OGC did not have the opportunity to notify the field counsel ahead of time. OGC SC Stephen Kelly and his team are working hard on this. There is a lot to be worked through and there are no answers yet as the situation is still very fluid, and likely will be for awhile. Please grant us some understanding and time - OGC is working as fast and hard as possible on this.

Thank you.

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

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:56 AM
To: HO-DIV09-CD; [REDACTED] Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Cc: Jones, Jason Allen (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]; McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]

Subject: FYI -- Justice Department expands use of body-worn cameras by feds

<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/07/justice-department-body-camera-feds-492071>

<https://www.justice.gov/dag/page/file/1402061/download>

Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: BWC Policy review

Location: Tim's Office

Start: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:30 AM

End: Friday, June 11, 2021 12:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]
(FBI); [REDACTED] (CID) (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC)
(FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: 2nd Meeting re: DOJ BWC Policy
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 11, 2021 10:06 AM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Steve --

[REDACTED]

b5 -1,2
b6 -1
b7C -1

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

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 10:20 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 2nd Meeting re: DOJ BWC Policy

b6 -1,5
b7C -1,5
b7E -3

Hi [REDACTED]

As of now, I am unavailable between 9:30-11 on Tuesday and 10-11 on Wednesday. I am available any other time on those days.

[REDACTED]

b5 -1
b7E -27

Thanks so much!

[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 9:25 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: 2nd Meeting re: DOJ BWC Policy

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Hi [REDACTED]

I will be out next week and will return to the office Tuesday, June 8th. Even though I can't attend next week, the FBI's [REDACTED] can likely attend Tuesday or Wednesday.

b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED]
From [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 5:24 PM

b6 -1,5
b7C -1,5
b7E -3

To [REDACTED]
Braverman, Adam L. (ODAG) (JMD) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - 2nd Meeting re: DOJ BWC Policy

Hi all,

Thank you all for joining our call yesterday to talk about specific issues with the [REDACTED]. I thought we had a very informative and productive conversation.

b5 -1,2

Can you all please let me know your availability on **Tuesday June 1st** and **Wednesday June 2nd**? I would like to schedule a follow up call for either one of those days.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]
Associate General Counsel
Office of General Counsel
[REDACTED]

b6 -5
b7C -5

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From:
Subject: RE: BWC
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 11, 2021 11:52 AM (UTC-04:00)

b5 -1,2
b6 -1
b7C -1

Rick –

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:46 AM
To: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: BWC

Here is the DAG Directive dated 06/03/2021 directing the agencies to create their own policy within 30 days.

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

[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

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From: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:39 AM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: BWC

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

[REDACTED]

Rick McNally
Section Chief
FBI OGC TALB

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:28 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC

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

[redacted]

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3,27

I had a conversation this morning with [redacted]

[redacted]

Would you like me to include [redacted] in the call with [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

FBI Office of General Counsel, Operational Technology Law Unit

[redacted]

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From: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: BWC
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 11, 2021 12:04 PM (UTC-04:00)

b5 -1,2
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3,7

Rick McNally
Section Chief
FBI OGC IALB
[REDACTED]

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:57 AM
To: [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: BWC

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

Rick –

Thanks.

Stephen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:46 AM
To: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: BWC

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Here is the DAG Directive dated 06/03/2021 directing the agencies to create their own policy within 30 days.

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

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

From: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:39 AM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: BWC

[REDACTED]

Rick McNally
Section Chief
FBI OGC IALB
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2021 11:28 AM
To: [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Cc: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWC

[REDACTED]

I had a conversation this morning with [REDACTED]

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

Would you like me to include [REDACTED] in the call with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FBI Office of General Counsel, Operational Technology Law Unit
[REDACTED]

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From: Bulletin Intelligence
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Monday, June 14, 2021
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: June 14, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: FBIDirBriefing210614.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

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021 5:00 AM EDT

Democrats Threaten To Subpoena Trump Officials Over Leak Probe As DOJ IG Announces Investigation. The New York Times (6/11, Fandos, 20.6M) reports Senate Democrats on Friday “demanded...former Attorney General William P. Barr and other Justice Department officials testify before the Judiciary Committee about their extraordinary decision to secretly seize data from the accounts of House Democrats and their aides as they hunted for leaks of classified information.” According to the Times, Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Senate Judiciary Chair Richard Durbin “said they were willing to subpoena for testimony Mr. Barr, former Attorney General Jeff Sessions and others if necessary. They also announced they would ‘vigorously investigate’ the department’s actions and called on Republicans to join them in the inquiry.”

On NBC Nightly News (6/11, story 8, 1:41, Holt, 4.45M), Pete Williams reported a former DOJ official “says Sessions never approved anything so sweeping and that only a single staffer was under investigation,” while Congressional officials “say they don’t know what Apple turned over, only that it was metadata, not the actual content of any calls, texts or e-mails.” Jeff Pegues reported on the CBS Evening News (6/11, story 2, 2:02, O’Donnell, 3.21M) that Barr “continued the leak investigation and stumbled when asked by then-Sen. Kamala Harris if the President or anyone at the White House had ordered him to open an investigation.” Barr: “I wouldn’t-- I wouldn’t--” Vice President Harris: “Yes or no?” Barr: “Could you repeat that question? I don’t know, I wouldn’t say ‘suggest.’” Harris: “Hinted?” Barr: “I don’t know.”

Meanwhile, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) says Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz on Friday “announced...that his office is launching a probe following reports that the department had sought the records of journalists and prominent critics of former president Donald Trump on the House Intelligence Committee.” The Post adds Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco “referred the matter to Horowitz, a Justice Department official said Friday.” According to the Post, the IG probe “follows reports Thursday night that the Justice Department in 2018 secretly subpoenaed Apple for the data of” House Intelligence Chair Adam Schiff (D-CA) and Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA), “as well as the data of their current and former staffers and family members.”

In another article, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) reports that Schiff, Swalwell, and other Democrats “swiftly condemned [the Trump DOJ’s actions], news of which followed three recent disclosures to national media organizations that the Trump Justice Department had secretly sought reporters’ phone and email records in an effort to identify the sources of leaks.” On ABC World News Tonight (6/11, story 7, 2:31, Muir, 5.41M), chief justice correspondent Pierre Thomas reported that Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA) “did weigh in today, saying he supports the Justice Department investigation. But he noted that any talk of subpoenas is premature.”

The New York Times (6/11, A1, Fandos, Savage, 20.6M) reports the White House “vowed again on Friday to put an end to those practices, while also saying that President Biden was adamant that the Justice Department must be free of political influence.” In a statement, White House Deputy Press Secretary Andrew Bates “said...that ‘the reported conduct’ of the Trump-era Justice Department was ‘shocking, and clearly fits within an appalling trend that represents the opposite of how authority should be used.’”

In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) argues Attorney General Garland “should provide further transparency on these subpoenas.” The Post also suggests that Garland should repair “the reputation of the Justice Department after four years of assault on the principle that investigations and prosecutions should be free of political interference.”

A Washington Post (6/11, Blake, 10.52M) analysis says that the disclosures illustrate Trump’s “ever-present – and still growing – exploitation of the Justice Department,” while Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) columnist Greg Sargent says the revelations call “for a full accounting of Trump’s deep corruption of the department across the board.” The Wall Street Journal (6/11, Hughes, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Pelosi Calls For Barr, Sessions To Testify Over Trump DOJ’s Seizure Of Data From Democrats In Congress. Politico (6/13, Reingold, 6.73M) reports House Speaker Pelosi on CNN’s State Of The Union (6/13, 557K) “called on Sunday for former Attorneys General William Barr and Jeff Sessions to testify before Congress regarding reports that the Trump Justice Department seized data records of prominent Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee.” Politico adds Pelosi “brushed off Barr’s claim that he didn’t know about the record seizures targeting at least a dozen people, including California Democratic Reps. Adam Schiff and Eric Swalwell, who were involved an investigation of then-President Donald Trump.”

Meanwhile, the AP (6/13, Balsamo, Tucker) reports Senate Majority Leader Schumer on Sunday “called on the Justice Department’s chief national security official – a Trump appointee who has remained in the Biden administration – to testify under oath voluntarily or face a subpoena to answer questions about secretly seizing the phone data from House Democrats and reporters as part of the aggressive investigations into leaks.” According to the AP, Schumer “said it is ‘imperative’ the Senate Judiciary Committee issue a subpoena to John Demers, the assistant attorney general for national security, in addition to former attorneys general Bill Barr and Jeff Sessions, if they refuse to appear voluntarily.”

A CNN (6/11, Wolf, 89.21M) analysis suggests the revelations “complicated” President Biden’s “effort to build his presidency around a theme of democracy vs. autocracy.” According to CNN, the disclosures raise “more questions than it answers about how the nation’s attorneys acted and what, exactly, they were looking for. But it is clear that the Justice Department under Trump clearly took steps to pursue leaks unusually aggressively, in a manner that targeted Trump’s political opponents. That suggests real weaknesses in the backstops that are supposed to prevent abuse of the federal justice system – and opens up a fresh debate about accountability for actions taken during Trump’s presidency that have weakened various pillars of the US government.”

Collins, McCaul Endorse DOJ IG Probe Of Data Seizure. Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), on CBS’ Face The Nation (6/13, 2.47M), said, “There are two serious allegations here. One has to do with whether or not there was a leak of classified information by members of Congress. But the second, which is also important is, has the Justice Department abused its power by going after members of Congress or the press for partisan, political purposes? And that’s why I support the deputy attorney general’s request that the inspector general of the Department of Justice do an in-depth investigation of both of these issues. That is really important.”

Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), on ABC’s This Week (6/13, 2.15M), said, “I worked for the DOJ for a long time. ... Any time you open a case or a subpoena against a member of Congress or a journalist, there’s a very high predication to that. In the journalists’ case, you’re looking at First Amendment protections. With a member of Congress, obviously, you’ve better have your facts together before you do something like this. I don’t have all the facts here, but what I will tell you is, the DOJ is now investigating this. And I think that’s where it properly belongs. That’s where the investigation should take place. And let’s see how that investigation turns out. ... I think we should have the benefit of the doubt of the decision-making that took place. Whether [testimony] has to be under oath or in what context that is, I think we need to know why this decision was made and I think...that’s within the proper purview of the IG.”

Trump DOJ Seized Apple’s Data On Former White House Counsel, McGahn’s Wife In 2018, Sources Say. The New York Times (6/13, Savage, 20.6M) reports the Justice Department “subpoenaed Apple for information in February 2018 about an account that belonged to Donald F. McGahn II, President Donald J. Trump’s White House counsel at the time,” as well as his wife, “and barred the company from telling him about it, according to two people briefed on the matter.” The Times adds the focus of the FBI investigation is “not clear,” and neither is “whether Mr. McGahn was their specific focus or whether he was swept up in a larger net because he had communicated with someone who was under scrutiny.” However, the Times describes the disclosure as “extraordinary,” as does the AP (6/13, Balsamo, Tucker), which says it “raises questions about how far the Trump administration was willing to go to ferret out who it thought might be responsible for damaging information about the administration.”

The Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) reports McGahn “was a key figure in special counsel Robert S. Mueller III’s investigation, and it is possible that his data could have been swept up as prosecutors probed those with whom he might have been in contact. McGahn himself cooperated extensively with Mueller.” The Post says that the month before the subpoena was issued, it and the Times “reported on a conversation in which Trump sought the firing of Mueller in a conversation with McGahn. McGahn, according to The Post’s report, contemplated resigning over the matter, though he did not convey his threat to do so directly to the president.” The Post adds that per Mueller’s report, Trump “complained about the reporting and called McGahn’s attorney seeking to have McGahn dispute it,” and although it “is possible that Trump would have wanted to investigate how the episode made its way into news reports, the disclosure did not appear to involve classified information, which is normally what is needed to trigger a Justice Department leak probe.”

Likewise, MaryAlice Parks said on ABC World News Tonight (6/13, story 5, 2:05, Davis, 4.03M) that McGahn “was a link between the White House and the DOJ, and often reportedly the subject of...Trump’s frustrations, especially after McGahn says he ignored Trump when Trump wanted Mueller fired.” The Wall Street Journal (6/13, Viswanatha, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), Fox News (6/13, Blitzer, 23.99M) website, and a brief CBS Weekend News (6/13, story 3, 0:20, Barnett, 3.59M) segment provided similar coverage.

Ocasio-Cortez Calls Biden’s DOJ Actions “Extremely Concerning.” Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), on CNN’s State Of The Union (6/13, 551K), discussed gag orders against journalists under the Biden Administration’s Department of Justice. Ocasio-Cortez said, “The Biden DOJ also decided that they were going to pursue action on arguing in court for U.S.

citizens who reside in Puerto Rico to have lower eligibility for Social Security than their counterparts, U.S. citizens in the continental United States, essentially advancing second-class citizenship and continuing second-class citizen citizenship for Puerto Ricans on the island. I think the actions of Biden's DOJ has been extremely concerning. And it's not just on the actions on gag orders, which is also extremely concerning, but, across the board." Ocasio-Cortez continued, "While I believe that the emphasis on voting rights is appreciated, we aren't seeing a transformational DOJ that I think people have been looking forward to."

CNN, NYTimes, WPost Leadership To Meet With Garland To Discuss DOJ Leak Investigation Process. CNN

(6/13, Alcorn, Business, 89.21M) reports on its website that CNN, New York Times, and Washington Post officials "will meet with US Attorney General Merrick Garland on Monday to discuss the Trump administration's controversial leak investigation that involved seeking reporter records from all three media outlets." CNN Washington Bureau Chief Sam Feist on "Reliable Sources" on Sunday "said Garland's previous statement that the Biden Administration would never use the same tactics against the media as Trump's DOJ officials isn't enough to fix the problem."

In a Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) op-ed, Microsoft President Brad Smith writes that "private emails and text messages typically are backed up and stored in the cloud by tech companies" and "the Trump Justice Department exploited this feature as part of a secret effort to obtain emails in investigations of the media and Congress." Smith argues the government "cannot justify secrecy in such probes," and asserts that "prosecutors too often are exploiting technology to abuse our fundamental freedoms." He says Garland "needs to do what his predecessors have not: recognize this issue is critical and treat it as a personal priority." Smith recommends changing DOJ policies "to tighten the use of gag orders and probes of Congress and the news media" and "a bipartisan initiative to codify those changes by Congress." In addition, he calls for "a new generation of international agreements that define when and how governments will seek data stored within other countries' borders."

Media Coverage Turns To Upcoming "High-Stakes" Meeting With Putin. The upcoming face-to-face meeting between President Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin continues to draw heavy media coverage, including a heavy focus in the lead segments of all three nightly news programs on Sunday.

The CBS Weekend News (6/13, lead story, 2:50, O'Keefe, 3.59M) reported that while the President is in Belgium ahead of the talks with NATO and other European leaders, it is "his face to face summit with...Putin that is attracting the most attention. America has an agenda of grievances for Putin." NBC Nightly News (6/13, lead story, 3:00, Mitchell, 3.25M) reported Putin "almost upstag[ed] today's G-7 finale by proposing to turn over Russian cyberhackers to the US if President Biden would do the same." Peter Alexander, NBC News: "So, are you open to that kind of a trade with Vladimir Putin?" President Biden: "Yes, I, I'm open to, if there's crimes committed against Russia that, in fact, and people committing those crimes being harbored in the United States, I'm committed to holding them accountable. I think that's potentially a good sign and progress." NBC (Mitchell) adds that US officials "say they're not sure if Putin wants to make progress at Wednesday's meeting or be disruptive."

ABC World News Tonight (6/13, lead story, 3:50, Davis, 4.03M) reported that the "focus" is "shifting" from the G-7 to "the high-stakes summit with" Putin. ABC (Scott) added that Biden "says he agrees with" Putin "on one thing: US/Russia relations are at a low point." The President said, "Well, let me make it clear. I think he's right, it's at a low point." ABC (Scott) continued, "The President preparing to come face-to-face with the man he once said had no soul. Planning to deliver a firm message on everything from cyber attacks to human rights." ABC (Scott) later said that Putin "is already trying to publicly negotiate a deal. Saying he would be willing to hand over cybercriminals if the United States did the same. The President saying that's a good sign of progress. But the White House making it clear that it is not an option. This is a high-stakes meeting, but the White House has low expectations."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/13) reports Biden on Sunday "suggested that Russia might be weaker than it seemed and that Moscow had overreached in the Middle East." Biden said, "Russia has its own dilemmas, dealing with its economy, dealing with COVID and dealing with not only the United States and Europe writ large, and in the Middle East," adding that Russia "has engaged in activities which we believe are contrary to international norms, but they have also bitten off some real problems, that they're going to have trouble chewing on."

CNN (6/13, 89.21M) reports that Biden "defended the decision not to hold a joint news conference with Putin after their high stakes meeting, arguing such an appearance would only serve to detract from the US' goal of working toward a stable and predictable relationship with Russia." The President said, "This is not a contest about who can do better in front of a press conference or try to embarrass each other. It's about making myself very clear what the conditions are to get a better relationship are with Russia."

The AP (6/14, Madhani) reports that "unlike his four most recent White House predecessors, who made an effort to build a measure of rapport with" Putin, Biden "has made clear that the virtue of fusing a personal connection might have its limits when it comes to the Russian leader."

Axios (6/13, Allen, 1.26M) reports that US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield said on "Axios on HBO" that the President will "make clear to the Russians that they cannot harbor cyber terrorists and criminals in their country and not be held accountable for it. And they need to take the responsibility for dealing with this issue." Asked about the risks of the trip, she said, "Look, nothing can go wrong on this trip."

Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), on ABC's This Week (6/13, 2.15M), said that the Putin meeting "is going to be the most powerful and most dangerous meeting on this trip."

Arms Control A Priority, But Other Issues May Overshadow It. The AP (6/13, Burns) reports that while both Biden and Putin "agree broadly" that the meeting is a "chance to set the stage for a new era in arms control," the issue "may get overshadowed...given heightened U.S. focus on ransomware attacks, alleged Russian interference in U.S. elections, Russia's military buildup on Ukraine's border and allegations that the Kremlin was behind the SolarWinds hacking campaign."

Blinken: US Seeking More "Stable, Predictable" Relationship With Russia. Secretary of State Blinken also heavily previewed the President's meeting with Putin on the Sunday shows, highlighting repeatedly that the US is seeking a more "stable, predictable" relationship, but also warning that the US will push back "forcefully" to new offenses.

On CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 557K), Blinken said, "This is not going to be a flip the light switch moment. What the President is going to make clear to Vladimir Putin is that we seek a more stable, predictable relationship with Russia. And, if so, there are areas where our interests overlap, and we may find ways to work together. But if Russia continues reckless and aggressive actions, we will respond forcefully, as the President has already demonstrated that he would when it comes to election interference, or the SolarWinds cyberattack, or the attempt to murder Mr. Navalny with a chemical weapon. So, this is a beginning of testing the proposition, the question of whether Russia's interested in a more stable and predictable relationship and finding areas to work together."

On ABC's This Week (6/13, 2.15M), Blinken said, "The President is not seeing President Putin in spite of all of these things. It's precisely because of them, to be able to talk to him directly, clearly about these profound differences, and also to see if we can have a more predictable, stable relationship, but equally to make sure we make clear if Russia continues to act recklessly, we'll continue to act accordingly."

On Fox News Sunday (6/13, 909K), Blinken said, "One of the things that President Biden will begin to test is whether Russia is interested in a more stable, predictable relationship, which would be to everyone's benefit. But if not, if it continues to take reckless or aggressive actions at our allies or partners, President Biden will make clear we respond forcibly."

On CBS Face The Nation (6/13, 2.47M), Blinken said, "It's not a matter of trust. I think someone once said trust but verify. I'd say don't trust and verify. We'll see by Russia's actions whether it will make good on any commitments it makes. Here's the thing. We've now been the victim of ransomware attacks, and many of these attacks come from criminal organizations, not necessarily from states, but countries have an obligation. No responsible country should be in the business of harboring criminal groups engaged in these attacks. And this is one of the things that President Biden's going to be taking up with President Putin."

House Speaker Pelosi, on CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 557K), said, "In terms of his meeting with Putin, I think that [Biden] should meet with him. They should have a line of communication. Issues like cyber security and energy are not necessarily on the table in that meeting, but are the reality that we have to deal with." Pelosi added that Putin is "going to meet a very different president than one who was at the mercy of Putin."

For his part, Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), on ABC's This Week (6/13, 2.15M), criticized the Administration for not cracking down harder on the Nord Stream II project, which "really empowered" Putin.

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/13) reports that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy "thanked" the G-7 on Sunday "after it voiced support for Kyiv and called on Russia to withdraw troops and weapons from near Ukraine's eastern border."

Cyber Attacks Expected To Be Major Focus Of Meeting. Specifically with regards to how the United States will address the cyberattacks with Russia, Blinken, on ABC's This Week (6/13, 2.15M), said, "I'm going to leave that for the president with President Putin in the next few days. But here's what I can tell you: no responsible country should be in the business of harboring in any way criminal organizations engaged in cyberattacks, including ransomware. And the president is going to make that very clear to President Putin. We are looking for Russian cooperation in dealing with these criminal organizations to the extent they're operating from Russian territory." On Fox News Sunday (6/13, 909K), Blinken said, "I don't want to get ahead of the President, but let me say this: When it comes to ransomware, no responsible country should be in the business of harboring criminal organizations engaged in those practices and that is something that the President very much intends to take up with President Putin. That's very much on the agenda."

Politico (6/13, Matishak, 6.73M) reports lawmakers from both sides of the aisle want President Biden "to deliver a tough message when he meets face-to-face this week with Russian President Vladimir Putin: Stop the ransomware gangs, or we will." Politico says there is "a growing bipartisan consensus that the traditional U.S. strategy of strengthening defenses isn't enough." Biden and Administration officials "have issued not-so-veiled warnings at the Kremlin." Following the

attack on Colonial Pipeline, Biden said Moscow has “some responsibility to deal with this,” and he said, “without elaborating, that he will raise the issue of the cyberattacks with Putin.” Politico says lawmakers “want Biden to put some steel behind those words by making it clear the U.S. and its NATO allies are willing to take the fight to these digital pirates.”

The Washington Post (6/11, Khurshudyan, Morris, 10.52M) reports that the ransomware hackers “suspected of targeting Colonial Pipeline and other businesses around the world have a strict set of rules. First and foremost: Don’t target Russia or friendly states.” The “relationship between the Russian government and ransomware criminals allegedly operating from within the country is expected to be a point of tension” at the meeting.

In a separate story, Politico (6/13, Reingold, 6.73M) reports McCaul, the top Republican on the house Foreign Affairs Committee “urged the U.S. to consider ‘hitting back’ at Russia for harboring cyber ransom hackers, amping up the pressure on” the President “to make the recent ransomware attacks a focus of his upcoming meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.” McCaul told ABC’s This Week, “The president needs to demonstrate with Putin, there will be consequences to your actions if you continue to do this. ... Sanctions are great, but I think it’s time to start thinking about hitting back. ... They need to know that – that when they do this, there are consequences to their actions and we’re going to hit them back. ... Until we do that, they’re going to continue with bad behavior.”

CNN (6/13, Pavlova, 89.21M) also covers the ransomware issue, among others.

Collins Looks For Biden To Bring Up Havana Syndrome With Putin. Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), on CBS’ Face The Nation (6/13, 2.47M), discussed the possibility that Biden should address the Havana Syndrome with President Putin. Collins said, “Certainly the Russians are one of the key suspects. We don’t know for sure, but keep in mind there have been more than a hundred American public servants who have been injured by these directed energy attacks. And we need not only to take care of their medical needs, but also to find out who it is. ... I think that Secretary Blinken has done a great job as Secretary of State, but I hope the President will bring up this issue with President Putin directly.”

Federal Prosecutors Arrest Chicago Police Officer On Charges For Role In Jan. 6 Riot. The Chicago Tribune (6/11, Meisner, Pratt, 2.03M) reports Chicago police officer Karol Chwiesiuk, 29, “was arrested Friday on federal charges of breaching the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 and entering” Sen. Jeff Merkley’s (D-OR) office “with the violent mob, later texting to a friend that he’d ‘knocked out a commie.’” The Tribune says Chwiesiuk “was charged in a criminal complaint in U.S. District Court in Washington with five misdemeanor counts, including entering a restricted building, disrupting government business and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds with intent to impede a congressional proceeding.” The Tribune adds US Magistrate Judge Gabriel Fuentes released Chwiesiuk on bond, but he “was ordered to surrender any firearms as well as his firearm owner’s identification card.”

The AP (6/11) reports, “Prosecutors allege in a criminal complaint that Chwiesiuk was among a mob of people who broke into and damaged the office of Sen. Jeff Merkley, an Oregon Democrat. They also say that days before he traveled to Washington to attend a rally supporting then-President Donald Trump, Chwiesiuk said in a text to a friend that he was going ‘to save the nation’ and was ‘Busy planning how to [expletive] up commies.’ He later sent photos of himself inside the Capitol, according to prosecutors. Chwiesiuk was on medical leave from the police department at the time he traveled to Washington for the attack, the complaint states.”

Newsweek (6/12, Fearnow, 2.67M) reports, “Using toll road records, text messages and testimony from a friend, the months-long FBI investigation led to a 19-page complaint filed against Chwiesiuk in U.S. District Court in Washington. Text messages allegedly sent by Chwiesiuk reveal him bragging about having ‘knocked out a commie’ and also writing: ‘N****, Don’t snitch.’ The federal charges against the Chicago police officer include entering a restricted building, disrupting government business, and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds with intent to impede a congressional proceeding.”

The Washington Post (6/11, Jackman, 10.52M) reports, “At a news conference Friday afternoon, Chicago Police Superintendent David Brown said he was informed by the FBI on June 2 that Chwiesiuk was under investigation and immediately removed his police powers, though the officer wasn’t arrested for an additional nine days. ‘The fact that a Chicago police officer has been charged in that attack on American democracy,’ Brown said, ‘makes my blood boil.’” Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot “and a number of civil rights leaders in the city, including Jesse Jackson, appeared at the news conference to denounce the sentiments allegedly expressed by Chwiesiuk, an officer for two years.”

NBC News (6/11, Fitzsimmons, 4.91M) reports, “In the press conference, Mayor Lightfoot slammed the head of the Chicago police union who had praised the participants immediately after the riot with comments that he later tried to walk back. Retired officers from the New York City Police Department and Houston Police Department were arrested & charged in connection with the riot.”

Insider (6/11, Hall, 2.74M) reports, “Court filings show the FBI first identified Chwiesiuk after the ‘FBI learned that a device’ associated with Chwiesiuk entered the Capitol on January 6. Investigators obtained his phone records and

discovered he messaged several people while inside the building. Images of Chwiesiuk outside of the Capitol show him wearing a Chicago sweatshirt affixed with a Chicago Police emblem. He also texted a selfie and communicated with others inside of Sen. Jeff Merkley's office while simultaneously appearing in a live stream by Antheim Gionet, also known as Baked Alaska."

CNN (6/11, Hassan, Parks, 89.21M) reports, "Chwiesiuk made a court appearance Friday morning before Magistrate Judge Gabriel Fuentes in Chicago and was ordered released on a personal recognizance bond, according to Assistant US Attorney Joseph D. Fitzpatrick of the Northern District of Illinois. The FBI tracked Chwiesiuk through geolocation and communication records associated with his Google email account and phone, according to the criminal complaint."

Fox News (6/11, Casiano, 23.99M) reports, "The day before the attack, Chwiesiuk allegedly walked to the Capitol to survey the area and sent 44 images to three people, according to the complaint."

The Daily Beast (6/11, Bolies, 933K) reports, "Chwiesiuk is the fourth Chicago resident to be charged in connection with the riot and the second this week, following the arrest of Burberry-clad rich guy Christian Kulas on Wednesday. He's the sixth active-duty cop to be charged with attending the riot, according to a tally kept by The Appeal." WBBM-TV Chicago (6/11) also reports this story on its website.

NBC Nightly News (6/11, story 7, 0:16, Holt, 4.45M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

Three Minnesota Men Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe. The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/9, Miller, 855K) reports, "The FBI arrested three more men Friday in connection with the violent Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, two in Minnesota and one in Iowa." Brian Christopher Mock, of Minneapolis "was charged with assaulting, resisting or impeding officers; entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds without authority; disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted place; obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder, and acts of physical violence on Capitol grounds. Daniel Johnson of Austin, Minn., and his father, Daryl Johnson of St. Ansgar, Iowa, were arrested and charged with entering and remaining in a restricted building; disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building; violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building; and parading, demonstrating or picketing in a capitol building." The men "were arrested without resistance, according to Kevin Smith, public affairs officer for the FBI's Minneapolis division. Daryl Johnson was arrested in Iowa by the agency's Omaha division."

The Rochester (MN) Post-Bulletin (6/11, Cutts, 56K) reports, "Daniel Johnson, 29, of Austin, was taken into custody by FBI Minneapolis special agents and the Austin Police Department on charges relating to criminal acts at the Capitol, the FBI Minneapolis tweeted. He has been charged with entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building, violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building, and parading, demonstrating or picketing in a Capitol building. The FBI received three tips about Johnson and his alleged involvement in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, according to the charging documents released by the U.S. Attorney's Office District of Columbia." On January 7, "the FBI National Threat Operations Center received a report that Johnson posted a video to his Snapchat account from inside the U.S. Capitol during the riot, the charging documents state."

KARE-TV Minneapolis (6/11, Hrapsky, Haavik, 342K) reports that Mock, 42, "is charged with four federal counts including assaulting an officer, entering and engaging in disorderly conduct in a restricted building, obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder, and acts of physical violence in a capitol building or grounds. According to court documents, at about 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 6, Mock is shown on police body camera video shoving and kicking a capitol police officer on the ground. About 30 seconds later, Mock was seen and heard on body cam video shouting 'Get out! Go!' several times at officers, according to the federal complaint. Four minutes later, Mock was seen on camera shoving a second capitol police officer, taking the officer's riot shield and passing it back to the violent mob."

Newsweek (6/12, Zhao, 2.67M) reports that Mock "was arrested for federal offenses in connection to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including assaulting, resisting or impeding certain officers; obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder; and acts of physical violence in any of the Capitol buildings, according to the Department of Justice (DOJ). Court documents show that Mock was seen on bodycam footage 'repeatedly assaulting multiple law enforcement officers who were trying to protect the building from rioters' on the lower west terrace of the Capitol building."

Six Californians Charged In Capitol Siege Probe. KABC-TV Los Angeles (6/11, 402K) reports from Santa Ana, California, "Retired La Habra Police Chief Alan Hostetter, a prominent COVID-19 restrictions critic and activist, was indicted along with five other Southern California men in connection with the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, federal prosecutors announced Thursday." Hostetter, "a 56-year-old yoga instructor who lives in San Clemente, was charged along with Russell Taylor, 40, of Ladera Ranch, and four Riverside County men – Erik Scott Warner, 45, of Menifee, Felipe Antonio 'Tony' Martinez, 47, of Lake Elsinore, Derek Kinnison, 39, of Lake Elsinore, and Ronald Mele, 51, of Temecula. They are all charged with multiple felonies, including conspiracy, obstructing an official proceeding and unlawful entry on restricted building or grounds. Taylor also faces a charge of obstructing law enforcement during a civil disorder and unlawful possession of a

dangerous weapon on Capitol grounds. Warner and Kinnison are additionally charged with tampering with documents or proceedings.”

Politico Profiles Geophysicist Charged For Role In Storming Capitol. In a more than 5,000-word “Friday Cover” story, Politico Magazine (6/11, Warner, 6.68M) profiles Colorado geophysicist John Bergman, 51, “one of the approximately 465 people charged so far for their participation in the January 6 insurrection. Sabol faces eight counts, several of them felonies, including the assault of police officers. He and four other defendants named in the same indictment are accused of participating in some of the day’s worst violence, which took place around 4:30 p.m. and resulted in several officers being stripped of their protective gear, dragged, stomped on, and attacked with crutches and a flagpole.” According to Politico, his actions on Jan. 6 “and the days afterward have left many in his life confused and grappling for answers. How did a highly educated, middle-aged man with so much to lose participate in what FBI director Christopher Wray called ‘domestic terrorism,’ and then try to kill himself?”

CNN Profiles “Internet Sleuths” Searching For “January 6 Insurrectionists.” CNN (6/11, 89.21M) profiled the “Deep State Dogs...just one group in a sprawling social media community dedicated to rooting out insurrectionists after January 6.” Experts and members “of the community describe it as diverse and diffuse but united by a common goal: Accountability. But their efforts are also a rebuttal to Republicans looking to whitewash the horrifying events of that January day.”

FBI Raids Residence Of Actor Who Went Into US Capitol On January 6. The Los Angeles Times (6/12, 3.37M) reports the FBI “raided the home of a Los Angeles-based actor who was among a group of right-wing protesters who entered the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, authorities said.” Roughly 20 agents “raided the North Hollywood home of Siaka Massaquoi shortly before 6 a.m. Friday, according to a source familiar with the investigation.” The Times adds, “Public records list Brian Burks, 42, at the same address.” The raid occurred due to “the two men’s associations on ‘a social media app,’ according to the law enforcement source. No further details of the raid were provided and it was unclear whether Massaquoi was arrested and released.”

Pelosi Continues To Advocate For Bipartisan Jan. 6 Commission. House Speaker Pelosi, on CNN’s State Of The Union (6/13, 557K), discussed the possibility of appointing a select committee to investigate the events of January 6 after Senate Republicans blocked a proposed bipartisan commission. Pelosi said, “I’ll see by Monday if the Senate, those who are working the bipartisan way, believe that they can get three more votes. It would have been 57 voting. Three more. I have yielded on every point except scope: number of people on the committee, subpoena power, timetable, you name it. We’ve yielded because of the value of the bipartisanship that would spring from that. ... This is about an assault on our democracy, on our Capitol of the United States. The American people deserve and must have answers. We will seek the truth. We will find the truth. But we hope that we can do it with passing the commission.”

Noonan: Democrats Should Launch Thorough Investigation Into Events Of Jan. 6. In her Wall Street Journal (6/10, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) column, Peggy Noonan argues the country is unable to move on from the breach of the Capitol on Jan. 6 because the threat persists and former President Donald Trump and his allies are continuing to promote his conspiracy theories. Noonan argues that while Senate Republicans refused to establish a 9/11-style commission to investigate the events, House Democrats should reconsider their opposition to establishing a fully staffed House select committee with five Democrats and five Republicans and full subpoena power, because a formal investigation is needed.

Delta Flight Carries Out Emergency Landing Following Outburst By Passenger. The Washington Post (6/12, 10.52M) reports, “A cross-country Delta Air Lines flight made an emergency landing in Oklahoma City on Friday night after an outburst by an unruly passenger, the third time in a week that the airline diverted a flight because of a passenger’s behavior.” Bystander footage given to the Post captures a disorderly “scene in the plane that was heading from Los Angeles to Atlanta.” An individual yells as a number of “passengers pin him to the floor.” A flight attendant instructs everyone aside from the people restraining the individual to be seated, with the flight attendant saying, “We can’t get forward with restraints if everybody’s in the aisle.” The Post adds FAA “said this year that it was reviewing about 450 cases of passengers misbehaving on flights and has opened 20 formal enforcement cases as flight attendants face pushback from people who do not want to follow the rules.”

On ABC World News Tonight (6/12, story 3, 1:50, Johnson, 3.13M), correspondent Kenneth Moton said that according to authorities, the “passenger, 34-year-old Stephon Jamar Duncan, an off-duty Delta employee, was experiencing a mental health episode and threatening to take down the plane, while assaulting two flight attendants.” Duncan “is expected to be charged with

two counts of assault and battery with more charges pending. Interfering with flight crews can carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison."

On NBC Nightly News (6/12, story 7, 2:14, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M), correspondent Guad Venegas said that the incident started "when the off-duty Delta employee reportedly tried grabbing the plane's PA system and that began the altercation." Newsweek (6/12, 2.67M) reports the pilot came over the intercom to say, "This is the captain speaking. We'd like all strong males to come to the front of the aircraft to handle a problem passenger." The CBS Weekend News (6/12, story 8, 0:25, Diaz, 2.16M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

The New York Times (6/12, Levenson, 20.6M) reports, "The episode came amid what the Federal Aviation Administration has described as a "significant increase" in disruptive behavior on flights starting in late 2020." Year to date, FAA has "received about 2,900 reports of unruly behavior by passengers, including 2,200 reports of passengers refusing to comply with a federal mandate that they wear masks."

USA Today (6/12, Schulz, 12.7M) reports, "Some airlines, including Southwest and American, have delayed plans to start selling alcoholic drinks in the wake of the high-profile incidents and calls by flight attendant unions to limit alcohol sales on board." USA Today (6/12, 12.7M) also carries a video report.

Additional coverage includes CNN (6/12, Spells, Joseph, Sanchez, 89.21M), the Houston Chronicle (6/12, 982K), and WCAU-TV Philadelphia (6/12, 134K).

FAA: Almost 3,000 Cases Of Unruly Passengers So Far This Year. The Washington Post (6/11, Sampson, 10.52M) reports incidents on planes involving unruly passengers have "risen to unprecedented levels over the past several months as travelers return to the skies." FAA says it has recorded around 2,900 incidents of unruly passenger behavior so far in 2021, most of them related to passengers refusing to "comply with the federal mandate to wear a face covering." FAA Administrator Steve Dickson said last month during a town hall the rise in incidents has left him "appalled," adding that the agency will seek "hefty fines and possible jail time" against rule breakers. FAA spokesperson Ian Gregor says, "Based on our experience, we can say with confidence that the number of reports we've received during the past several months are significantly higher than the numbers we've seen in the past."

Biden Calls For Congress To Pass Gun Reform Five Years After Shooting At Pulse Nightclub. The AP (6/12, Boak) reports President Biden on Saturday "said on the fifth anniversary of a mass shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that he will sign a bill naming the site as a national memorial," and he "emphasized that the country must do more to reduce gun violence, such as banning assault weapons and closing loopholes in regulations that enable gun buyers to bypass background checks." In addition, The Hill (6/12, Williams, 5.69M) reports Biden "highlighted the particular impact of gun violence on the LGBT community in Orlando, after 49 people were killed when a gunman opened fire into the gay nightclub during Pride month in 2016. The gunman died in a shootout with police."

While Axios (6/12, Knutson, 1.26M) reports the Senate on Wednesday "passed legislation that will officially designate the nightclub a national memorial," and Michael George reported on the CBS Weekend News (6/12, story 7, 1:36, Diaz, 2.16M) that the President "says he'll sign a bill in the coming days designating the Pulse Nightclub as a national memorial," Politico (6/12, Leonard, 6.73M) reports new gun legislation "faces long odds in the Senate amid staunch Republican opposition." Fox News (6/12, 23.99M) reports on its website that Biden "also called on the Senate to pass the Equality Act, which bans discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity." Fox News adds the President "said he'd kept in touch with the families that lost loved ones in the nightclub tragedy," who he said "remind us that we must do more than remember victims of gun violence and all of the survivors, family members, and friends left behind; we must act."

USA Today (6/12, Hayes, 12.7M) says that the attack at the gay nightclub that left 49 dead "ripped away the innocence of a community known for family vacations to Disney World and with it leaving the LGBTQ community on edge during a month of Pride celebrations," yet its status as "the nation's deadliest mass shooting...held for only one year before an attack left 60 dead during a country music festival in Las Vegas."

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Blade (6/12) reports survivors on Saturday gathered in Orlando "to commemorate and honor those 49 American lives lost in that act of senseless gun violence." Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer (D) said, "'Orlando United' was our call to action five years ago, but it is up to us all to ensure that this isn't simply a slogan that we bring out annually as we mark the time that's passed since the tragedy. Instead, it must be part of our core commitment to real change." On ABC World News Tonight (6/12, story 8, 2:03, Johnson, 3.13M), Elwyn Lopez said the President is "calling [the Pulse nightclub] 'hallowed ground.'" NBC Nightly News (6/12, story 11, 0:21, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

However, CNN (6/12, Sanchez, 89.21M) reports on its website that former Pulse nightclub owner Barbara Poma, the founder and executive director of the OnePulse Foundation nonprofit, said, "There is a gun violence problem. There is a hate

problem.” CNN adds Poma “lamented” that “not much has changed in America...since the days the Pulse offered a safe and vibrant space for LGBTQ people, particularly Orlando’s queer Latino community.”

In addition, [Axios](#) (6/12, Rummier, 1.26M) reports that according to the Human Rights Campaign, “28 transgender and gender non-conforming people – nearly all Black and Latina women – have been killed this year,” and “if this current pace continues, 2021 will be on track to significantly beat last year’s all-time record.” Axios adds, “More trans people have been killed so far this year than in all of 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018 and 2019.”

FBI Conduct In Probes Of Chinese Researchers Called Into Question. The [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (6/11, Stanton, 519K) reports, “As federal prosecutors press forward with cases against Chinese researchers accused of lying about their ties to China’s military to gain access to prestigious American universities, the FBI’s conduct in two Northern California cases has become a central focus of court proceedings.” The Bee adds, “Prosecutions involving researchers at the University of California, Davis, and Stanford University now include claims by defense attorneys that FBI agents improperly interviewed their clients without first explaining that they had the right to refuse to answer questions.” Last week, US District Judge John A. Mendez “threw out one of two counts filed against Tang Juan, a visiting cancer researcher at UC Davis who was arrested last year and indicted on charges of lying on her visa application and of lying to two FBI agents who questioned her last June.” Judge Mendez “dismissed the count of lying to the FBI,” ruling that “the agents violated Tang’s Miranda rights.”

At Least 30 Wounded, Four Killed In Overnight Mass Shootings In Three States. The [AP](#) (6/12, Foody) reports two people were killed and at least 30 people were wounded in mass shootings in Austin, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; and Savannah, Georgia, “authorities said Saturday, stoking concerns that a spike in U.S. gun violence could continue into summer as coronavirus restrictions ease and more people are free to socialize.” The AP adds the attacks “come amid an easing of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in much of the country.”

According to the [Washington Post](#) (6/12, Bella, 10.52M), “At least 14 people were injured in a shooting early Saturday in downtown Austin that unfolded as crowds filled the city’s popular entertainment district, police said.” The [New York Times](#) (6/12, Mele, 20.6M) reports two people are in “critical condition, the police said.” Interim Austin Police Chief Joseph Chacon “said...the shooting appeared to have started as ‘some kind of disturbance between two parties,’ but “said that there was no information to indicate the victims were intentionally targeted, and that most were ‘innocent bystanders.’” On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/12, story 4, 1:40, Johnson, 3.13M), Zohreen Shah reported “at least one arrest” has been made in the mass shooting, but a “manhunt for that second suspect still continues.” On [NBC Nightly News](#) (6/12, story 4, 1:19, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M), Morgan Chesky said the Austin shooting came “just hours after this scene in Dallas where a gunman’s bullets injured five, including a four-year-old boy.” The [CBS Weekend News](#) (6/12, story 5, 0:17, Diaz, 2.16M) and [NBC Nightly News](#) (6/12, story 6, 0:20, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M) provided similar coverage in brief broadcasts.

Meanwhile, the [Chicago Tribune](#) (6/12, Williams Harris, 2.03M) reports at least 10 people were wounded “in a mass shooting in the Chatham neighborhood early Saturday morning that saw one woman die, Chicago police said,” putting victims “among three dead and 21 injured in shootings since Friday afternoon across the city.” In addition, the [Savannah \(GA\) Morning News](#) (6/12, Guan, 190K) reports eight people were shot on Friday night “outside of an east Savannah residence, killing one person, and injuring among others an 18-month old infant, a 15-year-old and a 16-year-old. Two other adults were critically injured.” The [CBS Weekend News](#) (6/12, story 6, 0:20, Diaz, 2.16M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

On [NBC Nightly News](#) (6/12, story 5, 0:33, Chesky, 2.81M), Morgan Chesky said the “deadly trend” of gun violence “usually goes up during the summer months. And experts warn this season could be worst.” [The Hill](#) (6/12, Lonas, 5.69M) reports on its “Briefing Room” blog that according to the Gun Violence Archive, “more than 260 mass shootings have taken place so far this year in the U.S., with 25 of them occurring in June.”

In a brief segment, [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/13, story 6, 0:30, Davis, 4.03M) reported that over “just a six-hour period this weekend in four US cities, Austin, Cleveland, Savannah, and Chicago, a total of five dead and 39 wounded.” ABC added Chicago “has been especially bloody, at least 32 shot, three killed since Friday,” while “nationwide, there have been more than 260 mass shootings this year.”

Suspect Arrested In Austin, Texas Shooting That Injured At Least 13. [NBC News](#) (6/12, Acevedo, Suliman, 4.91M) reports, “A suspect was in custody and another was being sought Saturday after an early morning mass shooting in a busy entertainment district in downtown Austin, Texas, police said. The suspect’s identity was not released. ‘We continue to work on this case and follow up on leads to apprehend the remaining suspect,’ the Austin Police Department said in a statement, adding that the U.S. Marshals helped with the arrest.” Interim Austin Police Chief Joseph Chacon “described the violence as historic. ‘This is one of the most significant incidents that we’ve ever had happen in our city,’ he said at a news conference.”

The Hill (6/12, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports that Chacon “had initially listed the victim total as 13 but told reporters later in the day that officials were informed that another person ‘self-transported for medical care and is in stable condition.’ Chacon said during a press conference Saturday afternoon that ‘two male suspects’ remain at large but that he believed both men will be taken into custody.”

The AP (6/12, Picon) reports, “Police have arrested one suspect and are searching for another after a mass shooting on a crowded downtown Austin street left 14 people wounded early Saturday, two of them critically. The Austin Police Department said in a news release that the U.S. Marshals Lone Star Fugitive Task Force assisted in making the arrest, but it provided no other details other than to say it is continuing to follow up on leads for the suspect still at large.” Chacon “said the shooting happened around 1:30 a.m. on a street packed with bars and barricaded off from vehicle traffic. He said investigators believe it began as a dispute between two parties. Chacon said both suspects are male, but declined to disclose details such as whether both fired shots, saying the investigation was ongoing.” Also reporting are Newsweek (6/12, 2.67M), CNN (6/12, Spells, Hackney, 89.21M), and CNBC (6/12, 7.34M).

Right-Wing Groups Request That Charlottesville Trial Be Relocated. Bloomberg (6/11, 3.57M) reports, “Right-wing organizers of the deadly 2017 ‘Unite the Right’ rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, asked a judge to move an October civil trial to another city out of fear that police will allow violent protesters to attack them with impunity.” Municipal officials have not properly dissuaded demonstrators who might go to the trial or explained previous “statements identifying the city as the ‘capital of the resistance,’ White nationalist group Identity Evropa and the neo-Nazi Traditionalist Worker’s Party said in a court filing Friday.”

Reuters Examines “Trump-Inspired Death Threats” Against Election Workers. Reuters (6/11, So) reports, “Late on the night of April 24, the wife of Georgia’s top election official got a chilling text message: ‘You and your family will be killed very slowly.’ A week earlier, Tricia Raffensperger, wife of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, had received another anonymous text: ‘We plan for the death of you and your family every day.’ That followed an April 5 text warning. A family member, the texter told her, was ‘going to have a very unfortunate incident.’” Reuters adds, “Those messages, which have not been previously reported, illustrate the continuing barrage of threats and intimidation against election officials and their families months after former U.S. President Donald Trump’s November election defeat. While reports of threats against Georgia officials emerged in the heated weeks after the voting, Reuters interviews with more than a dozen election workers and top officials...reveal the previously hidden breadth and severity of the menacing tactics.”

McDonald’s Suffers Data Breach Of Some Customer, Employee Information. The Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) says that McDonald’s “said Friday that some customer and employee information had been exposed by a data breach affecting its markets in South Korea, Taiwan and the United States.” However, the world’s largest fast-food chain told the Post that “no customer payment information was exposed in the breach,” which “was uncovered by external consultants investigating unauthorized activity on McDonald’s internal networks.” The Wall Street Journal (6/11, A1, Haddon, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Meanwhile, another Wall Street Journal (6/11, Bunge, Newman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article covers how the ransomware attack on JBS SA affected the broader US food industry, and a separate Wall Street Journal (6/11, Uberti, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article chronicles how the FBI got the ransom back from the hackers of Colonial Pipeline.

Volkswagen Says 3M US, Canadian Customers Exposed In Data Breach. CNN (6/11, Valdes-Dapena, 89.21M) reports on its website that Volkswagen and its luxury brand Audi “have been hit by a data breach that exposed the contact information and, in some cases, personal details, like driver license numbers, of customers in the United States and Canada.” CNN adds the automaker “has reached out to 90,000 people in the US – mostly Audi customers or shoppers – who had especially sensitive information taken in the breach.” CNN says the data from 2014 to 2019 “was stolen from an outside vendor that VW and Audi and some of their dealers use.” NBC Nightly News (6/11, story 9, 0:18, Holt, 4.45M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

Teamsters Refused To Pay Ransom After 2019 Hack. The Teamsters labor union “was hit with a ransomware attack in 2019 but refused to pay the seven-figure payment demanded by hackers, despite being advised by the FBI to do so, a Teamsters spokesperson confirmed to” The Hill (6/11, Castronuovo, 5.69M), which says the cyberattack “first reported by NBC News on Friday...occurred over Labor Day weekend and was not previously revealed to the public.” The Hill adds NBC “reported that attackers had demanded \$2.5 million in exchange for restoring the union’s access to its electronic files, which included the personal information of millions of active and retired members,” but a spokesperson “told NBC that only one of the union’s two email systems was frozen, and no personal information was compromised.”

US, Russia, Other Nations Reaffirm Norms Regarding Cyber Conduct. The Washington Post (6/12, 10.52M) reports 25 nations – including the US and Russia – not long ago “reaffirmed that states should not hack each other’s critical infrastructure in peacetime or shelter cyber criminals who conduct attacks on other countries.” However, despite being one of the nations that originally consented “to the norms at the United Nations,” Russia has breached them again and again “over the years. Experts are skeptical those violations will halt unless the United States and its allies impose far more serious consequences.”

Network Security Firm Executive Appears In Court On Charges Originating From Cyberattack On Georgia Hospital. The AP (6/12) reports, “A network security company executive has made an initial court appearance on charges stemming from a 2018 cyberattack on a hospital in Georgia, federal authorities said.” The AP paraphrases Acting US Attorney Kurt Erskine as having indicated in a release that Vikas Singla was “arraigned on 17 counts of intentional damage to a protected computer and one count of obtaining information from a protected computer.”

FBI Moves To Crack Down On Sexual Harassment Within Bureau. The AP (6/11, Mustian, Tucker) reports the FBI “says it is getting serious about sexual harassment in its ranks, starting a 24/7 tip line, doing more to help accusers and taking a tougher stand against agents found to have committed misconduct.” The moves come in the wake of 2020 AP reporting that discovered “a series of sexual assault and harassment allegations against senior officials who were allowed to quietly avoid discipline and retire or transfer even after the claims were substantiated.” FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate “told the AP that the bureau is sending its strongest message ever that employees who are tempted to engage in sexual misconduct should be scared because if they do so, ‘we’re coming for them.’” Abbate also said, “That’s a strong approach, a forceful shift and we mean it. And it’s coming from the top.”

Garland Pledges To Protect Voting Rights. The Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) reports Attorney General Garland in “an expansive speech” on Friday “pledged...to double the size of the Justice Department’s voting rights enforcement staff to vigorously combat efforts to restrict ballot access and prosecute those who threaten or harm election workers.” The Post says that Garland “invoked the nation’s long and at times faltering progress toward ensuring every American’s right to vote,” and he “likened the fight against current efforts to curtail ballot access to past campaigns to enshrine voting rights for Black Americans in the Constitution and the seminal Voting Rights Act of 1965.”

The New York Times (6/11, A1, Benner, Corasaniti, Epstein, 20.6M) reports Garland “laid out an expansive plan on Friday for protecting voting rights,” and “served notice to Republicans pushing a raft of restrictive voting laws that he was determined to ensure the right to vote for all Americans.” The Times adds Garland “announcing that the Justice Department would double enforcement staff on the issue, scrutinize new state laws that seek to curb voter access and take action if it sees a violation of federal law.” The Times says his pledge is “an about-face from the department’s near abdication of voting rights enforcement under the Trump administration.” ABC World News Tonight (6/11, story 8, 0:24, Muir, 5.41M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

The New York Times (6/11, Benner, 20.6M) reports that “in more than a dozen states, at least 22 new laws have been passed that make it more difficult to vote, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, a progressive public policy institute that is part of the New York University School of Law.” The Times adds, “Democrats have filed lawsuits against some new voting laws, but that litigation could take years to wind its way through the courts and may have little power to stop those laws from impacting upcoming elections.” The Times says Garland’s “top lieutenants include high-profile voting rights advocates such as Vanita Gupta, the department’s No. 3 official, and Kristen Clarke, the head of the Civil Rights Division.”

The Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) in an editorial criticizes President Biden’s attacks on voting reform laws in several states, particularly voter-ID laws, adding that research has shown such laws have no impacts on voting access.

Maine Legislature Expands Voting Access The Hill (6/11, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports the Maine legislature “has approved several measures seeking to expand voting access in the state, including one allowing independent voters to participate in Democratic and Republican primaries.” According to The Hill, “The proposal for a semi-open primary system, which has received bipartisan support from state lawmakers, comes as registered Democrats or Republicans have traditionally had to change their party affiliation to participate in the other party’s primary election. Those registered as an independent, unaffiliated or third party were also barred from participating in either the Democratic or Republican primary.”

WSJournal Lauds Judge For Keeping MLB From Pulling All-Star Game From Atlanta Over Opposition To Georgia Voting Bill. In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) highlights the Job Creators Network’s lawsuit against Major League Baseball in order to return the All-Star Game to Atlanta. The Journal argues District Judge Valerie Caproni’s opinion that the plaintiffs lack standing is in line with the law.

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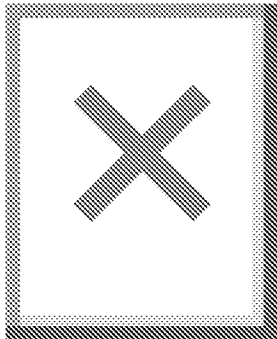
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LEADING THE NEWS

Democrats Threaten To Subpoena Trump Officials Over Leak Probe As DOJ IG Announces Investigation.

The New York Times (6/11, Fandos, 20.6M) reports Senate Democrats on Friday "demanded...former Attorney General William P. Barr and other Justice Department officials testify before the Judiciary Committee about their extraordinary decision to secretly seize data from the accounts of House Democrats and their aides as they hunted for leaks of classified information." According to the Times, Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Senate Judiciary Chair Richard Durbin "said they were willing to subpoena for testimony Mr. Barr, former Attorney General Jeff Sessions and others if necessary. They also announced they would 'vigorously investigate' the department's actions and called on Republicans to join them in the inquiry."

On NBC Nightly News (6/11, story 8, 1:41, Holt, 4.45M), Pete Williams reported a former DOJ official "says Sessions never approved anything so sweeping and that only a single staffer was under investigation," while Congressional officials "say they don't know what Apple turned over, only that it was metadata, not the actual content of any calls, texts or e-mails." Jeff Pegues reported on the CBS Evening News (6/11, story 2, 2:02, O'Donnell, 3.21M) that Barr "continued the leak investigation and stumbled when asked by then-Sen. Kamala Harris if the President or anyone at the White House had ordered him to open an investigation." Barr: "I wouldn't-- I wouldn't--" Vice President Harris: "Yes or no?" Barr: "Could you repeat that question? I don't know, I wouldn't say 'suggest.'" Harris: "Hinted?" Barr: "I don't know."

Meanwhile, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) says Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz on Friday "announced...that his office is launching a probe following reports that the department had sought the records of journalists and prominent critics of former president Donald Trump on the House Intelligence Committee." The Post adds Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco "referred the matter to Horowitz, a Justice Department official said Friday." According to

the Post, the IG probe "follows reports Thursday night that the Justice Department in 2018 secretly subpoenaed Apple for the data of" House Intelligence Chair Adam Schiff (D-CA) and Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA), "as well as the data of their current and former staffers and family members."

In another article, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) reports that Schiff, Swalwell, and other Democrats "swiftly condemned [the Trump DOJ's actions], news of which followed three recent disclosures to national media organizations that the Trump Justice Department had secretly sought reporters' phone and email records in an effort to identify the sources of leaks." On ABC World News Tonight (6/11, story 7, 2:31, Muir, 5.41M), chief justice correspondent Pierre Thomas reported that Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA) "did weigh in today, saying he supports the Justice Department investigation. But he noted that any talk of subpoenas is premature."

The New York Times (6/11, A1, Fandos, Savage, 20.6M) reports the White House "vowed again on Friday to put an end to those practices, while also saying that President Biden was adamant that the Justice Department must be free of political influence." In a statement, White House Deputy Press Secretary Andrew Bates "said...that 'the reported conduct' of the Trump-era Justice Department was 'shocking, and clearly fits within an appalling trend that represents the opposite of how authority should be used.'"

In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) argues Attorney General Garland "should provide further transparency on these subpoenas." The Post also suggests that Garland should repair "the reputation of the Justice Department after four years of assault on the principle that investigations and prosecutions should be free of political interference."

A Washington Post (6/11, Blake, 10.52M) analysis says that the disclosures illustrate Trump's "ever-present – and still growing – exploitation of the Justice Department," while Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) columnist Greg Sargent says the revelations call "for a full accounting of Trump's deep corruption of the department across the board." The Wall Street Journal (6/11, Hughes, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Pelosi Calls For Barr, Sessions To Testify Over Trump DOJ's Seizure Of Data From Democrats In Congress. Politico (6/13, Reingold, 6.73M) reports House Speaker Pelosi on CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 557K) "called on Sunday for former Attorneys General William Barr and Jeff Sessions to testify before Congress regarding reports that the Trump Justice Department seized data records of prominent Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee." Politico adds Pelosi "brushed off Barr's claim that he didn't know about the record seizures targeting at least a dozen people, including California Democratic Reps. Adam Schiff and Eric Swalwell, who were involved an investigation of then-President Donald Trump."

Meanwhile, the AP (6/13, Balsamo, Tucker) reports Senate Majority Leader Schumer on Sunday "called on the Justice Department's chief national security official – a Trump appointee who has remained in the Biden administration – to testify under oath voluntarily or face a subpoena to answer questions about secretly seizing the phone data from House Democrats and reporters as part of the aggressive investigations into leaks." According to the AP, Schumer "said it is 'imperative' the Senate Judiciary Committee issue a subpoena to John Demers, the assistant attorney general for national security, in addition to former attorneys general Bill Barr and Jeff Sessions, if they refuse to appear voluntarily."

A CNN (6/11, Wolf, 89.21M) analysis suggests the revelations "complicated" President Biden's "effort to build his presidency around a theme of democracy vs. autocracy." According to CNN, the disclosures raise "more questions than it answers about how the nation's attorneys acted and what, exactly, they were looking for. But it is clear that the Justice Department under Trump clearly took steps to pursue leaks unusually aggressively, in a manner that targeted Trump's political opponents. That suggests real weaknesses in the backstops that are supposed to prevent abuse of the federal justice system – and opens up a fresh debate about accountability for actions taken during Trump's presidency that have weakened various pillars of the US government."

Collins, McCaul Endorse DOJ IG Probe Of Data Seizure. Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), on CBS' Face The Nation (6/13, 2.47M), said, "There are two serious allegations here. One has to do with whether or not there was a leak of classified information by members of Congress. But the second, which is also important is, has the Justice Department abused its power by going after members of Congress or the press for partisan, political purposes? And that's why I support the

deputy attorney general's request that the inspector general of the Department of Justice do an in-depth investigation of both of these issues. That is really important."

Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), on ABC's This Week^{*} (6/13, 2.15M), said, "I worked for the DOJ for a long time. ... Any time you open a case or a subpoena against a member of Congress or a journalist, there's a very high predication to that. In the journalists' case, you're looking at First Amendment protections. With a member of Congress, obviously, you've better have your facts together before you do something like this. I don't have all the facts here, but what I will tell you is, the DOJ is now investigating this. And I think that's where it properly belongs. That's where the investigation should take place. And let's see how that investigation turns out. ... I think we should have the benefit of the doubt of the decision-making that took place. Whether [testimony] has to be under oath or in what context that is, I think we need to know why this decision was made and I think...that's within the proper purview of the IG."

Trump DOJ Seized Apple's Data On Former White House Counsel, McGahn's Wife In 2018, Sources Say. The New York Times (6/13, Savage, 20.6M) reports the Justice Department "subpoenaed Apple for information in February 2018 about an account that belonged to Donald F. McGahn II, President Donald J. Trump's White House counsel at the time," as well as his wife, "and barred the company from telling him about it, according to two people briefed on the matter." The Times adds the focus of the FBI investigation is "not clear," and neither is "whether Mr. McGahn was their specific focus or whether he was swept up in a larger net because he had communicated with someone who was under scrutiny." However, the Times describes the disclosure as "extraordinary," as does the AP (6/13, Balsamo, Tucker), which says it "raises questions about how far the Trump administration was willing to go to ferret out who it thought might be responsible for damaging information about the administration."

The Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) reports McGahn "was a key figure in special counsel Robert S. Mueller III's investigation, and it is possible that his data could have been swept up as prosecutors probed those with whom he might have been in contact. McGahn himself cooperated extensively with Mueller." The Post says that the month before the subpoena was issued, it and the Times "reported on a conversation in which Trump sought the firing of Mueller in a conversation with McGahn. McGahn, according to The Post's report, contemplated resigning over the matter, though he did not convey his threat to do so directly to the president." The Post adds that per Mueller's report, Trump "complained about the reporting and called McGahn's attorney seeking to have McGahn dispute it," and although it "is possible that Trump would have wanted to investigate how the episode made its way into news reports, the disclosure did not appear to involve classified information, which is normally what is needed to trigger a Justice Department leak probe."

Likewise, MaryAlice Parks said on ABC World News Tonight^{*} (6/13, story 5, 2:05, Davis, 4.03M) that McGahn "was a link between the White House and the DOJ, and often reportedly the subject of...Trump's frustrations, especially after McGahn says he ignored Trump when Trump wanted Mueller fired." The Wall Street Journal (6/13, Viswanatha, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), Fox News (6/13, Blitzer, 23.99M) website, and a brief CBS Weekend News^{*} (6/13, story 3, 0:20, Barnett, 3.59M) segment provided similar coverage.

Ocasio-Cortez Calls Biden's DOJ Actions "Extremely Concerning." Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), on CNN's State Of The Union^{*} (6/13, 551K), discussed gag orders against journalists under the Biden Administration's Department of Justice. Ocasio-Cortez said, "The Biden DOJ also decided that they were going to pursue action on arguing in court for U.S. citizens who reside in Puerto Rico to have lower eligibility for Social Security than their counterparts, U.S. citizens in the continental United States, essentially advancing second-class citizenship and continuing second-class citizen citizenship for Puerto Ricans on the island. I think the actions of Biden's DOJ has been extremely concerning. And it's not just on the actions on gag orders, which is also extremely concerning, but, across the board." Ocasio-Cortez continued, "While I believe that the emphasis on voting rights is appreciated, we aren't seeing a transformational DOJ that I think people have been looking forward to."

CNN, NYTimes, WPost Leadership To Meet With Garland To Discuss DOJ Leak Investigation Process. CNN (6/13, Alcorn, Business, 89.21M) reports on its website that CNN,

New York Times, and Washington Post officials "will meet with US Attorney General Merrick Garland on Monday to discuss the Trump administration's controversial leak investigation that involved seeking reporter records from all three media outlets." CNN Washington Bureau Chief Sam Feist on "Reliable Sources" on Sunday "said Garland's previous statement that the Biden Administration would never use the same tactics against the media as Trump's DOJ officials isn't enough to fix the problem."

In a Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) op-ed, Microsoft President Brad Smith writes that "private emails and text messages typically are backed up and stored in the cloud by tech companies" and "the Trump Justice Department exploited this feature as part of a secret effort to obtain emails in investigations of the media and Congress." Smith argues the government "cannot justify secrecy in such probes," and asserts that "prosecutors too often are exploiting technology to abuse our fundamental freedoms." He says Garland "needs to do what his predecessors have not: recognize this issue is critical and treat it as a personal priority." Smith recommends changing DOJ policies "to tighten the use of gag orders and probes of Congress and the news media" and "a bipartisan initiative to codify those changes by Congress." In addition, he calls for "a new generation of international agreements that define when and how governments will seek data stored within other countries' borders."

Media Analyses: Biden Sets New Tone In Relations With Allies, Secures Many Of His Goals At G-7.

Media coverage of the G-7 generally, and the communiqué released at its conclusion, highlights the successes of the meeting, while also noting areas where some goals were not met. Overall, the tone of the coverage suggests that the summit was a success for President Biden, as he was able to secure much of what he sought while also presenting a new US attitude following the Trump years.

The AP (6/13) reports that the G-7 leaders on Sunday "staked their claim" to "leading the world out of the coronavirus pandemic and crisis, pledging more than 1 billion coronavirus vaccine doses to poorer nations, vowing to help developing countries grow while fighting climate change and backing a minimum tax on multinational firms." President Biden said it was an "extraordinary, collaborative and productive meeting" that showed "America's back in the business of leading the world alongside nations who share our most deeply held values." The New York Times (6/13, Shear, Kanno-Youngs, Santora, 20.6M) reports that the joint communiqué underscores "areas of solidarity – and the differences that remain – when it comes to tackling a host of global crises." The agreement "represented a dramatic return of America's postwar international diplomacy, and Mr. Biden said it was evidence of the strength of the world's democracies in tackling hard problems."

NBC Nightly News (6/13, lead story, 3:00, Mitchell, 3.25M) reported that the President is "saying America is back, after four years when President Trump often dismissed the allies. But Biden failing to get the other leaders to adopt his tough talk about China's abusive trade and labor practices."

The Washington Post (6/13, Adam, Parker, Pager, Hudson, 10.52M) reports that Biden's message, "which he delivered repeatedly...was 'America is back.'" European leaders received it with a mixture of skepticism and relief." Biden "also used the trip to reassert his brand of personal diplomacy, rekindling relationships he nurtured for years as a senator and vice president, and spending one-on-one time with leaders such as" UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson and French President Emmanuel Macron, "whom he knows less well." The New York Times (6/13, Sanger, Shear, 20.6M) reports that the G-7 leaders "tried to present a unified front against a range of threats. But they disagreed about a crucial issues, from timelines for halting the burning of coal to committing tens or hundreds of billions of dollars in aid to challenge" China's Belt and Road Initiative. Overall, the Times adds, "almost all the participants welcomed a new tone as they began to repair the breaches from four years of dealing with" Trump.

In its coverage of the final day of the summit, The Guardian (UK) (6/13, Walters, 5.53M) reports that, "Overall, Biden said, the summit had been 'extraordinarily collaborative and productive' and – in contrast to Trump's divisive, hyper-nationalist approach – he declared:

'America is back at the table.'" BBC World News (UK) (6/13, 6.59M) also reports on Biden's comments at the end of the summit.

Bloomberg (6/13, Wingrove, Jacobs, 3.57M) says that the President "entered" the summit "looking for a breakthrough on vaccine pledges for low-income countries, a united front on China and to tee up his meeting this week with Russian President Vladimir Putin. It wasn't perfect. But, for Biden, it was enough." Biden "sought to set a new tone after the tumultuous" Trump years, but "under the surface, tensions remain."

The Hill (6/13, Samuels, 5.69M) reports that Biden "had made clear throughout the lead-up to the weekend's summit that his goal was to reassure allies that the U.S. was returning to center stage and could be counted on to tackle global problems, and he was adamant during Sunday's press conference that he was successful." Biden said, "I felt a genuine sense of enthusiasm that America was back at the table and fully, fully engaged." The Los Angeles Times (6/13, Stokols, 3.37M) reports that Biden finished the summit "lauding new agreements," saying "he was encouraged by the 'sense of enthusiasm' from the other leaders of G-7 nations."

Politico (6/13, Heath, 6.73M) reports that "overall, the G-7 has delivered a significant win for Biden. While the leaders were panned for not doing enough to vaccinate the world and frequently fell short of consensus on the toughest issues, they're definitely moving in the same direction, and other leaders fell over themselves to welcome Biden to their table."

Secretary of State Blinken appeared on a number of Sunday shows to highlight the successes of the summit. On ABC's This Week (6/13, 2.15M), he said, "If we can continue to demonstrate in concrete ways that democracies working together are making a difference for their people and for people around the world, that's going to be something that sustains itself. There's going to be support for that. We have to prove the point, and I think we made a very, very strong start this week with the G-7 alone. On a billion shots in arms. Not twisting arms, as some other countries are trying to do around the world, but getting shots in arms. No political favors involved. On the environment, on investments in economies, on equitable tax treatment."

On CBS' Face The Nation (6/13, 2.47M), Blinken said, "I've been involved in these G-7 for probably 25 years. This is the most consequential one I've been involved in." Blinken, on CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 557K), said, "The President came into this meeting at the G-7 showing that democracies can deliver. ... Individually, our countries can only do so much when we put all of these resources together. When we leverage the private sector, it's a very powerful force. We've got an agreement to move forward on that."

CNN (6/13, Liptak, 89.21M) provides its three takeaways from the G-7, such as the difference in general attitude of participants with Biden instead of Trump. CNN also said that "for all of Biden's attempts to put forward a show of comity, there were limits on what the leaders could agree to in the end." Finally, CNN sees the G-7 as a warm-up to the meeting with Russian President Putin this week.

Administration Officials Pleased With China Statement. Reuters (6/13, Falconbridge, Holland) reports that the G-7 leaders on Sunday "scolded China over human rights in its Xinjiang region, called for Hong Kong to keep a high degree of autonomy and demanded a full and thorough investigation of the origins of the coronavirus in China." Reuters calls the communiqué "highly critical."

The Washington Post (6/13, Adam, Parker, Pager, Hudson, 10.52M) reports that the "question of how to deal with China" is a source of "division," and it "was clear there were tensions over the language the group should adopt." Biden "urged" the G-7 leaders to "take a harsher public stance... but some leaders, including those of Germany, Italy and Japan, have been reluctant to take on China too forcefully." The language in Sunday's communiqué "fell short of an explicit condemnation of China's human rights practices." The New York Times (6/13, Sanger, Shear, 20.6M) reports that "even as Mr. Biden successfully pushed his counterparts in England to embrace a more aggressive posture against autocracies, the group failed to reach agreement on key parts of the president's early foreign policy agenda."

Still, Bloomberg (6/13, Wingrove, Jacobs, 3.57M) reports that Biden said at a news conference after the summit ended, "There's plenty of action on China. I'm satisfied." The Wall Street Journal (6/13, Restuccia, Colchester, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that US

officials were happy with the compromise China statement. NSA Sullivan told reporters, "The idea here is not to score rhetorical points; the idea here is to get agreement."

On Fox News Sunday (6/13, 909K), Blinken said, "It's important in and of itself that the communiqué that comes out of the G-7... focuses on China. Go back to 2018, the last time these leaders came together, no mention of China in the document summing up what the G-7 was focused on. Going forward, we had very detailed discussions about the kind of work that could be done, the kind of actions that could be taken, for example in preventing the export of products made with forced labor in China, or for that matter, preventing the export of products that could be used to repress people in China."

The Hill (6/13, Samuels, 5.69M) reports that the communiqué also "called for a 'timely, transparent, expert-led, and science-based [World Health Organization]-convened Phase 2 COVID-19 Origins study including, as recommended by the experts' report, in China.'" Blinken, on Fox News Sunday (6/13, 909K), said, "We need accountability, but we also need to understand what happened, why it happened, how it happened if we are going to be able to put in place the necessary measures to prevent it from happening again or at least to be in a better place to mitigate the next pandemic if we can't fully prevent one and so we need this transparency, we need this information. The WHO... the first study that they put out was highly deficient. The leaders of the G-7 have come together insisting that China cooperate with the so-called phase two trend study by the WHO to really get to the bottom of what happened but that's not enough."

In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/13, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says that the President "seems to have made some modest progress" at the G-7 as he looks to rally allies to present a united front to China. However, the Journal is extremely critical of the call for the WHO to lead the investigation into the coronavirus' origins, highlighting the organization's performance during its first investigation.

Meanwhile, Politico Europe (6/13, 15K) reports that German Chancellor Angela Merkel at a press conference on Sunday "warned that the European Union will only ratify its investment agreement with China if Beijing makes progress on labor rights."

In addition, Reuters (6/14) reports a spokesman for Taiwan's presidential office pledged the country "will be a 'force for good' and continue to seek even greater international support... after the Chinese-claimed island won unprecedented backing from the Group of Seven of major democracies." Reuters adds the spokesman "said this was the first time the G7 leaders' communique has stressed the importance of peace and stability in the strait and first time since its founding there was 'content friendly to Taiwan,' expressing deep thanks for the support."

For its part, Reuters (6/14) reports China's embassy in London on Monday "denounced a joint statement by the Group of Seven leaders as a gross interference in the country's internal affairs, and urged the grouping to stop slandering China. The G7 should do more that is conducive to promoting international cooperation instead of artificially creating confrontation and friction, it added."

No Firm Date Agreed Upon To End Use Of Coal. The New York Times (6/13, Shear, Friedman, Einhorn, 20.6M) reports that the G-7 leadership agreed "to take action aimed at holding down global temperatures, but failed to set a firm end date on the burning of coal." The Times adds that "energy experts said the failure of the G7 nations... to agree on a specific end date for the use of coal weakened their ability to lean on China to curb its own still-growing coal use."

Politico Europe (6/13, 15K) says the Biden Administration, "fixated on cultivating the Democrats' razor-thin Senate majority and the coal mining sympathies of West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin," was "wary of any language specifically clamping down on coal." A final statement committed to "an overwhelmingly decarbonised power system in the 2030s" and to "accelerate the transition away from unabated coal capacity." According to "an EU official," the "overwhelming majority" of G-7 members supported a phaseout in the 2030s, but Japan, "which since the 2011 Fukushima nuclear accident has viewed coal power as critical to its energy security, was also opposed, according to someone with knowledge of the discussions."

More broadly, The Guardian (UK) (6/13, Harvey, 5.53M) reports that the summit "ended with rich nations reaffirming their goal to limit global heating to 1.5C, and agreeing to protect and restore 30% of the natural world by the end of this decade, but failing to provide the funds experts

say will be needed to reach such goals."

Communiqué Promises 870M Vaccine Doses For Developing World Over Next Year. Politico Europe (6/13, Martuscelli, 15K) reports that the G-7 leaders "promised on Sunday to send 870 million doses of coronavirus vaccines to the developing world over the next year." The doses "would be made available 'as soon as possible,' with at least half coming by the end of the year, channeled through the COVAX vaccine-sharing pool to 'those in greatest need,'" the leaders said in the communiqué. The CBS Weekend News (6/13, lead story, 2:50, O'Keefe, 3.59M) reported that even with the donations, "Biden admitted today it will take until well beyond the end of 2022 for the entire world to recover from the pandemic."

Bloomberg (6/13, 3.57M) reports that the G-7 "fell short on a pledge Sunday to donate 1 billion additional vaccine doses to developing nations." President Biden "said the U.S. may be able to provide 1 billion more doses to the world by 2023." Reuters (6/13) reports that the G-7 pledge "does not represent entirely new resources, and the donation is far short of the 5 billion to 6 billion shots needed by poorer nations. ... But experts said it is still a much-needed boost to COVAX, which has so far only distributed 83 million shots worldwide."

DeSantis: Biden "Not Nearly As Dynamic" As Trump. For his part, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R), on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/13, 1.14M), said of the trip, "I think it's quite a contrast from his predecessor. I think that President Biden is someone that's much more passive on the world stage. Not nearly as dynamic as Donald Trump was, and I think his energy level is much lower, and so I think that's just something that people are sizing up. I think that our adversaries are watching that. I didn't hear very much in the way of holding China accountable for their role in covering up the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic. ... They were talking economically a lot about other countries, he was talking about reducing energy production worldwide, and I couldn't help but think here in the United States, he's leaving a lot of people behind."

Bloomberg: Trudeau Looking To Succeed Merkel As "Elder Statements" Of G-7. Bloomberg (6/13, Nardelli, Bolongaro, 3.57M) reports that with Merkel "preparing to exit the international stage, the longest-serving leader of the Group of Seven is" Canadian PM Justin Trudeau. But while he is "positioning himself as the new elder statesman, no one sees him owning the role in the way the German chancellor did."

Media Analyses: British-EU "Row" Over Northern Ireland "Overshadowed The Final Day" Of G7 Summit. The AP (6/13) reports British officials "accused European Union leaders on Sunday of holding the 'offensive' view that Northern Ireland is not fully part of the United Kingdom, as Brexit cast a shadow over the Group of Seven summit." The AP attributes the dispute to "post-Brexit trade arrangements that could see British sausages banned from entering Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that borders the 27-nation bloc." The AP adds that President Biden "has even been drawn into the spat, raising concerns about the potential threat to Northern Ireland's peace accord." The Times (UK) (6/14, Wright, Subscription Publication, 141K) reports that the "row overshadowed the final day of the G7 summit in Cornwall."

Media Coverage Turns To Upcoming "High-Stakes" Meeting With Putin.

The upcoming face-to-face meeting between President Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin continues to draw heavy media coverage, including a heavy focus in the lead segments of all three nightly news programs on Sunday.

The CBS Weekend News (6/13, lead story, 2:50, O'Keefe, 3.59M) reported that while the President is in Belgium ahead of the talks with NATO and other European leaders, it is "his face to face summit with...Putin that is attracting the most attention. America has an agenda of grievances for Putin." NBC Nightly News (6/13, lead story, 3:00, Mitchell, 3.25M) reported Putin "almost upstag[ed] today's G-7 finale by proposing to turn over Russian cyberhackers to the US if President Biden would do the same." Peter Alexander, NBC News: "So, are you open to that kind of a trade with Vladimir Putin?" President Biden: "Yes, I, I'm open to, if there's crimes committed against Russia that, in fact, and people committing those crimes being harbored in the United States, I'm committed to holding them accountable. I think that's potentially a good sign and progress." NBC (Mitchell) adds that US officials "say they're not sure if Putin wants to make

progress at Wednesday's meeting or be disruptive."

ABC World News Tonight^{*} (6/13, lead story, 3:50, Davis, 4.03M) reported that the "focus" is "shifting" from the G-7 to "the high-stakes summit with" Putin. ABC (Scott) added that Biden "says he agrees with" Putin "on one thing: US/Russia relations are at a low point." The President said, "Well, let me make it clear. I think he's right, it's at a low point." ABC (Scott) continued, "The President preparing to come face-to-face with the man he once said had no soul. Planning to deliver a firm message on everything from cyber attacks to human rights." ABC (Scott) later said that Putin "is already trying to publicly negotiate a deal. Saying he would be willing to hand over cybercriminals if the United States did the same. The President saying that's a good sign of progress. But the White House making it clear that it is not an option. This is a high-stakes meeting, but the White House has low expectations."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/13) reports Biden on Sunday "suggested that Russia might be weaker than it seemed and that Moscow had overreached in the Middle East." Biden said, "Russia has its own dilemmas, dealing with its economy, dealing with COVID and dealing with not only the United States and Europe writ large, and in the Middle East," adding that Russia "has engaged in activities which we believe are contrary to international norms, but they have also bitten off some real problems, that they're going to have trouble chewing on."

CNN (6/13, 89.21M) reports that Biden "defended the decision not to hold a joint news conference with Putin after their high stakes meeting, arguing such an appearance would only serve to detract from the US' goal of working toward a stable and predictable relationship with Russia." The President said, "This is not a contest about who can do better in front of a press conference or try to embarrass each other. It's about making myself very clear what the conditions are to get a better relationship are with Russia."

The AP (6/14, Madhani) reports that "unlike his four most recent White House predecessors, who made an effort to build a measure of rapport with" Putin, Biden "has made clear that the virtue of fusing a personal connection might have its limits when it comes to the Russian leader."

Axios (6/13, Allen, 1.26M) reports that US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield said on "Axios on HBO" that the President will "make clear to the Russians that they cannot harbor cyber terrorists and criminals in their country and not be held accountable for it. And they need to take the responsibility for dealing with this issue." Asked about the risks of the trip, she said, "Look, nothing can go wrong on this trip."

Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), on ABC's This Week^{*} (6/13, 2.15M), said that the Putin meeting "is going to be the most powerful and most dangerous meeting on this trip."

Arms Control A Priority, But Other Issues May Overshadow It. The AP (6/13, Burns) reports that while both Biden and Putin "agree broadly" that the meeting is a "chance to set the stage for a new era in arms control," the issue "may get overshadowed...given heightened U.S. focus on ransomware attacks, alleged Russian interference in U.S. elections, Russia's military buildup on Ukraine's border and allegations that the Kremlin was behind the SolarWinds hacking campaign."

Blinken: US Seeking More "Stable, Predictable" Relationship With Russia.

Secretary of State Blinken also heavily previewed the President's meeting with Putin on the Sunday shows, highlighting repeatedly that the US is seeking a more "stable, predictable" relationship, but also warning that the US will push back "forcefully" to new offenses.

On CNN's State Of The Union^{*} (6/13, 557K), Blinken said, "This is not going to be a flip the light switch moment. What the President is going to make clear to Vladimir Putin is that we seek a more stable, predictable relationship with Russia. And, if so, there are areas where our interests overlap, and we may find ways to work together. But if Russia continues reckless and aggressive actions, we will respond forcefully, as the President has already demonstrated that he would when it comes to election interference, or the SolarWinds cyberattack, or the attempt to murder Mr. Navalny with a chemical weapon. So, this is a beginning of testing the proposition, the question of whether Russia's interested in a more stable and predictable relationship and finding areas to work together."

On ABC's This Week^{*} (6/13, 2.15M), Blinken said, "The President is not seeing President Putin in spite of all of these things. It's precisely because of them, to be able to talk to him

directly, clearly about these profound differences, and also to see if we can have a more predictable, stable relationship, but equally to make sure we make clear if Russia continues to act recklessly, we'll continue to act accordingly."

On Fox News Sunday^{*} (6/13, 909K), Blinken said, "One of the things that President Biden will begin to test is whether Russia is interested in a more stable, predictable relationship, which would be to everyone's benefit. But if not, if it continues to take reckless or aggressive actions at our allies or partners, President Biden will make clear we respond forcibly."

On CBS' Face The Nation^{*} (6/13, 2.47M), Blinken said, "It's not a matter of trust. I think someone once said trust but verify. I'd say don't trust and verify. We'll see by Russia's actions whether it will make good on any commitments it makes. Here's the thing. We've now been the victim of ransomware attacks, and many of these attacks come from criminal organizations, not necessarily from states, but countries have an obligation. No responsible country should be in the business of harboring criminal groups engaged in these attacks. And this is one of the things that President Biden's going to be taking up with President Putin."

House Speaker Pelosi, on CNN's State Of The Union^{*} (6/13, 557K), said, "In terms of his meeting with Putin, I think that [Biden] should meet with him. They should have a line of communication. Issues like cyber security and energy are not necessarily on the table in that meeting, but are the reality that we have to deal with." Pelosi added that Putin is "going to meet a very different president than one who was at the mercy of Putin."

For his part, Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), on ABC's This Week^{*} (6/13, 2.15M), criticized the Administration for not cracking down harder on the Nord Stream II project, which "really empowered" Putin.

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/13) reports that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy "thanked" the G-7 on Sunday "after it voiced support for Kyiv and called on Russia to withdraw troops and weapons from near Ukraine's eastern border."

Cyber Attacks Expected To Be Major Focus Of Meeting. Specifically with regards to how the United States will address the cyberattacks with Russia, Blinken, on ABC's This Week^{*} (6/13, 2.15M), said, "I'm going to leave that for the president with President Putin in the next few days. But here's what I can tell you: no responsible country should be in the business of harboring in any way criminal organizations engaged in cyberattacks, including ransomware. And the president is going to make that very clear to President Putin. We are looking for Russian cooperation in dealing with these criminal organizations to the extent they're operating from Russian territory." On Fox News Sunday^{*} (6/13, 909K), Blinken said, "I don't want to get ahead of the President, but let me say this: When it comes to ransomware, no responsible country should be in the business of harboring criminal organizations engaged in those practices and that is something that the President very much intends to take up with President Putin. That's very much on the agenda."

Politico (6/13, Matishak, 6.73M) reports lawmakers from both sides of the aisle want President Biden "to deliver a tough message when he meets face-to-face this week with Russian President Vladimir Putin: Stop the ransomware gangs, or we will." Politico says there is "a growing bipartisan consensus that the traditional U.S. strategy of strengthening defenses isn't enough." Biden and Administration officials "have issued not-so-veiled warnings at the Kremlin." Following the attack on Colonial Pipeline, Biden said Moscow has "some responsibility to deal with this," and he said, "without elaborating, that he will raise the issue of the cyberattacks with Putin." Politico says lawmakers "want Biden to put some steel behind those words by making it clear the U.S. and its NATO allies are willing to take the fight to these digital pirates."

The Washington Post (6/11, Khurshudyan, Morris, 10.52M) reports that the ransomware hackers "suspected of targeting Colonial Pipeline and other businesses around the world have a strict set of rules. First and foremost: Don't target Russia or friendly states." The "relationship between the Russian government and ransomware criminals allegedly operating from within the country is expected to be a point of tension" at the meeting.

In a separate story, Politico (6/13, Reingold, 6.73M) reports McCaul, the top Republican on the house Foreign Affairs Committee "urged the U.S. to consider 'hitting back' at Russia for

harboring cyber ransom hackers, amping up the pressure on" the President "to make the recent ransomware attacks a focus of his upcoming meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin." McCaul told ABC's This Week, "The president needs to demonstrate with Putin, there will be consequences to your actions if you continue to do this. ... Sanctions are great, but I think it's time to start thinking about hitting back. ... They need to know that – that when they do this, there are consequences to their actions and we're going to hit them back. ... Until we do that, they're going to continue with bad behavior."

CNN (6/13, Pavlova, 89.21M) also covers the ransomware issue, among others.

Collins Looks For Biden To Bring Up Havana Syndrome With Putin. Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), on CBS' Face The Nation (6/13, 2.47M), discussed the possibility that Biden should address the Havana Syndrome with President Putin. Collins said, "Certainly the Russians are one of the key suspects. We don't know for sure, but keep in mind there have been more than a hundred American public servants who have been injured by these directed energy attacks. And we need not only to take care of their medical needs, but also to find out who it is. ... I think that Secretary Blinken has done a great job as Secretary of State, but I hope the President will bring up this issue with President Putin directly."

CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

Federal Prosecutors Arrest Chicago Police Officer On Charges For Role In Jan. 6 Riot.

The Chicago Tribune (6/11, Meisner, Pratt, 2.03M) reports Chicago police officer Karol Chwiesiuk, 29, "was arrested Friday on federal charges of breaching the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 and entering" Sen. Jeff Merkley's (D-OR) office "with the violent mob, later texting to a friend that he'd 'knocked out a commie.'" The Tribune says Chwiesiuk "was charged in a criminal complaint in U.S. District Court in Washington with five misdemeanor counts, including entering a restricted building, disrupting government business and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds with intent to impede a congressional proceeding." The Tribune adds US Magistrate Judge Gabriel Fuentes released Chwiesiuk on bond, but he "was ordered to surrender any firearms as well as his firearm owner's identification card."

The AP (6/11) reports, "Prosecutors allege in a criminal complaint that Chwiesiuk was among a mob of people who broke into and damaged the office of Sen. Jeff Merkley, an Oregon Democrat. They also say that days before he traveled to Washington to attend a rally supporting then-President Donald Trump, Chwiesiuk said in a text to a friend that he was going 'to save the nation' and was 'Busy planning how to [expletive] up commies.' He later sent photos of himself inside the Capitol, according to prosecutors. Chwiesiuk was on medical leave from the police department at the time he traveled to Washington for the attack, the complaint states."

Newsweek (6/12, Fearnow, 2.67M) reports, "Using toll road records, text messages and testimony from a friend, the months-long FBI investigation led to a 19-page complaint filed against Chwiesiuk in U.S. District Court in Washington. Text messages allegedly sent by Chwiesiuk reveal him bragging about having 'knocked out a commie' and also writing: 'N****, Don't snitch.' The federal charges against the Chicago police officer include entering a restricted building, disrupting government business, and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds with intent to impede a congressional proceeding."

The Washington Post (6/11, Jackman, 10.52M) reports, "At a news conference Friday afternoon, Chicago Police Superintendent David Brown said he was informed by the FBI on June 2 that Chwiesiuk was under investigation and immediately removed his police powers, though the officer wasn't arrested for an additional nine days. 'The fact that a Chicago police officer has been charged in that attack on American democracy,' Brown said, 'makes my blood boil.'" Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot "and a number of civil rights leaders in the city, including Jesse Jackson, appeared at the news conference to denounce the sentiments allegedly expressed by Chwiesiuk, an officer for two years."

NBC News (6/11, Fitzsimmons, 4.91M) reports, "In the press conference, Mayor Lightfoot slammed the head of the Chicago police union who had praised the participants immediately after

the riot with comments that he later tried to walk back. Retired officers from the New York City Police Department and Houston Police Department were arrested & charged in connection with the riot."

Insider (6/11, Hall, 2.74M) reports, "Court filings show the FBI first identified Chwiesiuk after the 'FBI learned that a device' associated with Chwiesiuk entered the Capitol on January 6. Investigators obtained his phone records and discovered he messaged several people while inside the building. Images of Chwiesiuk outside of the Capitol show him wearing a Chicago sweatshirt affixed with a Chicago Police emblem. He also texted a selfie and communicated with others inside of Sen. Jeff Merkley's office while simultaneously appearing in a live stream by Anthime Gionet, also known as Baked Alaska."

CNN (6/11, Hassan, Parks, 89.21M) reports, "Chwiesiuk made a court appearance Friday morning before Magistrate Judge Gabriel Fuentes in Chicago and was ordered released on a personal recognizance bond, according to Assistant US Attorney Joseph D. Fitzpatrick of the Northern District of Illinois. The FBI tracked Chwiesiuk through geolocation and communication records associated with his Google email account and phone, according to the criminal complaint."

Fox News (6/11, Casiano, 23.99M) reports, "The day before the attack, Chwiesiuk allegedly walked to the Capitol to survey the area and sent 44 images to three people, according to the complaint."

The Daily Beast (6/11, Bolies, 933K) reports, "Chwiesiuk is the fourth Chicago resident to be charged in connection with the riot and the second this week, following the arrest of Burberry-clad rich guy Christian Kulas on Wednesday. He's the sixth active-duty cop to be charged with attending the riot, according to a tally kept by The Appeal." WBBM-TV Chicago (6/11) also reports this story on its website.

NBC Nightly News (6/11, story 7, 0:16, Holt, 4.45M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

Three Minnesota Men Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/9, Miller, 855K) reports, "The FBI arrested three more men Friday in connection with the violent Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, two in Minnesota and one in Iowa." Brian Christopher Mock, of Minneapolis "was charged with assaulting, resisting or impeding officers; entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds without authority; disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted place; obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder, and acts of physical violence on Capitol grounds. Daniel Johnson of Austin, Minn., and his father, Daryl Johnson of St. Ansgar, Iowa, were arrested and charged with entering and remaining in a restricted building; disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building; violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building; and parading, demonstrating or picketing in a capitol building." The men "were arrested without resistance, according to Kevin Smith, public affairs officer for the FBI's Minneapolis division. Daryl Johnson was arrested in Iowa by the agency's Omaha division."

The Rochester (MN) Post-Bulletin (6/11, Cutts, 56K) reports, "Daniel Johnson, 29, of Austin, was taken into custody by FBI Minneapolis special agents and the Austin Police Department on charges relating to criminal acts at the Capitol, the FBI Minneapolis tweeted. He has been charged with entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building, violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building, and parading, demonstrating or picketing in a Capitol building. The FBI received three tips about Johnson and his alleged involvement in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, according to the charging documents released by the U.S. Attorney's Office District of Columbia." On January 7, "the FBI National Threat Operations Center received a report that Johnson posted a video to his Snapchat account from inside the U.S. Capitol during the riot, the charging documents state."

KARE-TV Minneapolis (6/11, Hrapsky, Haavik, 342K) reports that Mock, 42, "is charged with four federal counts including assaulting an officer, entering and engaging in disorderly conduct in a restricted building, obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder, and acts of physical violence in a capitol building or grounds. According to court documents, at about 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 6, Mock is shown on police body camera video shoving and kicking a capitol police officer on the

ground. About 30 seconds later, Mock was seen and heard on body cam video shouting 'Get out! Go!' several times at officers, according to the federal complaint. Four minutes later, Mock was seen on camera shoving a second capitol police officer, taking the officer's riot shield and passing it back to the violent mob."

Newsweek (6/12, Zhao, 2.67M) reports that Mock "was arrested for federal offenses in connection to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including assaulting, resisting or impeding certain officers; obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder; and acts of physical violence in any of the Capitol buildings, according to the Department of Justice (DOJ). Court documents show that Mock was seen on bodycam footage 'repeatedly assaulting multiple law enforcement officers who were trying to protect the building from rioters' on the lower west terrace of the Capitol building."

Six Californians Charged In Capitol Siege Probe.

KABC-TV Los Angeles (6/11, 402K) reports from Santa Ana, California, "Retired La Habra Police Chief Alan Hostetter, a prominent COVID-19 restrictions critic and activist, was indicted along with five other Southern California men in connection with the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, federal prosecutors announced Thursday." Hostetter, "a 56-year-old yoga instructor who lives in San Clemente, was charged along with Russell Taylor, 40, of Ladera Ranch, and four Riverside County men – Erik Scott Warner, 45, of Menifee, Felipe Antonio 'Tony' Martinez, 47, of Lake Elsinore, Derek Kinnison, 39, of Lake Elsinore, and Ronald Mele, 51, of Temecula. They are all charged with multiple felonies, including conspiracy, obstructing an official proceeding and unlawful entry on restricted building or grounds. Taylor also faces a charge of obstructing law enforcement during a civil disorder and unlawful possession of a dangerous weapon on Capitol grounds. Warner and Kinnison are additionally charged with tampering with documents or proceedings."

Politico Profiles Geophysicist Charged For Role In Storming Capitol.

In a more than 5,000-word "Friday Cover" story, Politico Magazine (6/11, Warner, 6.68M) profiles Colorado geophysicist John Bergman, 51, "one of the approximately 465 people charged so far for their participation in the January 6 insurrection. Sabol faces eight counts, several of them felonies, including the assault of police officers. He and four other defendants named in the same indictment are accused of participating in some of the day's worst violence, which took place around 4:30 p.m. and resulted in several officers being stripped of their protective gear, dragged, stomped on, and attacked with crutches and a flagpole." According to Politico, his actions on Jan. 6 "and the days afterward have left many in his life confused and grappling for answers. How did a highly educated, middle-aged man with so much to lose participate in what FBI director Christopher Wray called 'domestic terrorism,' and then try to kill himself?"

CNN Profiles "Internet Sleuths" Searching For "January 6 Insurrectionists."

CNN (6/11, 89.21M) profiled the "Deep State Dogs...just one group in a sprawling social media community dedicated to rooting out insurrectionists after January 6." Experts and members "of the community describe it as diverse and diffuse but united by a common goal: Accountability. But their efforts are also a rebuttal to Republicans looking to whitewash the horrifying events of that January day."

FBI Raids Residence Of Actor Who Went Into US Capitol On January 6.

The Los Angeles Times (6/12, 3.37M) reports the FBI "raided the home of a Los Angeles-based actor who was among a group of right-wing protesters who entered the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, authorities said." Roughly 20 agents "raided the North Hollywood home of Siaka Massaquoi shortly before 6 a.m. Friday, according to a source familiar with the investigation." The Times adds, "Public records list Brian Burks, 42, at the same address." The raid occurred due to "the two men's associations on 'a social media app,' according to the law enforcement source. No further details of the raid were provided and it was unclear whether Massaquoi was arrested and released."

Pelosi Continues To Advocate For Bipartisan Jan. 6 Commission.

House Speaker Pelosi, on CNN's State Of The Union⁸ (6/13, 557K), discussed the possibility of appointing a select committee to investigate the events of January 6 after Senate Republicans blocked a proposed bipartisan commission. Pelosi said, "I'll see by Monday if the Senate, those who are working the bipartisan way, believe that they can get three more votes. It would have been 57 voting. Three more. I have yielded on every point except scope: number of people on the committee, subpoena power, timetable, you name it. We've yielded because of the value of the bipartisanship that would spring from that. ... This is about an assault on our democracy, on our Capitol of the United States. The American people deserve and must have answers. We will seek the truth. We will find the truth. But we hope that we can do it with passing the commission."

Noonan: Democrats Should Launch Thorough Investigation Into Events Of Jan. 6.
In her Wall Street Journal (6/10, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) column, Peggy Noonan argues the country is unable to move on from the breach of the Capitol on Jan. 6 because the threat persists and former President Donald Trump and his allies are continuing to promote his conspiracy theories. Noonan argues that while Senate Republicans refused to establish a 9/11-style commission to investigate the events, House Democrats should reconsider their opposition to establishing a fully staffed House select committee with five Democrats and five Republicans and full subpoena power, because a formal investigation is needed.

Oregon Lawmakers Expel Republican Colleague For Helping Efforts To Breach State Capitol.

The New York Times (6/11, 20.6M) reports Oregon lawmakers "ejected one of their colleagues from office for the first time in state history late Thursday night, voting 59 to 1 to oust Representative Mike Nearman for his role in helping a far-right crowd breach the State Capitol in December." The Times says Nearman, "who was the only no vote, had faced rising pressure from his Republican colleagues to resign from office this week, days after newly surfaced video showed him apparently coaching people on how they might get inside the closed Capitol." The Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) describes his removal as "the latest clash between state parties and members tied to extremist movements, particularly in the Northwest."

PROTESTS

Judge Grants Preliminary Injunction Curbing Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Utilization Of Force At Demonstrations.

The Los Angeles Times (6/12, 3.37M) reports that "a federal judge has granted a preliminary injunction limiting the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's use of projectiles and chemical agents at protests." The Times adds, "U.S. District Judge Dolly M. Gee's ruling May 28 stemmed from a petition for a temporary restraining order filed in September that focused on protests against police violence and the shooting of Dijon Kizzee, whose killing by sheriff's deputies Aug. 31 in Westmont spurred daily protests in front of the South L.A. sheriff's station." The judge determined that the plaintiffs "had submitted 'overwhelming evidence' showing that at five demonstrations in August and September, deputies had used force on protesters, legal observers and journalists 'who were not committing any crime,' with the exception of not following dispersal orders on two occasions."

COUNTER-TERRORISM

Delta Flight Carries Out Emergency Landing Following Outburst By Passenger.

The Washington Post (6/12, 10.52M) reports, "A cross-country Delta Air Lines flight made an emergency landing in Oklahoma City on Friday night after an outburst by an unruly passenger, the third time in a week that the airline diverted a flight because of a passenger's behavior." Bystander footage given to the Post captures a disorderly "scene in the plane that was heading from Los Angeles to Atlanta." An individual yells as a number of "passengers pin him to the floor." A flight attendant instructs everyone aside from the people restraining the individual to be seated,

with the flight attendant saying, "We can't get forward with restraints if everybody's in the aisle." The Post adds FAA "said this year that it was reviewing about 450 cases of passengers misbehaving on flights and has opened 20 formal enforcement cases as flight attendants face pushback from people who do not want to follow the rules."

On ABC World News Tonight (6/12, story 3, 1:50, Johnson, 3.13M), correspondent Kenneth Moton said that according to authorities, the "passenger, 34-year-old Stephon Jamar Duncan, an off-duty Delta employee, was experiencing a mental health episode and threatening to take down the plane, while assaulting two flight attendants." Duncan "is expected to be charged with two counts of assault and battery with more charges pending. Interfering with flight crews can carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison."

On NBC Nightly News (6/12, story 7, 2:14, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M), correspondent Guad Venegas said that the incident started "when the off-duty Delta employee reportedly tried grabbing the plane's PA system and that began the altercation." Newsweek (6/12, 2.67M) reports the pilot came over the intercom to say, "This is the captain speaking. We'd like all strong males to come to the front of the aircraft to handle a problem passenger." The CBS Weekend News (6/12, story 8, 0:25, Diaz, 2.16M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

The New York Times (6/12, Levenson, 20.6M) reports, "The episode came amid what the Federal Aviation Administration has described as a "significant increase" in disruptive behavior on flights starting in late 2020." Year to date, FAA has "received about 2,900 reports of unruly behavior by passengers, including 2,200 reports of passengers refusing to comply with a federal mandate that they wear masks."

USA Today (6/12, Schulz, 12.7M) reports, "Some airlines, including Southwest and American, have delayed plans to start selling alcoholic drinks in the wake of the high-profile incidents and calls by flight attendant unions to limit alcohol sales on board." USA Today (6/12, 12.7M) also carries a video report.

Additional coverage includes CNN (6/12, Spells, Joseph, Sanchez, 89.21M), the Houston Chronicle (6/12, 982K), and WCAU-TV Philadelphia (6/12, 134K).

FAA: Almost 3,000 Cases Of Unruly Passengers So Far This Year. The Washington Post (6/11, Sampson, 10.52M) reports incidents on planes involving unruly passengers have "risen to unprecedented levels over the past several months as travelers return to the skies." FAA says it has recorded around 2,900 incidents of unruly passenger behavior so far in 2021, most of them related to passengers refusing to "comply with the federal mandate to wear a face covering." FAA Administrator Steve Dickson said last month during a town hall the rise in incidents has left him "appalled," adding that the agency will seek "hefty fines and possible jail time" against rule breakers. FAA spokesperson Ian Gregor says, "Based on our experience, we can say with confidence that the number of reports we've received during the past several months are significantly higher than the numbers we've seen in the past."

Biden Calls For Congress To Pass Gun Reform Five Years After Shooting At Pulse Nightclub.

The AP (6/12, Boak) reports President Biden on Saturday "said on the fifth anniversary of a mass shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that he will sign a bill naming the site as a national memorial," and he "emphasized that the country must do more to reduce gun violence, such as banning assault weapons and closing loopholes in regulations that enable gun buyers to bypass background checks." In addition, The Hill (6/12, Williams, 5.69M) reports Biden "highlighted the particular impact of gun violence on the LGBT community in Orlando, after 49 people were killed when a gunman opened fire into the gay nightclub during Pride month in 2016. The gunman died in a shootout with police."

While Axios (6/12, Knutson, 1.26M) reports the Senate on Wednesday "passed legislation that will officially designate the nightclub a national memorial," and Michael George reported on the CBS Weekend News (6/12, story 7, 1:36, Diaz, 2.16M) that the President "says he'll sign a bill in the coming days designating the Pulse Nightclub as a national memorial," Politico (6/12, Leonard, 6.73M) reports new gun legislation "faces long odds in the Senate amid staunch Republican

opposition." Fox News (6/12, 23.99M) reports on its website that Biden "also called on the Senate to pass the Equality Act, which bans discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity." Fox News adds the President "said he'd kept in touch with the families that lost loved ones in the nightclub tragedy," who he said "remind us that we must do more than remember victims of gun violence and all of the survivors, family members, and friends left behind; we must act."

USA Today (6/12, Hayes, 12.7M) says that the attack at the gay nightclub that left 49 dead "ripped away the innocence of a community known for family vacations to Disney World and with it leaving the LGBTQ community on edge during a month of Pride celebrations," yet its status as "the nation's deadliest mass shooting...held for only one year before an attack left 60 dead during a country music festival in Las Vegas."

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Blade (6/12) reports survivors on Saturday gathered in Orlando "to commemorate and honor those 49 American lives lost in that act of senseless gun violence." Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer (D) said, "'Orlando United' was our call to action five years ago, but it is up to us all to ensure that this isn't simply a slogan that we bring out annually as we mark the time that's passed since the tragedy. Instead, it must be part of our core commitment to real change." On ABC World News Tonight (6/12, story 8, 2:03, Johnson, 3.13M), Elwyn Lopez said the President is "calling [the Pulse nightclub] 'hallowed ground.'" NBC Nightly News (6/12, story 11, 0:21, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

However, CNN (6/12, Sanchez, 89.21M) reports on its website that former Pulse nightclub owner Barbara Poma, the founder and executive director of the OnePulse Foundation nonprofit, said, "There is a gun violence problem. There is a hate problem." CNN adds Poma "lamented" that "not much has changed in America...since the days the Pulse offered a safe and vibrant space for LGBTQ people, particularly Orlando's queer Latino community."

In addition, Axios (6/12, Rummler, 1.26M) reports that according to the Human Rights Campaign, "28 transgender and gender non-conforming people – nearly all Black and Latina women – have been killed this year," and "if this current pace continues, 2021 will be on track to significantly beat last year's all-time record." Axios adds, "More trans people have been killed so far this year than in all of 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018 and 2019."

Jordan Looks To Change FISA Law.

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/13), discussed the investigation into the use of FISA warrants. Jordan said, "We've had judge from the FISA court put out report that there's widespread abuse of the FISA process and certain queries done on American citizens that shouldn't have been done. That's a problem and we know what took place. We know Inspector General Horowitz told us a year and a half ago specifically relative to the Carter Page FISA which is what they used to spy on the Trump campaign, 61 lies in the FISA application. ... This is an attack on Americans' liberties and should concern every single citizen and that's why we probe here and that's why we tried to change the FISA law a year and a half ago and we will have to re-look at that in the future. That needs to be changed."

Bloomberg Examines NSA's Collaboration Lessons.

Bloomberg's (6/11, 3.57M) Arianne Cohen writes about the Laboratory for Analytic Sciences, an "eight-year-old partnership between the National Security Agency and North Carolina State University that says it aims to bring together people from business, academia, and government to help the intelligence community solve its 'most pressing challenges related to national security and technology.'" A team of outside researchers "studied the lab and has published a book about the multidisciplinary collaboration." One of the "biggest obstacles to collaboration, they found, is culture clashes among members of different professions." The researchers recommend utilizing long-term goals, prioritizing goals properly, focusing on output, and supporting team members.

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

FBI Conduct In Probes Of Chinese Researchers Called Into Question.

The Sacramento (CA) Bee (6/11, Stanton, 519K) reports, "As federal prosecutors press forward with cases against Chinese researchers accused of lying about their ties to China's military to gain access to prestigious American universities, the FBI's conduct in two Northern California cases has become a central focus of court proceedings." The Bee adds, "Prosecutions involving researchers at the University of California, Davis, and Stanford University now include claims by defense attorneys that FBI agents improperly interviewed their clients without first explaining that they had the right to refuse to answer questions." Last week, US District Judge John A. Mendez "threw out one of two counts filed against Tang Juan, a visiting cancer researcher at UC Davis who was arrested last year and indicted on charges of lying on her visa application and of lying to two FBI agents who questioned her last June." Judge Mendez "dismissed the count of lying to the FBI," ruling that "the agents violated Tang's Miranda rights."

Administration To Task Two Panels Of Experts To Study "Havana Syndrome," Sources Say.

The Administration "is forming two panels of experts to study unexplained health incidents among U.S. personnel that have baffled and concerned the government since 2016, when American diplomats in Cuba became ill with mysterious ailments known as "Havana syndrome," three sources familiar with the matter told" McClatchy (6/11, Wilner, 29K), which casts the upcoming investigation by medical experts and scientists as "the next step in a White House effort to get to the bottom of a sensory phenomenon that has afflicted over 130 American officials overseas, including in Britain, China, Cuba, and at home in the United States." McClatchy adds the White House National Security Council "is leading in setting up the panels," which one source "said...would include experts from both inside and outside of government, and that their focus would be to determine the cause of the incidents as well as best methods of treatment as quickly as possible."

Florida Bill "Basically Bans" Confucius Institutes, DeSantis Says.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R), on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/13), discussed how the state is handling Confucius Institutes. DeSantis said, "We did two bills, one to combat foreign influence specifically targeted at the CCP and corporate espionage which is generally targeted at the CCP because they are the worst offenders. So we actually had a Confucius Institute that was done at Miami-Dade college. Fortunately when I became governor we looked at that and we had the college get rid of it, however, this is a continued concern. Our bill we signed basically bans things like Confucius Institutes from getting a foothold on Florida universities."

Political Fundraiser Alleges CIA Handler Aided His Capitol Hill Lobbying.

Insider (6/11, Griffiths, 2.74M) reports according to legal "documents, Imaad Zuberi is claiming that his former CIA handler was involved in one of his lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill." Zuberi was a top fundraiser for Hillary Clinton "who later donated a staggering \$900,000 to Trump's inauguration. He is facing 12 years in federal prison for campaign-finance violations. If his allegations are true, they could violate rules governing CIA conduct on US soil."

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

At Least 30 Wounded, Four Killed In Overnight Mass Shootings In Three States.

The AP (6/12, Foody) reports two people were killed and at least 30 people were wounded in mass shootings in Austin, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; and Savannah, Georgia, "authorities said Saturday, stoking concerns that a spike in U.S. gun violence could continue into summer as coronavirus restrictions ease and more people are free to socialize." The AP adds the attacks "come amid an easing of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in much of the country."

According to the Washington Post (6/12, Bella, 10.52M), "At least 14 people were injured in a shooting early Saturday in downtown Austin that unfolded as crowds filled the city's popular entertainment district, police said." The New York Times (6/12, Mele, 20.6M) reports two people

are in "critical condition, the police said." Interim Austin Police Chief Joseph Chacon "said...the shooting appeared to have started as 'some kind of disturbance between two parties,'" but "said that there was no information to indicate the victims were intentionally targeted, and that most were 'innocent bystanders.'" On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/12, story 4, 1:40, Johnson, 3.13M), Zohreen Shah reported "at least one arrest" has been made in the mass shooting, but a "manhunt for that second suspect still continues." On [NBC Nightly News](#) (6/12, story 4, 1:19, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M), Morgan Chesky said the Austin shooting came "just hours after this scene in Dallas where a gunman's bullets injured five, including a four-year-old boy." The [CBS Weekend News](#) (6/12, story 5, 0:17, Diaz, 2.16M) and [NBC Nightly News](#) (6/12, story 6, 0:20, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M) provided similar coverage in brief broadcasts.

Meanwhile, the [Chicago Tribune](#) (6/12, Williams Harris, 2.03M) reports at least 10 people were wounded "in a mass shooting in the Chatham neighborhood early Saturday morning that saw one woman die, Chicago police said," putting victims "among three dead and 21 injured in shootings since Friday afternoon across the city." In addition, the [Savannah \(GA\) Morning News](#) (6/12, Guan, 190K) reports eight people were shot on Friday night "outside of an east Savannah residence, killing one person, and injuring among others an 18-month old infant, a 15-year-old and a 16-year-old. Two other adults were critically injured." The [CBS Weekend News](#) (6/12, story 6, 0:20, Diaz, 2.16M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

On [NBC Nightly News](#) (6/12, story 5, 0:33, Chesky, 2.81M), Morgan Chesky said the "deadly trend" of gun violence "usually goes up during the summer months. And experts warn this season could be worst." The [Hill](#) (6/12, Lonas, 5.69M) reports on its "Briefing Room" blog that according to the Gun Violence Archive, "more than 260 mass shootings have taken place so far this year in the U.S., with 25 of them occurring in June."

In a brief segment, [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/13, story 6, 0:30, Davis, 4.03M) reported that over "just a six-hour period this weekend in four US cities, Austin, Cleveland, Savannah, and Chicago, a total of five dead and 39 wounded." ABC added Chicago "has been especially bloody, at least 32 shot, three killed since Friday," while "nationwide, there have been more than 260 mass shootings this year."

Suspect Arrested In Austin, Texas Shooting That Injured At Least 13. [NBC News](#) (6/12, Acevedo, Suliman, 4.91M) reports, "A suspect was in custody and another was being sought Saturday after an early morning mass shooting in a busy entertainment district in downtown Austin, Texas, police said. The suspect's identity was not released. 'We continue to work on this case and follow up on leads to apprehend the remaining suspect,' the Austin Police Department said in a statement, adding that the U.S. Marshals helped with the arrest." Interim Austin Police Chief Joseph Chacon "described the violence as historic. 'This is one of the most significant incidents that we've ever had happen in our city,' he said at a news conference."

The [Hill](#) (6/12, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports that Chacon "had initially listed the victim total as 13 but told reporters later in the day that officials were informed that another person 'self-transported for medical care and is in stable condition.' Chacon said during a press conference Saturday afternoon that 'two male suspects' remain at large but that he believed both men will be taken into custody."

The [AP](#) (6/12, Picon) reports, "Police have arrested one suspect and are searching for another after a mass shooting on a crowded downtown Austin street left 14 people wounded early Saturday, two of them critically. The Austin Police Department said in a news release that the U.S. Marshals Lone Star Fugitive Task Force assisted in making the arrest, but it provided no other details other than to say it is continuing to follow up on leads for the suspect still at large." Chacon "said the shooting happened around 1:30 a.m. on a street packed with bars and barricaded off from vehicle traffic. He said investigators believe it began as a dispute between two parties. Chacon said both suspects are male, but declined to disclose details such as whether both fired shots, saying the investigation was ongoing." Also reporting are [Newsweek](#) (6/12, 2.67M), [CNN](#) (6/12, Spells, Hackney, 89.21M), and [CNBC](#) (6/12, 7.34M).

State Autopsy: Brown Jr. Died From "Penetrating Gunshot Wound Of The Head."

The Hill (6/11, 5.69M) reports, "An autopsy from the state of North Carolina revealed that Andrew Brown Jr., who was shot and killed by police in Elizabeth City in April, died of a gunshot wound to the back of the head." A North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner report characterized the fatality as a homicide and indicated that the death stemmed from a "penetrating gunshot wound of the head."

Right-Wing Groups Request That Charlottesville Trial Be Relocated.

Bloomberg (6/11, 3.57M) reports, "Right-wing organizers of the deadly 2017 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, asked a judge to move an October civil trial to another city out of fear that police will allow violent protesters to attack them with impunity." Municipal officials have not properly dissuaded demonstrators who might go to the trial or explained previous "statements identifying the city as the 'capital of the resistance,' White nationalist group Identity Evropa and the neo-Nazi Traditionalist Worker's Party said in a court filing Friday."

FBI: Virginia Beach Shooter Had Been Obsessed With Perceived Grievances.

The New York Times (6/11, Vigdor, 20.6M) reports, "A city engineer was obsessed for years with perceived workplace grievances before killing 12 people in a 2019 shooting at a municipal complex in Virginia Beach, the F.B.I. said this week, releasing the findings of a behavioral analysis that provided new insight on a motive for the attack." The findings indicate that DeWayne Craddock, "who was fatally wounded by the police, had become alienated from his co-workers over how they viewed him and his own perception of his job performance." The FBI said, "The shooter's inflated sense of self-importance contributed to this conflict and led him to believe he was unjustly and repeatedly criticized and slighted," adding, "Violence was viewed by the shooter as a way to reconcile this conflict and restore his perverted view of justice."

Perpetrator Of Florida Supermarket Shooting Had Made Threats On Facebook.

The AP (6/11, Spencer) says, "The gunman who stalked and then fatally shot a grandmother and her 1-year-old grandson inside a Florida supermarket had been threatening to kill people, including children, on his Facebook page but no one reported him, a Florida sheriff said Friday." The AP adds that Timothy Wall "had been making the threats for some time before he walked into a Publix in Royal Palm Beach on Thursday, stalked his victims in the produce aisle before first shooting the child and then the woman before killing himself, Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw and his detectives said."

On ABC World News Tonight (6/11, story 5, 1:24, Muir, 5.41M), correspondent Victor Oguendo reported that "the sheriff's office...revealed that the alleged gunman visited that same public store just two and a half hours before the shooting. There is still no known connection between the gunman and the victims." On the CBS Evening News (6/11, story 4, 1:37, O'Donnell, 3.21M), correspondent Manuel Bojorquez reported deputies indicate that Wall "had declared bankruptcy earlier this year. His ex-wife telling them he had recently started to act strangely."

New Footage Of San Antonio Airport Shooting Released.

ABC World News Tonight (6/11, story 6, 1:29, Muir, 5.41M) reported on recently released footage of a shooting at San Antonio International Airport. Correspondent Kaylee Hartung said, "The just-released video shows people running for their lives when a man jumped out of his car...and began a barrage of gunfire. ... You can see the gunman driving the wrong way into the airport's drop off area. A parked police officer in a "yellow vest moving toward the gunman when he jumps out of the car and opens fire indiscriminately. Cars speeding away as the shooter empties his gun, only stopping to reload as calls to 911 pour in. ... The video then shows the officer taking cover behind a column, returning fire and hitting the gunman, identified as 46-year-old Joe Gomez. Gomez then taking his own life."

Iowa Man Gets Prison Time After Threatening Rep. Nadler.

The Hill (6/12, 5.69M) reports, "An Iowa man was sentenced to more than a year in federal prison for threatening Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-N.Y.)." Kenneth Brown "was sentenced to 15 months in prison for calling Nadler's office and telling a staffer that he would find someone to assassinate the New York Democrat, federal prosecutors said Friday."

Reuters Examines "Trump-Inspired Death Threats" Against Election Workers.

Reuters (6/11, So) reports, "Late on the night of April 24, the wife of Georgia's top election official got a chilling text message: 'You and your family will be killed very slowly.' A week earlier, Tricia Raffensperger, wife of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, had received another anonymous text: 'We plan for the death of you and your family every day.' That followed an April 5 text warning. A family member, the texter told her, was 'going to have a very unfortunate incident.'" Reuters adds, "Those messages, which have not been previously reported, illustrate the continuing barrage of threats and intimidation against election officials and their families months after former U.S. President Donald Trump's November election defeat. While reports of threats against Georgia officials emerged in the heated weeks after the voting, Reuters interviews with more than a dozen election workers and top officials...reveal the previously hidden breadth and severity of the menacing tactics."

Minnesota Woman Charged With Straw Gun Purchases.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/11, Mannix, 855K) reports, "In May, Sarah Jean Elwood bought 47 guns. Elwood is not a hunter or collector. The 33-year-old from Crystal was living in her car. She and her fiancé, Jeffrey Paul Jackson, were purchasing firearms from shops around the Twin Cities and selling them on the black market, according to federal prosecutors." According to the Star Tribune, "By the end of the month, three of the guns had already been confiscated by police in connection with shooting investigations, according to an affidavit underlying the felony federal charges. As gun crimes have surged in the Twin Cities over the past year, schemes like this, known as 'straw purchasing,' play a crucial role in how illegal firearms reach the streets, said Jeff Reed, assistant special agent in charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' St. Paul field office."

Dallas Operation Leads To Drug Charges For At Least 10 People.

In online coverage, KTVT-TV Dallas (6/11) reported that the DEA and the FBI participated in a Dallas operation that led to federal drug charges for at least 10 people. Matthew DeSarno, "Dallas FBI special agent in charge," said the operation involved "one of the most violent parts of the city."

Milwaukee Man Gets 10-Year Prison Sentence In Drug Case.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (6/11, McDermott, 844K) reported that the DEA and the FBI were involved with an investigation that led to the arrest of Milwaukee resident Joseph Copeland, who was "described in court records as a heroin and cocaine trafficking ringleader." On Friday, Copeland was sentenced "to 10 years in federal prison." The AP (6/12) also covered Copeland's sentence.

Man Who Attacked Person Who Asked That He Put Mask Over His Nose Receives Decade In Prison.

The Washington Post (6/12, 10.52M) says that "while shopping for eyeglasses in Des Moines last year, Shane Wayne Michael was approached by a patron and asked" if he could put his mask over his nose. However, Michael "did not take kindly to the question in November, according to a criminal complaint." Police indicate that there was subsequently "a parking-lot fight in which Michael attacked Mark Dinning's eyes and genitals. Dinning told authorities that Michael then pulled down his mask and began to cough and spit in his face." The Post adds that Michael "was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in prison for the violent attack stemming from the mask dispute." The sentence is one of the most severe "yet nationwide related to an argument over face coverings since the start of the pandemic."

Connecticut Raid Operation Leads To Arrest, Seizure Of Illegal Drugs.

The Fairfield (CT) Daily Voice (6/11, Reakes) reported that the FBI participated in a Connecticut raid operation that led to the seizure of illegal drugs and the arrest of a barber named Anthony Sanchez. The operation targeted "the Stylz barbershop...in Bridgeport," Connecticut.

Illinois Man Arrested For Delivery Of A Controlled Substance.

On its website, WJBD-AM Salem, IL (6/11, Kropp) reported that Illinois resident Duan Brown "has been arrested for delivery of a controlled substance after a search warrant was executed on his home." That warrant "was executed by Centralia Police in conjunction with the FBI Drug Task Force."

Three People Found Guilty Of Multiple Kidnappings And Bank Robberies.

The Desoto (MS) Times Tribune (6/11, Clevenger, 13K) reported, "After a federal jury trial," Antonio Johnson, Travis Jackson and Shalundra Johnson "were found guilty of multiple kidnappings and bank robberies that took place in Memphis in 2018 and 2019." Those "robberies and kidnappings were investigated by the DeSoto County Sheriff's Department, Horn Lake Police Department, Memphis Police Department, FBI Safe Streets Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives."

Man Taken Into Custody In Connection With Ohio Bank Robbery.

The Avon-Avon Lake (OH) Patch (6/11, Mosby, 1.44M) reported that an unnamed "has been taken into custody in connection with a bank robbery" in Elyria, Ohio. The FBI "released surveillance footage of the man to the public on Thursday evening," and by "Friday morning, they had identified the man and taken him into custody." The Lorain (OH) Morning Journal (6/11, 47K) identified the bank robbery suspect as Ohio resident Christopher Stanley.

Eight People Indicted In Connection With Massachusetts Drug Investigation.

In website coverage, WWLP-TV Springfield, MA (6/11, 453K) reported, "Eight people from Springfield, Holyoke and Vermont have been indicted" in connection with an investigation of alleged heroin trafficking operation in Massachusetts. The DEA and the FBI were involved with that investigation.

West Virginia Man Convicted Of Attempted Sex Trafficking Of Minor.

WVNews (6/11, Harvey) reported that West Virginia resident George Albert Romer has been convicted "of attempted sex trafficking of a minor." The article quoted Acting US Attorney Lisa Johnston, who stated, "The work of the FBI Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force is critical in our efforts to combat child sexual exploitation."

Ohio Man Charged With Sex Trafficking.

An online WTOL-TV Toledo, OH (6/11, 221K) report said, "A federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment Friday against" Ohio resident Derrick Murphy, who "is charged with sex trafficking and transportation of a minor." The report added, "The FBI's Toledo Resident Agency led the investigation" of this case.

Federal Judge Delays Decision In "Dark Web" Kidnapping Case.

Spokane (WA) Spokesman-Review (6/11, Hill, 187K) reported a federal judge in Spokane "said Friday he'd need more time to determine whether a Spokane neonatal doctor accused of using the 'dark web' to solicit someone to kidnap and extort his estranged wife should be released on bond before trial." US Magistrate Judge John T. Rodgers said, "Much has happened since we were here before," telling Ronald Ilg, "his defense attorneys and prosecutors that he'd take a request for pretrial release with a \$250,000 cash bond under advisement." During Friday's hearing, "Ilg listened in a yellow Spokane County Jail jumpsuit as defense attorney Carl Oreskovich argued prosecutors had publicized 'very sensational' and 'very prejudicial' details about the case, which

was investigated by the FBI after a tip by an international news agency investigating corners of the 'dark web.'"

Tennessee Man Pleads Guilty To Meth Distribution.

The Greeneville (TN) Sun (6/11, Little, 41K) reports, "A Bulls Gap man characterized by law enforcement as a major methamphetamine distributor in Greene and Hawkins counties entered a guilty plea Thursday in U.S. District Court in Greeneville to conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of meth." Michael Chad Myers, 39, "also known as 'Milk Man,' will be sentenced Sept. 24 by U.S. District Court Judge Clifton L. Corker. Myers must serve a 10-year prison sentence, along with a court-imposed term of supervised release, according to a plea agreement with the government." Myers "was the subject of an investigation that began in late 2018 by the 3rd Judicial District Drug Task Force and FBI. Several meth trafficking associates were also part of the investigation. During the course of the investigation, a confidential informant purchased methamphetamine from Myers at his Bulls Gap home eight times between December 2018 and July 2019, court documents state."

PA Police Find Body Of Man Whose Fire Destroyed Multiple Homes.

Fox News (6/11, Casiano, 23.99M) reported the body of a Pennsylvania man "who chased a code enforcement officer with a firearm and engaged in a standoff with police was found hours after multiple explosions and a fire he started destroyed three homes, authorities said Friday." The Lower Providence Township Police Department "said the man was identified as Thomas Razzi, 66, during an autopsy." His body was discovered "around midnight Friday in the Eagleville, Pennsylvania apartment unit where he lived." An investigation into "the fire was conducted by the Lower Providence Township Fire Marshal several other agencies, including the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)."

South Carolina Police Release Picture Of Individual Who Vandalized Congresswoman's Home.

WCSC-TV Charleston, SC (6/11, 69K) reported investigators with the Charleston Police Department "have released a picture of an individual who is suspected of vandalizing Congresswoman Nancy Mace's home last month as well as property at Bishop England High School earlier this year." A report by police "states that analysts have determined that there are similarities noted between both vandalisms and that the same individual is responsible for both incidents."

Jury Finds Man Guilty Of Murder On WA Reservation.

The AP (6/11) reported a Washington state jury has "found a man guilty of first-degree murder Thursday evening in the shooting death of Alillia 'Lala' Minthorn in a remote area of the Yakama reservation." Jordan Everett Stevens was "also found guilty Thursday of discharging a firearm while committing a crime, The Yakima Herald-Republic reported." Minthorn was missing for "nearly a month before her body was discovered in the hills north of Brownstown in a closed area of the Yakama reservation on May 29, 2019. She had been shot in the head." The trial took place "in federal court because Minthorn and Stevens are Native American and the murder occurred on tribal land, where the FBI often assumes jurisdiction in violent crimes." A witness "said she believed Minthorn was killed for talking to FBI agents about something Stevens and another witness had done, according to a trial brief."

Attorneys Saw Woman Fatally Shot By Marshals In Minneapolis Never Saw Gun.

The AP (6/11) reported the woman who was "in a vehicle when members of a federal U.S. Marshals Service task force fatally shot the driver last week said she never saw a gun on the man or in the vehicle, her attorneys said Thursday." The statement from the "woman's attorneys contradicts investigators' claims that Winston Boogie Smith Jr., who was Black, displayed a handgun before officers on the task force opened fire on June 3 in a parking ramp in Minneapolis'

Uptown neighborhood." Authorities have also "said evidence indicated Smith fired his gun, saying a handgun and spent cartridge cases were found inside the vehicle."

Oregon Man Charged With Child Pornography.

The Medford (OR) Mail Tribune (6/12, Morgan, 63K) reports, "A Central Point man faces multiple felony charges accusing him of sharing images of children being sexually abused online." David Jadell Durham-Gendreau, 36, "was arrested Thursday morning on multiple charges of encouraging child sexual abuse charges accusing him of uploading sexually explicit files on Sept. 24 from his home, according to a sheriff's office release issued Friday." The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children "flagged the files uploaded Sept. 24, and alerted the Oregon Department of Justice Internet Crimes Against Children task force that the explicit images stemmed from a Central Point address in the 100 block of Castlewood Court. The Southern Oregon Child Exploitation Team task force – which includes investigators from the sheriff's office, Oregon State Police, Medford police, Grants Pass police, the FBI and Department of Homeland Security special agents – identified Durham-Gendreau as a suspect after further investigation, according to the release."

Texas Man Convicted Of Child Pornography Charges.

The Dallas Morning News (6/11, Bennett, 772K) reports that an Allen, Texas man "who had tens of thousands of images of child pornography has been convicted of three federal charges." Clay Melton Denton, 56, "was found guilty Friday of possession, distribution and receipt of child pornography at the end of a five-day trial in Sherman." The Morning News adds, "Undercover officers in Garland and Plano who received child porn in early 2018 traced the person who sent them the images to Denton's home, authorities said. When FBI agents searched the home in April 2018, they reported the entire second floor was filled with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves containing digital devices, peripherals and manuals, agents testified. During the analysis of the seized devices, which took nearly a year, authorities reported finding tens of thousands of pornographic pictures and videos of children. 'The sheer volume of devices and images recovered by investigators in this case is astounding,' Matthew J. DeSarno, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Dallas office, said in a written statement."

FBI Probing Denver Bank Robbery.

The Denver Gazette (6/12, Mullen) reports that the FBI "and the Denver Police Department are asking for the public's help in identifying a suspect accused of robbing a bank earlier this week." According to the Gazette, "Police learned the man entered a Vectra Bank at 401 E. Speer at noon on Wednesday. The robber was armed with a semi-automatic handgun and fled the scene with an undisclosed amount of money, according to a release from the FBI."

FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

Federal Authorities Seek To Keep Valuables, Cash From Safe Deposit Store Raid.

The New York Post (6/12, Connelly, 7.45M) reports, "The FBI wants to keep \$86 million in cash and millions more in jewelry and other valuables seized in a raid on a Beverly Hills, California, safe deposit box business, even though a judge specifically said the contents of the boxes wasn't up for grabs." Prosecutors "claim it's fair to make the renters of the 369 safe deposit boxes forfeit their valuables, because they were engaged in criminal activity, The Los Angeles Times reported," but "there's no evidence to support the allegation." The Post adds, "The box holders and their lawyers say the FBI is trampling on the rights of people who were unaware the business, U.S. Private Vaults, was charged in a sealed indictment with conspiring to sell drugs and launder money."

Former Official Linked To Failed SC Nuclear Project Pleas Guilty.

The AP (6/11) reported a former official for "the contractor hired to build two South Carolina nuclear reactors that were never completed has pleaded guilty to lying to federal authorities."

Court records show Carl Churchman "entered the plea Thursday." Churchman, the former project director for Westinghouse Electric, the "lead contractor to build two new reactors at the V.C. Summer plant," faces up to "five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine when he's sentenced." Authorities say Churchman "lied to an FBI agent in 2019, saying he wasn't involved in communicating the project timeline with utility executives. He was interviewed again last month and admitted lying."

CYBER DIVISION

NYTimes Analysis: FBI Still Faces Challenges In Digital Financial World Despite Recent Successes.

A New York Times (6/12, Nicas, 20.6M) analysis says that while "criminals have perennially exploited technology to stay a step ahead of law enforcement," the FBI retaliated "the past week with a pair of victories: a seizure of most of the \$4 million ransom in Bitcoin that Russian hackers extorted from an American pipeline operator, and the announcement of a yearslong sting where thousands of suspects were duped into using a messaging app secretly controlled by the authorities." However, the FBI's successes did not do much "to fundamentally alter the challenges for the authorities in an increasingly digital world, according to former law enforcement officials, prosecutors, historians and technology experts." The Times adds that "ultimately, the cases were the latest iteration in the decades-long back and forth between lawbreakers and the F.B.I. in which both sides have seized on technological advances."

McDonald's Suffers Data Breach Of Some Customer, Employee Information.

The Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) says that McDonald's "said Friday that some customer and employee information had been exposed by a data breach affecting its markets in South Korea, Taiwan and the United States." However, the world's largest fast-food chain told the Post that "no customer payment information was exposed in the breach," which "was uncovered by external consultants investigating unauthorized activity on McDonald's internal networks." The Wall Street Journal (6/11, A1, Haddon, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Meanwhile, another Wall Street Journal (6/11, Bunge, Newman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article covers how the ransomware attack on JBS SA affected the broader US food industry, and a separate Wall Street Journal (6/11, Uberti, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article chronicles how the FBI got the ransom back from the hackers of Colonial Pipeline.

Volkswagen Says 3M US, Canadian Customers Exposed In Data Breach. CNN (6/11, Valdes-Dapena, 89.21M) reports on its website that Volkswagen and its luxury brand Audi "have been hit by a data breach that exposed the contact information and, in some cases, personal details, like driver license numbers, of customers in the United States and Canada." CNN adds the automaker "has reached out to 90,000 people in the US – mostly Audi customers or shoppers – who had especially sensitive information taken in the breach." CNN says the data from 2014 to 2019 "was stolen from an outside vendor that VW and Audi and some of their dealers use." NBC Nightly News (6/11, story 9, 0:18, Holt, 4.45M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

Teamsters Refused To Pay Ransom After 2019 Hack. The Teamsters labor union "was hit with a ransomware attack in 2019 but refused to pay the seven-figure payment demanded by hackers, despite being advised by the FBI to do so, a Teamsters spokesperson confirmed to" The Hill (6/11, Castronuovo, 5.69M), which says the cyberattack "first reported by NBC News on Friday...occurred over Labor Day weekend and was not previously revealed to the public." The Hill adds NBC "reported that attackers had demanded \$2.5 million in exchange for restoring the union's access to its electronic files, which included the personal information of millions of active and retired members," but a spokesperson "told NBC that only one of the union's two email systems was frozen, and no personal information was compromised."

US, Russia, Other Nations Reaffirm Norms Regarding Cyber Conduct.

The Washington Post (6/12, 10.52M) reports 25 nations – including the US and Russia – not long

ago "reaffirmed that states should not hack each other's critical infrastructure in peacetime or shelter cyber criminals who conduct attacks on other countries." However, despite being one of the nations that originally consented "to the norms at the United Nations," Russia has breached them again and again "over the years. Experts are skeptical those violations will halt unless the United States and its allies impose far more serious consequences."

Network Security Firm Executive Appears In Court On Charges Originating From Cyberattack On Georgia Hospital. The AP (6/12) reports, "A network security company executive has made an initial court appearance on charges stemming from a 2018 cyberattack on a hospital in Georgia, federal authorities said." The AP paraphrases Acting US Attorney Kurt Erskine as having indicated in a release that Vikas Singla was "arraigned on 17 counts of intentional damage to a protected computer and one count of obtaining information from a protected computer."

Survey: 86% Of Cyber Experts Say Government Has To Mandate That Companies Follow Basic Cybersecurity Standards.

The Washington Post (6/11, Schaffer, 10.52M) reported that 86% of the Cybersecurity 202 Network agrees that the federal government should make certain basic cybersecurity standards mandatory for companies. The survey "comes as the government reels from the Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack, which disrupted gasoline sales and prompted panic buying in the southeastern United States, and the JBS ransomware attack that raised fears of a meat shortage." Until recently, "government officials typically argued that voluntary cybersecurity standards were sufficient because companies would be eager to invest in security to avoid the expense and embarrassment of a major hack." However, "that approach 'has not produced the appropriate level of cybersecurity in many organizations,' said Michael Daniel, who was White House cyber coordinator during the Obama administration."

Network Security CEO Charged With Hacking Georgia Hospital System.

The Miami Herald (6/11, Kenney, 647K) reported a Georgia man has been "charged in a 2018 cyberattack that compromised computer, phone and printer systems at Gwinnett Medical Center hospitals, authorities say." Vikas Singla was indicted Tuesday "in connection with the 2018 cyberattack on two Gwinnett Medical Center hospitals in Lawrenceville and Duluth, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for Georgia's Northern District." Singla allegedly caused "widespread disruptions to the hospitals' phones and network printers, prosecutors said. A grand jury indictment charged him with 17 counts of intentional damage to a protected computer and a count of obtaining information from a protected computer." Chris Hacker, Special Agent in Charge of FBI Atlanta, said in a statement, "This cyberattack on a hospital not only could have had disastrous consequences, but patient's personal information was also compromised. The FBI and our law enforcement partners are determined to hold accountable, those who allegedly put peoples health and safety at risk while driven by greed."

LABORATORY

CNBC Analysis: Calls To Regulate Facial Recognition Surveillance Have "Met With Little Progress."

CNBC (6/12, Feiner, Palmer, 7.34M) reported that after a "year of public discussions over the state of policing in America, the use of facial recognition technology to surveil the public, like many other policing practices, have mostly yet to be reined in." This has left companies "like Amazon and Microsoft, who enacted moratoriums to give Congress time to come up with fair rules of the road, in limbo. IBM, by contrast, said it would exit the business entirely."

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Law Enforcement Agencies Have Trouble Recruiting.

The [AP](#) (6/11, Dazio) reported that law enforcement agencies throughout the nation saw a swell "of retirements and departures and are struggling to recruit the next generation of police officers in the year since George Floyd was killed by a cop." The AP added, "Mass protests and calls for reforming or defunding the police, as well as the coronavirus pandemic, took their toll on officer morale." Research on about 200 law enforcement agencies carried out by the Police Executive Research Forum and given to the AP indicates that "the rate of retirements at some departments rose 45% compared with the previous year." Meanwhile, the group discovered that hiring decelerated by 5%.

The [New York Times](#) (6/11, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports, "Police departments face severe challenges in retaining and recruiting officers, according to new data outlining the steady exodus from an occupation that was the target of protests last year after several high-profile police killings." According to a survey of roughly 200 police departments, "retirements were up by 45 percent and resignations by 18 percent in the period between April 2020 and April 2021, when compared with the preceding 12 months." The Times adds that the proportion of officers who departed showed a tendency to be greater "for departments in big or medium-size cities, according to the Police Executive Research Forum, a Washington policy institute that will release full data next week."

Parson To Sign Measure Banning Missouri Police From Enforcing Federal Firearm Laws.

The [Hill](#) (6/11, Jenkins, 5.69M) reports Missouri Gov. Mike Parson (R) indicated on Thursday that he's going to sign a bill forbidding "state police from enforcing federal gun laws." The Hill adds, "Under the 'Second Amendment Preservation Act,' federal gun laws that regulate registration for weapons and the tracking and possession of weapons by domestic violence offenders will no longer be enforced, according to the Kansas City Star." Moreover, Parson "is set to sign the bill on Saturday during a ceremony at Frontier Justice shooting range, the...Star reported."

Sterling's Children Reach Settlement With Baton Rouge.

On its website, [CNN](#) (6/11, Lynch, Henry, 89.21M) reports, "The five children of Alton Sterling have settled with the city of Baton Rouge for \$4.5 million, according to a statement from their attorneys." A pair of police officers confronted Sterling "outside a convenience store in July 2016," and one of those officers fatally shot him.

WPost Analysis Examines Efforts To Help Survivors Of Boulder Shooting.

A [Washington Post](#) (6/11, 10.52M) analysis says that following a deadly shooting at a King Soopers in Boulder, Colorado that resulted in ten fatalities, "a small army of nonprofits, volunteers and government officials descended on Boulder to help shooting survivors and victim families cope. These groups have offered immediate guidance and support, help with long-term logistics and memorial planning, and more." The Post also says that in the days following the shooting, Boulder and King Soopers rapidly established "the #BoulderStrong Resource Center, where survivors could pick up belongings, talk with King Soopers human resources and receive crisis counseling."

WPost Calls For Court-Appointed Lawyers In Domestic Abuse Cases.

A [Washington Post](#) (6/13, 10.52M) editorial cites the death of 7-month-old Aaden Moreno at the hands of his father in 2015 as emphasizing the need for court-appointed lawyers in domestic abuse cases. The Post laments that "given the staggering scope of domestic violence, that leaves millions of victims on their own when they turn to courts for protection." The Post concludes that for the victims of domestic abuse, "the odds for protection, and for meaningful justice, would be powerfully improved by court-appointed lawyers – and by states that have the foresight to provide them."

WPost Lauds Montgomery County State's Attorney For Supporting Police Reform.

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (6/12, 10.52M) says that while much of the attention has been on police reform after a year of reflection "about the racial disparities in the criminal justice

system" following the killing of George Floyd, there must also "be a reassessment of the prosecutors who wield enormous power in shaping the outcomes of criminal cases." The Post highlights Montgomery County State's Attorney John McCarthy, who "has become the latest reform-minded prosecutor to undertake an examination of whether racial bias plays a role in his office's decisions."

OTHER FBI NEWS

FBI Moves To Crack Down On Sexual Harassment Within Bureau.

The AP (6/11, Mustian, Tucker) reports the FBI "says it is getting serious about sexual harassment in its ranks, starting a 24/7 tip line, doing more to help accusers and taking a tougher stand against agents found to have committed misconduct." The moves come in the wake of 2020 AP reporting that discovered "a series of sexual assault and harassment allegations against senior officials who were allowed to quietly avoid discipline and retire or transfer even after the claims were substantiated." FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate "told the AP that the bureau is sending its strongest message ever that employees who are tempted to engage in sexual misconduct should be scared because if they do so, 'we're coming for them.'" Abbate also said, "That's a strong approach, a forceful shift and we mean it. And it's coming from the top."

Garland Pledges To Protect Voting Rights.

The Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) reports Attorney General Garland in "an expansive speech" on Friday "pledged...to double the size of the Justice Department's voting rights enforcement staff to vigorously combat efforts to restrict ballot access and prosecute those who threaten or harm election workers." The Post says that Garland "invoked the nation's long and at times faltering progress toward ensuring every American's right to vote," and he "likened the fight against current efforts to curtail ballot access to past campaigns to enshrine voting rights for Black Americans in the Constitution and the seminal Voting Rights Act of 1965."

The New York Times (6/11, A1, Benner, Corasaniti, Epstein, 20.6M) reports Garland "laid out an expansive plan on Friday for protecting voting rights," and "served notice to Republicans pushing a raft of restrictive voting laws that he was determined to ensure the right to vote for all Americans." The Times adds Garland "announcing that the Justice Department would double enforcement staff on the issue, scrutinize new state laws that seek to curb voter access and take action if it sees a violation of federal law." The Times says his pledge is "an about-face from the department's near abdication of voting rights enforcement under the Trump administration." ABC World News Tonight (6/11, story 8, 0:24, Muir, 5.41M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

The New York Times (6/11, Benner, 20.6M) reports that "in more than a dozen states, at least 22 new laws have been passed that make it more difficult to vote, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, a progressive public policy institute that is part of the New York University School of Law." The Times adds, "Democrats have filed lawsuits against some new voting laws, but that litigation could take years to wind its way through the courts and may have little power to stop those laws from impacting upcoming elections." The Times says Garland's "top lieutenants include high-profile voting rights advocates such as Vanita Gupta, the department's No. 3 official, and Kristen Clarke, the head of the Civil Rights Division."

The Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) in an editorial criticizes President Biden's attacks on voting reform laws in several states, particularly voter-ID laws, adding that research has shown such laws have no impacts on voting access.

Maine Legislature Expands Voting Access The Hill (6/11, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports the Maine legislature "has approved several measures seeking to expand voting access in the state, including one allowing independent voters to participate in Democratic and Republican primaries." According to The Hill, "The proposal for a semi-open primary system, which has received bipartisan support from state lawmakers, comes as registered Democrats or Republicans have traditionally had to change their party affiliation to participate in the other party's primary

election. Those registered as an independent, unaffiliated or third party were also barred from participating in either the Democratic or Republican primary."

WSJournal Lauds Judge For Keeping MLB From Pulling All-Star Game From Atlanta Over Opposition To Georgia Voting Bill. In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) highlights the Job Creators Network's lawsuit against Major League Baseball in order to return the All-Star Game to Atlanta. The Journal argues District Judge Valerie Caproni's opinion that the plaintiffs lack standing is in line with the law.

NYTimes Analysis: Biden, Garland Face New Questions Over Journalism Protections.

A New York Times (6/12, Savage, 20.6M) analysis says tensions over government leak hunters that "have been ratcheting up pressure on the ability of journalists to do their jobs for a generation – a push fueled by changing technology and fraught national-security issues that arose after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks ... have reached an inflection point." The Times argues that "the confluence of recent events...has brought into focus how fragile the protections for journalism are in the 21st century." The Times adds President Biden "has vowed a major course correction," and Attorney General Merrick Garland "has signed onto that effort while acknowledging...that 'there are some definitional questions, but I think they are quite resolvable.'"

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Biden Meets With G-7 Leaders As Ambassador Posts Remain Empty.

The Hill (6/13, Samuels, 5.69M) reports the lack of confirmed ambassadors in the Biden Administration "is on prominent display during his first trip overseas as he meets with leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, none of which even have an ambassador nominee." According to experts, the situation "may actually hurt the future ambassadors more than it hurts Biden's ability to have a successful trip" as "ambassadors are missing out on chances to sit in on meetings and build their own relationships with their foreign counterparts over the course of a week where Biden is meeting with leaders from the G-7 and NATO – as well as Russian President Vladimir Putin." The Hill says the White House "has repeatedly dodged questions about when the president might roll out his first batch of high profile ambassadorships, even as reporting has already emerged about some of the choices."

New COVID Cases Falling Across The Country.

The AP (6/13, Lovan, Willingham) reports that new US COVID cases "are declining across most of the country, even in some states with vaccine-hesitant populations." The seven-day rolling average has fallen from 21,000 on May 29 to a low of 14,315 on June 12.

Gottlieb: Delta Variant "Probably Going To Become Dominant Strain" In US.

Former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, on CBS' Face The Nation (6/13, 1.94M), discussed the possible spread of COVID variants in the US. Gottlieb said, "In the United States, it's about 10% of infections. It's doubling every two weeks. So it's probably going to become the dominant strain here in the United States. That doesn't mean that we're going to see a sharp uptick in infections, but it does mean that this is going to take over. And I think the risk is really to the fall that this could spike a new epidemic heading into the fall. The vaccines seem to be effective. The mRNA vaccine seems to be highly effective, two doses of that vaccine against this variant. The viral vector vaccines from J&J and AstraZeneca also appear to be effective, about 60% effective. The mRNA vaccines are about 88% effective. So we have the tools to control this and defeat it. We just need to use those tools."

US On Track To Reach 67% Partial Vaccination By July 4.

ABC World News Tonight (6/13, story 2, 2:05, Davis, 4.03M) reported that Monday "marks six months since the first shot," and the US "is now on track to get 67% of adults at least one dose by the fourth of July, missing the President's goal of 70% if the pace doesn't pick up."

New Survey Shows Large Minority Of Adults Remain Undecided On Vaccines. The

CBS Weekend News (6/13, story 4, 2:00, Barnett, 3.59M) reported that while a growing number of major US cities are preparing to lift their COVID lockdowns, many cities "face roadblocks to recovery," and it "includes vaccine anxiety." A CBS poll "finds 29 percent of adults surveyed will not get vaccinated or are still deciding."

Texas Judge Dismisses Case Over Vaccination Mandate.

Bloomberg (6/13, Fisher, 3.57M) reports U.S. District Judge Lynn Hughes "has tossed out a lawsuit brought by employees of a Houston hospital contesting a requirement that staff be vaccinated against Covid-19." Hughes "said the claim from 117 employees of the Houston Methodist Hospital that the requirement amounted to Nazi-era human experimentation was both irrelevant and offensive." The Wall Street Journal (6/13, Gershman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that the opinion read, "This is not coercion. Methodist is trying to do their business of saving lives without giving them the Covid-19 virus," he wrote. "It is a choice made to keep staff, patients and their families safer." NBC Nightly News (6/13, story 6, 2:15, Snow, 3.25M) reported that the ruling comes as additional hospitals, such as New York Presbyterian Hospital System, are announcing similar mandates.

Administration Allocates Additional \$46M To Meet "Unexpected Urgent Refugee And Migrant Needs."

Axios (6/11, Chen, 1.26M) reports the White House on Friday announced President Biden "will devote \$46 million in additional funding to meet 'unexpected urgent refugee and migration needs.'" According to Axios, the funding "will be pulled from the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund and go to international organizations 'related to the humanitarian needs of vulnerable refugees and migrants in Central America and third countries in the region.'" Axios adds the announcement comes after Vice President Harris "met with leaders in Guatemala and Mexico to discuss corruption, human trafficking and migration, part of the Biden administration's effort to stem border crossings by addressing the root causes of migration."

Amnesty International: US Has Been Deporting Unaccompanied Mexican Migrant Children Without Proper Screening. The San Diego Union-Tribune (6/11, Morrissey, 587K) says Amnesty International is alleging that rather than turning unaccompanied migrant children from Mexico "over to the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement, as happens with children of other nationalities, so that they can have their cases heard by immigration judges, U.S. border officials almost always send Mexican minors quickly back south – often in a matter of hours." The Union-Tribune adds that per the report, "between November and April, about 95 percent of Mexican children caught by Border Patrol were repatriated without being handed over to the Office of Refugee Resettlement, or ORR."

Administration Plans to Return Border Wall Funds To Pentagon.

The Wall Street Journal (6/11, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports the White House on Friday announced it would return more than \$2 billion in unused funding allocated for former President Donald Trump's border wall to the Defense Department, while spending the \$1.325 billion that Congress allocated for construction to repair and clean up existing barriers and repair some environmental damage. However, the Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) reports that "neither the White House nor Jesús Ramírez Cuevas, a spokesman for Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, immediately responded" Friday to Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's (R) pledge a day earlier to "begin 'building the border wall' and increase arrests of migrants trying to enter the country in the coming days, proclaiming that 'change is needed to fix the border crisis problem.'"

WPost Report: Biden Administration Blocking Access To Documents Related To Trump Hotel Lease.

The Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) says, "For Donald Trump's entire presidency, top congressional Democrats used every tool at their disposal to investigate the Washington hotel he leased from the federal government," and "the efforts were framed as a defense of democracy

itself." The Post adds, "None of it worked," and "now, with the Biden administration in place, Democrats' efforts to unearth and make public the information haven't gone much better." According to the Post, "Biden's team has steadfastly defended some of the protections the Trump administration put in place to conceal Trump's financial interests. The Justice Department under Biden is appealing a lower court judgment in favor of the congressional Democrats in their suit, another move by the agency to defend Trump-era legal positions."

US Drought Monitor: Western States Facing Worst Extreme Drought Conditions In Over Two Decades.

The New York Times (6/11, Popovich, 20.6M) reports "extreme conditions" in the "intense drought...gripping the American West" are "more widespread than at any point in at least 20 years, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the government's official drought-tracking service. And the hottest months of summer are still to come." The Times adds reservoir levels "are near record lows and mountain snowpack, which slowly releases water in the spring and summer, is largely depleted. In California, water restrictions are already in effect, with more widespread cuts expected. Dry soil conditions are already increasing fire risk." According to the Times, "The West is no stranger to drought, but climate change is making it worse."

Meanwhile, Jonathan Vigliotti reported on the CBS Evening News (6/11, story 6, 2:06, O'Donnell, 3.21M) that Utah's Great Salt Lake "is drying up at historic rates as more than 90% of the state is crippled by extreme drought. Marinas have been abandoned and plumes of lake bed dust have prompted air quality warnings." Vigliotti added Utah Gov. Spencer Cox (R) "has imposed water restrictions" and is "now asking people to pray for rain." Vigliotti concluded, "This is what scientists mean when they say most of the West is in a mega-drought. Utah's Great Salt Lake lived up to its name last year. Where I'm standing right now, I should be submerged in water."

Christian Group With Links To Barrett Facing "Painful Reckoning" Amid Abuse Allegations.

In an approximately 3000 word piece, the Washington Post (6/11, A1, 10.52M) says that Katie Logan during December contacted police in Eden Prairie, Minnesota to reveal "a buried secret: Her high school physics teacher had sexually assaulted her two decades earlier, she said. She was 17 and had just graduated from a school run by a small Christian group called People of Praise." Logan "was encouraged to go to police by a founder of 'PoP Survivors,' a Facebook group formed last fall after the Supreme Court nomination of Amy Coney Barrett, who has deep roots in People of Praise." Barrett's rise to the Supreme Court "has forced a painful reckoning in People of Praise, an insular Christian community that emphasizes traditional gender roles. The former members are now demanding that the group acknowledge their suffering and that it mishandled complaints, prompting People of Praise to hire two law firms to investigate allegations of abuse."

NBC Interviews Immigration Judges About Burnout.

As part of its "American Crossroads" series, NBC Nightly News (6/12, story 12, 2:18, Díaz-Balart, 2.81M) featured an interview with immigration judges, with correspondent Gabe Gutierrez reporting that NBC "spoke with four immigration judges, two active, two retired." One of the judges, San Francisco Immigration Court Judge Dana Leigh Marks, "says many judges battle burnout daily. There's not enough of them. They need more support staff and they say they felt political pressure from their bosses at the Justice Department, which imposed quotas to quickly clear cases." Said Marks, "If I have to move a case quickly through the docket, then that person doesn't have time to find an attorney to represent them because they're not entitled to an appointed counsel by the government."

Washington Prime Group Files Chapter 11 Paperwork.

Reuters (6/14) reports that Washington Prime Group, which operates malls across the country, has "filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Sunday after the COVID-19 pandemic forced it to temporarily close some of its roughly 100 shopping centers across the United States and

businesses were unable to pay it rent." Listed assets "ranged from \$1 billion to \$10 billion as did its estimated liabilities," and it "was in talks for roughly \$100 million of so-called debtor-in-possession financing to aid operations during bankruptcy proceedings."

Supreme Court Considering Whether To Hear Harvard Admissions Case.

The AP (6/13, Sherman) reports the Supreme Court "could say as soon as Monday whether they will hear an appeal claiming that Harvard discriminates against Asian American applicants," though it "would not be argued until the fall or winter." According to the AP, the case "could have nationwide repercussions." The AP adds the "blockbuster issue" would be the third on the Supreme Court's agenda after abortion and guns, which appears to be due to "the new, more conservative composition of the court because similar appeals had been turned away in the past."

US Has Not Yet Lifted Trump Restrictions On Migrants Fleeing Domestic Abuse.

The Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) reports that while President Biden has "signed several executive orders to roll back some of President Donald Trump's most draconian" immigration policies, "a number of other restrictive measures and rulings that directly affect domestic violence survivors remain in place." The Post adds that although Biden "has ordered a review of the entire asylum system to determine whether authorities provide protection to those fleeing domestic or gang violence 'in a manner consistent with international standards,'" and Vice President Harris during her Central America trip last week "vow[ed] to commit millions of dollars to address the root causes of migration," her remarks telling people not to come to the US "may do little to dissuade thousands of women who remain at risk in a region with deeply rooted machismo, entrenched corruption and a weak rule of law."

Critics Urge Administration To End Title 42.

The Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) reports that while "Customs and Border Protection apprehension numbers for May released recently show the share of families – about 20 percent – being expelled under Title 42 continued to decline," the ACLU "is seeking to stop the family expulsions." Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX) "estimated Title 42 – which was issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and has said it is under review – will be lifted by the end of June or early July," according to his conversations with Administration officials, but he also "said the administration's actions are undermining its messaging aimed at stopping or slowing the flow of migration." However, the Post adds immigration advocates and critics of Title 42 "say that it has had the cumulative effect of separating families...and coercing them into making difficult decisions. Some parents sent their children into the United States alone after they were unable to enter together."

Biden Using Cabinet Secretaries To Promote Agenda.

The AP (6/14, Khalil) examines the Biden Administration's efforts to leverage Cabinet secretaries as a means to support its national legislative efforts. Since the beginning of May, Cabinet secretaries "have made dozens of TV appearances and trips around the country, promoting the Biden agenda with an ambitious roadshow."

Pelosi Says She Doesn't "Give Up" On Manchin, Believes Election Reform Is Still Possible.

The Hill (6/13, Schnell, 5.69M) reports House Speaker Pelosi told CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 557K) Sunday that she does not "give up" on Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) after he "announced last week that he will vote against a sweeping bill to overhaul elections, putting the future of the legislation in question in the evenly split Senate." Pelosi said, "I don't give up on Joe Manchin. When he was governor and secretary of state in West Virginia, he initiated many of the initial ideas that are in...the For the People Act." Pelosi said she thinks Manchin "left the door open" and she "expressed optimism about the Senate's chances of ultimately passing the legislation." Pelosi said, "I do know that he has certain concerns about the legislation that we may be able to come to

terms on." Politico (6/13, Reingold, 6.73M) says regardless of Manchin's stance on the bill, Senate Majority Leader Schumer "said last week he plans to hold a vote later this month. But he acknowledged he might be open to tweaking the bill, based on Manchin's position."

AOC: "Old Way Of Politics" Influences Manchin's Thinking. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) said on CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 551K), "I do believe that that old way of politics has absolutely an influence in Joe Manchin's thinking and the way he navigates the body. The things that he cites, like this, I think, romanticism about bipartisanship is about era of Republicans that simply do not exist anymore."

County Election Officials Resigning, Retiring Following Partisan Rancor Of 2020 Election. The AP (6/13, Izaguirre) reports county election officials "are quitting or retiring early" as "the once quiet job of election administration has become a political minefield thanks to the baseless claims of widespread fraud that continue to be pushed by many in the Republican Party." While it is "difficult to quantify exactly how many election officials across the country have left their posts and why," in "places that do track such information, along with anecdotal accounts from county officials, it is clear that many have recently left because of the newfound partisan rancor around the jobs and the threats many local election workers faced leading up to the November election and afterward as former President Donald Trump and his allies challenged the results."

Hiatt: States Seeking To Corrupt The Election Process. Fred Hiatt writes in the Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) that "anti-democracy forces around the country are gnawing at the foundations of America's free and fair elections." State by state, they are "trying to change the rules to allow Donald Trump or someone like him to succeed in 2024 where [former President Donald] Trump tried and failed in 2020: to steal an election that he lost." A report from the groups Protect Democracy, States United Democracy Center and Law Forward found that "bills giving legislators more oversight of elections, allowing them to interfere in the running of elections and otherwise injecting partisanship into the process, already have passed in Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas." As Attorney General Garland and members of Congress "look to defend the franchise, they should examine these efforts to corrupt the process with the same urgency they bring to combating efforts to restrict people's ability to vote."

Pelosi: Senate Filibuster Could Prevent Action On Key Issues.

House Speaker Pelosi was asked on CNN's State Of The Union (6/13, 557K) whether the Senate should eliminate the filibuster. Pelosi said, "As you know, I don't talk about Senate rules and I don't want them messing with our rules. But I do think instead of talking about the filibuster, as I say to our members, let's talk about the issues. Gun violence prevention. Climate initiatives. Issues that relate to the Equality Act in this month of pride, ending discrimination against the LGBTQ community. ... What are the issues that we care about? That's really the discussion. Why do we not have them? Well, that's more of interest to people. There are kitchen table issues about the cost of prescription drugs. We want to give the secretary the power to negotiate for lower prices. If that needs 60 votes, it might not happen."

The Hill Analysis: Tensions Between Centrist, Progressive Democrats Will Get Worse. The Hill (6/13, Stanage, 5.69M) reports growing tensions between centrists and progressives in the Democratic Party "are going to get worse" as President Biden's legislative agenda "is slowing and could soon stall. This is fueling impatience on the left with the president's consensus-seeking approach." Moreover, "next year's midterm elections are starting to loom, upping the stakes in the debate over where the White House - and the party - should go between now and then." The Hill says that "progressives and centrists are digging their respective trenches on three vital issues that look different but are in fact intertwined: Biden's effort to pass an infrastructure bill, the future of the Senate filibuster and the need to safeguard voting rights."

Republican Legislators Flock To Tour Arizona Election Audit.

The Hill (6/12, Wilson, 5.69M) reported that in Phoenix, a "parade of Republican legislators from across the nation have come to observe an audit of the more than 2.1 million votes cast last year in Maricopa County, an examination ordered by the Republican-controlled Arizona state Senate."

On Friday, Arizona legislators "hosted colleagues from Georgia, Utah, Michigan, Washington and Oklahoma. Legislators from Pennsylvania, Alaska, Nevada and Virginia have already stopped in town to observe." Randy Pullen, a former Arizona Republican Party chairman "who is acting as a spokesman for the audit team," said they "want to see the audit and see what we're doing, how we're doing it, what procedures we're using. They want to understand it, what the process is."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pompeo Continues To Defend Legitimacy Of COVID Lab-Leak Theory.

Politico (6/13, Reingold, 6.73M) reports former Secretary of State Pompeo spoke on "Fox News Sunday," where he "insisted...that Covid-19 originated from a Chinese lab." He said, "There's a pile of evidence a hundred feet high."

UK PM Johnson Expected To Delay Full Termination Of COVID Restrictions.

Reuters (6/13, Holden) reports British Prime Minister Boris Johnson "is expected to announce on Monday that the end of COVID-19 restrictions will be delayed following concern about the rapid rise of infections of the Delta variant of the coronavirus." The Johnson Administration had "signaled all social restrictions imposed to control the spread of the disease would be lifted 'no earlier' than June 21, when pubs, clubs and other hospitality venues could fully reopen," but there "has been a fast growth again in the number of new cases caused by the Delta variant" in recent weeks.

Africa Struggles To Acquire Vaccines.

The CBS Weekend News^{*} (6/13, story 9, 2:55, Barnett, 3.59M) reported that Africa "is falling way behind" on the continent's ongoing vaccination efforts. Current data shows that 15 million doses have been delivered to African nations compared to two billion delivered throughout the rest of the world.

EU Nations Expand Pandemic Loan Program For Struggling Companies.

The Wall Street Journal (6/13, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that France, Italy, and other EU nations are continuing to support struggling companies on the verge of bankruptcy through the usage of federal loan programs. The bloc has issued an estimated \$1.8 trillion in loans, state guarantees, and grants since last year, but the bloc's ongoing struggle to revive its economy means that the repayment systems will need to be extended over a longer period of time to prevent the collapse of domestic industries.

Japanese Officials Criticize IOC For Forcing Country To Host The Summer Olympics.

The CBS Weekend News^{*} (6/13, story 7, 2:00, Barnett, 3.59M) reported that while the Summer Olympic games "were supposed to be a moment to celebrate," Japanese citizens and politicians are increasingly voicing their frustration with International Olympic Committee leadership over "cornering Japan into holding the games." The segment says that the official contract, which was signed in 2013, "doesn't give Tokyo the power to scrap the games."

Global Science Community Struggled To Reach Consensus Over COVID Renaming Effort.

The Wall Street Journal (6/13, A1, Hinshaw, Steinhäuser, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that the global community of WHO researchers struggled for months to reach a consensus over the organization's effort to rename new COVID variants. Discarded plans included using bird names, ancient Greek gods, and typical English names.

Nicaraguan Police Jail Five Critics Of Ortega.

Reuters (6/13) reports Nicaraguan police on Saturday "arrested and jailed five prominent opponents of President Daniel Ortega," including "one-time rebel allies who denounced the detentions as an assault on democracy." Reuters says the arrests "marked a deepening political crisis in the Central American nation, ahead of an election in November in which the leftist Ortega,

75, is seeking to extend his 14 years as president." According to Reuters, a senior US diplomat last week "blasted the 'wave of repression' by Ortega and his allies, adding the United States is prepared to review trade relations with Nicaragua if the upcoming election is not free and fair."

WPost Emphasizes Need For US To Help Haiti To Hold Overdue Elections.

A Washington Post (6/11, 10.52M) editorial cautions that "without much more concerted help and pressure from Washington and other influential parties, the spiral of suffering and dysfunction in Haiti, the Western hemisphere's poorest nation, will surely accelerate." The Post adds that elections "are no guarantee of democracy, let alone good governance, but one thing is indisputable: Without them, Haiti has no chance." According to the Post, "no scenario for improving Haiti's prospects – not for good governance, nor for transitioning to order from chaos in the streets – is plausible without elections," given that the country's leader Jovenel Moïse has been "an inept autocrat who has neutered parliament and independent institutions while presiding over, and likely abetting, a tableau of urban gang violence, murder, kidnapping, extortion and intimidation that has made life intolerable for millions." The Post concludes Moïse "must go, and be replaced in free and fair elections."

Blinken: State Department Boosting Resources To Special Immigrant Visas For Afghans.

Secretary of State Blinken, on CNN's State Of The Union^s (6/13, 557K), discussed the Biden Administration's plan to evacuate Afghans who helped US forces during the war. Blinken said, "Evacuation is the wrong word. We plan to help those who put their lives on the line, their families on the line in working with military diplomats. There is a program, special immigrant visas that gives them a dedicated channel to apply to come to the United States. We have put significant resources into making sure that that program can work fast and work effectively so that we can process any request that we get for these so-called special immigrant visas. We've added 50 people here in Washington, the State Department, to help do that. We want to make sure anyone who has helped us, we are making good on an obligation to help them."

Burma Opens Suu Kyi's Corruption Trial.

Reuters (6/14) reports that former Burmese leader Aung San Suu Kyi's corruption trial "was set to start on Monday, as the junta that overthrew her elected government rejected criticism by the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights over its use of deadly force against protesters." She "is due to face trial...on charges of breaching coronavirus regulations while campaigning for the election she won last November and also for possession of unlicensed walkie-talkies."

Japan Seeks To Transform Energy Market By Investment In Hydrogen.

A more than 2,400-word Wall Street Journal (6/13, Dvorak, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) analysis considers how Japan's investment in hydrogen power in a bid to reduce emissions could prove transformative for the energy industry if successful. The Journal highlights that Japanese utilities are seeking to make hydrogen viable as an energy source via the use of ammonia.

Japan Beginning Trial Of Americans Accused Of Helping Ghosn Flee Country.

The AP (6/14, Kageyama) reports that former Green Beret Michael Taylor and his son Peter Taylor, will go on trial in Japan on Monday on charges of "helping former Nissan chairman Carlos Ghosn flee Japan while he was out on bail." The AP says the Americans "are suspected in the Houdini-like operation where Ghosn hid in a box for music equipment that was loaded onto a private jet that flew him to Lebanon, via Turkey in December 2019." The AP adds, "Separately, the trial of another American, Greg Kelly, a former executive vice president at Nissan, is also underway at the Tokyo District Court." According to the AP, Kelly "says he is innocent of the charge of under-reporting Ghosn's compensation and was only involved in finding legal ways to pay Ghosn more to prevent him from leaving the company for a rival automaker."

China Will Launch First Manned Spacecraft Within Days.

Reuters (6/13) reports the Long March-2F Y12 rocket, which will be carrying the Shenzhou-12 spacecraft, "will blast off from the Gobi Desert on a Long March rocket in the coming days, ferrying three men to an orbiting space module for a three-month stay, the first time China has sent humans into space for nearly five years." Reuters says that the launch "will be the third of 11 missions needed to complete China's space station by 2022," and it "will also carry into space the hopes of some in Earth's most populous nation."

British Government Criticize EU Over Position On Northern Ireland.

The AP (6/13) reports British officials "accused European Union leaders on Sunday of holding the 'offensive' view that Northern Ireland is not fully part of the United Kingdom, as Brexit cast a shadow over the Group of Seven summit." The AP attributes the dispute to "post-Brexit trade arrangements that could see British sausages banned from entering Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that borders the 27-nation bloc." The AP adds that President Biden "has even been drawn into the spat, raising concerns about the potential threat to Northern Ireland's peace accord."

Swiss Voters Reject Tax Hike To Fight Climate Change, Support Increased Police Powers.

The AP (6/13) reports exit polls on Sunday "indicated that Swiss voters appear to have narrowly rejected a proposed 'carbon dioxide law' that would have hiked fees and taxes on fuels that produce greenhouse gases," though local media "said not all votes had been counted and the final result was not expected before late Sunday or Monday." The AP adds Swiss voters also rejected an "initiative to improve the quality of drinking water in Switzerland" and a ban on pesticide use, but voters approved "a referendum on the government's COVID-19 law," and "an initiative to grant police enhanced surveillance powers and take preventative actions to help fight terrorism."

Netanyahu Ousted, Bennett Sworn In As Israel's Prime Minister.

NBC Nightly News (6/13, story 3, 1:50, Cobiella, 3.25M) reported Benjamin Netanyahu was "pushed out" as Israeli Prime Minister "in a dramatic, razor-thin vote by an unlikely team of rivals from the right, center, and left, joined for the first time by an Arab Islamist party. ... The new Prime Minister, right-wing politician Naftali Bennett, 49 years old, the son of immigrants from San Francisco, a former commando and tech millionaire who is against a Palestinian state." Bennett "thank[ed] President Biden for supporting Israel and vow[ed] to work with both Republicans and Democrats." Reuters (6/13) reports Biden "said the United States remained committed to Israel's security and would work with its new government. ... In a statement that made no mention of Netanyahu, Biden welcomed the new government coalition...and sought to reaffirm U.S.-Israel ties." The White House said the President spoke with Bennett Sunday "to offer his warm congratulations." the White House said Biden "expressed his firm intent to deepen cooperation between the United States and Israel on the many challenges and opportunities facing the region. The leaders agreed that they and their teams would consult closely on all matters related to regional security, including Iran."

The New York Times (6/13, Pérez-Peña, 20.6M) reports that the Knesset "approved the new government by just a single vote – 60 to 59, with one abstention." Under the new coalition's power-sharing agreement, centrist leader Yair Lapid "is set to take Mr. Bennett's place after two years, if their government can hold together that long. They lead an eight-party alliance ranging from left to right, from secular to religious, that agrees on little but a desire to oust Mr. Netanyahu, the longest-serving leader in the country's history, and to end Israel's lengthy political gridlock." The Washington Post (6/13, 10.52M) says "ultra-Orthodox parties will not be part of the government for the first time, with two brief exceptions, since 1977. Their absence, after forming an unshakable foundation for Netanyahu's governments, could endanger the controversial grip of ultra-Orthodox rabbis on religious and family law and the community's exemption from compulsory military service."

Bloomberg (6/13, Benmeleh, 3.57M) reports Bennett's coalition "will govern with the slimmest majorities – commanding 61 of parliament's 120 seats – and runs the gamut of Israeli

politics: secular and religious factions, hawks and doves, free marketeers and social democrats, and an Arab party for the first time in Israeli history." While "survival could prove a challenge, given the conflicting ideologies," the coalition's "raison d'être – ousting Netanyahu – might prove to be the glue that holds it together to block any comeback bid he might make."

The CBS Weekend News (6/13, story 2, 2:00, D'Agata, 3.59M) reported Bennett "thanked Netanyahu for his service to the country, but said that the job of governing Israel has moved on to the next generation." ABC World News Tonight (6/13, story 4, 1:50, Macfarlane, 4.03M) reported Netanyahu is "not going gracefully." Reuters (6/13) describes the now-former Prime Minister as "combative," and The Hill (6/13, Choi, 5.69M) says he "vowed to regain power shortly before Bennett was sworn in." The AP (6/13, Federman) says Netanyahu "made clear he has no intention of exiting the political stage." He said, "If it is destined for us to be in the opposition, we will do it with our backs straight until we topple this dangerous government and return to lead the country." The Wall Street Journal (6/13, Lieber, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage of the vote.

In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/13, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) highlights what it describes as electoral lessons for the US from the vote in Israel.

IAEA Director-General: World Must Reach Agreement With Iran.

Axios (6/13, Talev, 1.26M) reports about its interview with IAEA Director-General Mariano Grossi, who "[told] 'Axios on HBO' that it's 'essential' to have a nuclear deal with Iran because otherwise 'we are flying blind.'" When "[a]sked whether he believes Iran has an active nuclear weapons program, Grossi responded: 'No, there is no information indicating that at the moment.'"

THE BIG PICTURE

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

Israel Gets New Government To End Netanyahu's 12-Year Rule

G-7 Leaders Rally To Biden's Call To Challenge China

Forget Going Back To The Office—People Are Just Quitting Instead

How Japan's Big Bet On Hydrogen Could Revolutionize The Energy Market

Chip Shortage Brings Frustration but More Business To Industry's Middlemen

Quail? Beta? Scientists Bicker Over What To Call Coronavirus Variants

New York Times:

G7 Leaders Offer United Front As Summit Ends, But Cracks Are Clear

Black Virginians Took Ralph Northam Back. Neither Has Forgotten.

Netanyahu, 'King Of Israel,' Exits A Stage He Dominated

Netanyahu Ousted As Israeli Parliament Votes In New Government

Apple Is Said To Have Turned Over Data On Trump's White House Counsel In 2018

New York Has A Housing Crisis. How Would The Mayoral Candidates Fix It?

Washington Post:

An Experiment In Recycling

US Allies Await Afghan Details

Netanyahu's 12-Year Tenure Comes To End

Transformative Leader Leaves Behind Growing Rift

A Religious Gathering Mired In Controversy

A Stalwart For Trump Made A Choice. Now He May Pay.

Financial Times:

Biden Rallies Western Allies In Global 'Contest' Against Autocrats

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Biden-Overseas; COVID Update; Severe Weather; Israel-Bennett; Trump-McGahn; Gun Violence; South Carolina-Double Homicide; Missouri-Man Wrongfully Convicted of Triple Murder; Woman Has Stroke On Zoom Call; Father & Son Die In Currents; Danish Soccer Star Christian Eriksen-Cardiac Arrest; Ohio-Child Pulled From Pond; 12-Year-Old Girl Baseball Star.

CBS: Biden-Overseas; Israel-Bennett; Trump-McGahn; COVID Update; Severe Weather; French Open; Tokyo Olympics; Florida-Manatee Deaths; COVID-South Africa; California-Great Whites Sighted; Westminster Dog Show; Firefly Tree Houses.

NBC: Biden-Overseas; Biden-Queen Elizabeth; Israel-Bennett; Severe Weather; Danish Soccer Star Christian Eriksen-Cardiac Arrest; Mandatory Vaccines; China-Gas Explosion; Infrastructure-Congestion; Remembering Actor Ned Beatty; French Open; Gigi's Playhouse.

Network TV At A Glance:

Biden-Overseas – 9 minutes, 40 seconds

Israel-Bennett – 5 minutes, 40 seconds

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

- President Biden — receives the President's Daily Brief; meets with His Excellency Kaja Kallas, Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia; His Excellency Egils Levits, President of the Republic of Latvia; and His Excellency Gitanas Nausėda, President of the Republic of Lithuania; greets with His Excellency Jens Stoltenberg, Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; takes a family photo with other NATO leaders; participates in the NATO Summit, where he will affirm the United States' commitment to NATO, Transatlantic security, and collective defense; holds a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey; holds a press conference.
- Vice President Harris — delivers remarks at a COVID vaccination mobilization event at the Phillis Wheatley Community Center; tours a pop-up COVID-19 vaccination site at the YMCA of Greenville; participates in a conversation on voting rights with community leaders.

US Senate:

- Senate debates judicial nomination – Senates convenes and proceeds to executive session to resume consideration of the nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit * Motion to invoke cloture on the nomination passed by 52 votes to 46 last week

Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC; 3:00 PM

US House:

- House Rules Committee hearing – Hearing on 'H.R. 1187' – the legislative vehicle for the Corporate Governance Improvement and Investor Protection Act – and 'H.R. 256 – To repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002'

Location: H-313, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC; 1:00 PM

- House Judiciary subcommittee hearing on potential remedies for unlawful evictions in federal emergency areas – Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties hearing on 'Potential Remedies for Unlawful Evictions in Federal Emergency Areas'

Location: Rm 2141, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 3:00 PM

- Dem Rep.-elect Melanie Stansbury sworn in to fill seat left vacant by Deb Haaland's Cabinet confirmation – House Speaker Nancy Pelosi holds ceremonial swearing-in for Democratic Rep.-elect Melanie Stansbury, who won a special election in New Mexico to fill the seat vacated by then-Democratic Rep. Deb Haaland, who stepped down earlier this year to become secretary

of the interior * Time approximate * Follows Rep.-elect Stansbury's swearing-in on the chamber floor earlier in the day

Location: H-207, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC; 6:40 PM

Cabinet Officers:

- HHS Secretary Becerra and CMS Administrator Brooks-LaSure host press call on HealthCare. Gov Special Enrollment Period – Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure host press call on the HealthCare. Gov Special Enrollment Period, highlighting 'efforts to expand access to quality, affordable health coverage for American families'

Location: Virtual Event; 8:45 AM

- President Biden attends NATO Summit of allied leaders – NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg hosts summit of allied leaders, including President Joe Biden (accompanied by Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin III) and German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Agenda expected to include the threat of terrorism, cyberattacks, emerging and disruptive technologies, the security impact of climate change, Russia, China, the troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, and the future of the 30-nation military alliance * While in Brussels, President Biden also holds bilateral meetings with fellow NATO leaders, including a meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on the sidelines of the summit. Visit is part of the first overseas trip of his presidency

Location: NATO Headquarters, Brussels

Visitors:

- No visitors scheduled.

General Events:

- Brookings / UNU-INRA discussion on 'Bolstering Africa's green transitions' – 'Bolstering Africa's green transitions: The role of an African-European partnership' event co-hosted by the Brookings Africa Growth Initiative and the United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa to launch the discussion paper 'Bridges of Opportunity: Partnering for Africa-Europe Green Development', and the briefing note 'Building Forward Better Towards Africa's Green Transformation: Prospects for Africa-Europe Collaboration'. Speakers include Africa Union Commission Agriculture and Food Security Division Head Simplicie Nouala, U.N. Economic Commission for Africa Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Director Jean-Paul Adam, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Director General Jurgen Karl Zattler, and African Development Bank African Natural Resources Centre Policy Analysis Division Manager Vanessa Ushie

Location: Virtual Event; 9:00 AM

- U.S. Chamber of Commerce discussion on 'Diplomacy in the Pandemic Era' – 'Women Taking the Lead Presents: Diplomacy in the Pandemic Era' U.S. Chamber of Commerce event, with a group of foreign ambassadors discussing diplomacy in the pandemic era and engagement strategies for business. Speakers include Canada Ambassador to the U.S. Amb. Kirsten Hillman, Rwanda Ambassador to the U.S. Amb. Mathilde Mukantabana, and Denmark Ambassador to the U.S. Amb. Lone Dencker Wisborg

Location: Virtual Event; 1:00 PM

- NASA preview upcoming spacewalks (virtual) – NASA media briefing to preview the upcoming ISS Expedition 65 spacewalks. Participants include ISS Program Deputy Manager Dana Weigel, Spacewalk Flight Director Pooja Jesrani, Spacewalk Officer Kieth Johnson, and Gateway Program Manager Dan Hartman

Location: Virtual Event; 2:00 PM

- Brussels Forum (virtual) – Brussels Forum, attended by 'the most influential North American and European political, corporate, and intellectual leaders', on the challenges facing both sides of the Atlantic. Speakers include Vice President Kamala Harris, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, Republican Rep. Mike Turner, Council of Economic Advisers Chair Cecilia Rouse, European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell, Belgian Prime Minister Alexander de Croo and Foreign Minister Sophie Wilmes, UK Member of

Parliament David Lammy, German Bundestag Member Thomas de Maiziere, and Belarusian opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikahnouskaya

Location: Virtual Event

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b7E -3

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Re: BWC Organizational Meeting
To: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI)
Sent: June 14, 2021 11:25 AM (UTC-04:00)

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



b7E -3

From [REDACTED] on behalf of Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI)

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 9:59 AM

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

Subject: FW: BWC Organizational Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:00-12:00.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting/3012

-

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

-----Original Appointment-----

From [REDACTED]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Subject: BWC Organizational Meeting

To:

When: May 25, 2021 11:00:00 AM

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting/3012

Now that we have Matt [REDACTED] on board, I'd like to have a meeting to ensure a successful understanding of roles going forward.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Learn more about Teams](#)

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

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Sent: Monday, 24 May 2021 21:06:02 UTC

To: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Subject: BWC Organizational Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:00 PM-4:00 PM.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting/3012

Now that we have Matt [REDACTED] on board, I'd like to have a meeting to ensure a successful understanding of roles going forward.

FBI (22-cv-00149)-5216

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

[Learn more about Teams](#)

From: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: BWC
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 14, 2021 7:52 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED] Erin,



b5 -1,2
b7E -27

Thanks.
Cecilia

Cecilia O. Bessee
Section Chief
Litigation and Technology Management Section
Litigation Branch, OGC
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Room 10140
Washington, DC 20535
Telephone: Office [REDACTED]

b7E -3

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI SAs
To: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 15, 2021 9:52 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.15_emp sdk.docx

Thanks, Erin.

I appreciate the comments, and I can share them with [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

Also, I may circulate this draft inside OGC today. I was waiting for Tim to circulate to operational divisions, but I had not seen that go out yet.

Stephen

From: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 8:55 AM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI SAs

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Sorry for being a bit late on this but a few minor edits and comments to think about. Happy to discuss.

Erin M. Prest

Deputy General Counsel
Investigative and Administrative Law Branch
Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
JEH, Rm 7350

[REDACTED]

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From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 11:37 AM
To: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED] feenberg,
Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Cc: [REDACTED] Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

FBI (22-cv-00149)-5297

Subject: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI SAs

Tim -

[Redacted]

b5 -1,2

Let me know if you have questions or need anything further at this point.

Stephen

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

[Redacted]

b7E -3

From: Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [Redacted]; Feinberg, Matthew

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

[Redacted] Fomby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI) [Redacted]

Subject: BWC Policy Organizational Meeting
When: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 09:30-10:00.
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

As everyone is aware, we've been given 30 days to draft a SA BWC policy and submit it to DOJ. I've attached a draft version of the memo giving those directions for those who have not seen it yet.

I'd like to hold a brief call to organize our efforts. Between the draft Interim DOJ Policy document and our own work on internal SOPs, I believe we have a significant amount of the necessary material already drafted to form the basis of our submission. [Redacted]

b5 -1,2

Thanks,
Tim

[BWC DAG Directive \(Fed Agents\) 6-6-21.docx](#)

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

Learn more about Teams

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: BWC draft policy
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 15, 2021 1:33 PM (UTC-04:00)

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

[redacted]
Does some of this [redacted]

Thanks,

[redacted]
Unit Chief
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit
Office of the General Counsel, FBI
935 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Room 7350
Washington, DC 20535
Ph. [redacted]

Confidentiality Statement:

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 [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 1:22 PM
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: BWC draft policy

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Steve -

[redacted] sent us the draft BWC policy this morning. [redacted]

b5 -1,2
b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks much.

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: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: BWCs
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 16, 2021 4:02 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Good afternoon,

Today escaped – I am free now and have time tomorrow too, would appreciate a follow up.

Thanks.

[REDACTED]

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 7:58 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWCs

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED]

When you have a minute, I would like to sync up with you on BWCs. I'm not sure what you are seeing at your level, but a lot of activity at mine. Should have a draft policy for review soon, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I'm at Quantico today, but feel free to touch base on my cell if you have time.

Thanks.

Stephen

-

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: BWCs
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: June 16, 2021 8:41 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

Sorry, I had end of the crunch. Lets try tomorrow.

Stephen

-

On Jun 16, 2021 4:01 PM, [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)' [REDACTED] wrote:
Good afternoon,

Today escaped – I am free now and have time tomorrow too, would appreciate a follow up.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 7:58 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: BWCs

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -3

[REDACTED]

When you have a minute, I would like to sync up with you on BWCs. I'm not sure what you are seeing at your level, but a lot of activity at mine. Should have a draft policy for review soon, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I'm at Quantico today, but feel free to touch base on my cell if you have time.

Thanks.

Stephen

-

From: Bulletin Intelligence
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Friday, June 18, 2021
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: June 18, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-04:00)
Attached: FBIDirBriefing210618.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 18, 2021 5:00 AM EDT

US Charges Capitol Siege Defendant With Bringing Firearms To Capitol. The Washington Post (6/17, Hsu, 10.52M) reports that federal prosecutors “for the first time have charged a defendant in the Jan. 6 Capitol breach with violating a federal law that makes it a crime to transport a firearm or explosive for unlawful use in a riot.” According to the Post, “The rare weapons charge was handed up Wednesday in a five-count superseding indictment against Guy Wesley Reffitt, 48, who prosecutors say brought a rifle and semiautomatic handgun to Washington and recruited members to a right-wing Texas Three Percenters group claiming he had created a new security business to circumvent gun laws. ‘We can get ammo and weapons available to law enforcement. . . . The fight has only just begun,’ Reffitt allegedly wrote, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey S. Nestler said earlier this year.” Reffitt, of Wylie, Texas, “previously pleaded not guilty to three charges of obstructing Congress’s joint session to confirm the 2020 presidential election results, trespassing on restricted Capitol grounds and witness tampering.”

CBS News (6/17, McDonald, 5.39M) reports, “The new charges add weight to claims that rioters used weapons during the mob violence and come after dozens of riot defendants have already been charged with wielding other ‘deadly or dangerous’ weapons.” Reffitt “was charged with two new crimes in a superseding indictment Thursday, which alleged that he transported a rifle and a semi-automatic handgun to D.C. and that he carried the semi-automatic handgun while on U.S. Capitol grounds January 6. Reffitt’s wife told prosecutors he is a member of a ‘Three Percenters’ militia – a group that likens present-day U.S. government to the oppression of British authorities during the Revolutionary war – and in an April court filing, the government said that Reffitt had spoken over Zoom with two other Three Percenter militia members on January 10, and told them he had been carrying a .40 firearm on his side January 6.”

CNN (6/17, Cohen, 89.21M) reports that Reffitt “isn’t accused of entering the building itself. But it’s still against the law to breach the perimeter of the Capitol complex and storm past fences and barricades, which Reffitt was photographed doing.” CNN notes that the new charge “undermines Republican efforts to whitewash the January 6 insurrection. GOP lawmakers have pushed false-flag theories that the FBI, antifa or Black Lives Matter were behind the attack. They also claimed the mob was ‘unarmed,’ even though rioters are accused of bringing guns and knives to the Capitol and using bear spray, flagpoles and baseball bats to attack police.”

BuzzFeed News (6/17, Tillman) reports, “Reffitt’s case also underscores that the ongoing investigation is not only yielding new arrests, but also ramping up charges against people who were already arrested. Reffitt was initially arrested on Jan. 16 and indicted two weeks later; the latest indictment adds the weapons charges on top of the three original counts. The first defendant charged with having a gun on the Capitol grounds, Christopher Alberts, also is not accused, so far, of going inside the building.”

HuffPost (6/17, Reilly, 363K) reports, “Reffitt was originally arrested on Jan. 18. His son, who had contacted the FBI about two weeks before the Jan. 6 riot, told the feds that Reffitt made threatening statements. He was ordered held until trial.”

Media: ACA’s Future Seems Secure After SCOTUS Rejects Latest Challenge.

NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 3, 1:50, Díaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported, “The Supreme Court today rejecting a legal challenge to Obamacare brought by a group of red states, keeping the Affordable Care Act alive for the roughly 30 million Americans who depend on it.” NBC (Williams) says that the Court “spared President Obama’s healthcare law, the third time the court rejected a Republican challenge.” The CBS Evening News (6/17, story 3, 1:35, O'Donnell, 3.79M) reported that the Court “turned back another Republican effort to kill” the ACA. CBS (Crawford) adds, “President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law in 2010, with then-Vice President Biden telling him:” Biden: “This is a big f-ing deal.” CBS (Crawford) added that on Thursday, Biden “tweeted that the ruling was a big win and ‘the law remains, as ever, a BFD.’” In its lead story, ABC World News Tonight (6/17, lead story, 3:15, Muir, 5.78M) reported that the ruling “brings relief tonight for the 31 million who depend on it for their insurance. For the young people on their parents’ coverage until they’re 26, and the 54 million Americans with preexisting conditions who are protected by the law. The justices ruling against Texas and 17 other Republican-led states that had sued, support in the their efforts by former President Trump.”

The AP (6/17, Sherman) reports that the Justices, “by a 7-2 vote, left the entire Affordable Care Act intact.” Biden “called for building further on the law.” Reuters (6/17, Hurley) reports that the Biden Administration “in February urged the Supreme Court to uphold Obamacare, reversing the position taken by the government under Trump, who left office in January.”

Bloomberg (6/17, Stohr, 3.57M) reports that opponents of the ACA “were trying to use a Republican-backed 2017 tax change to invalidate the entire law. The change eliminated a feature, the penalty for noncompliance with the individual mandate, that had been central in 2012 when the Supreme Court upheld the law as a legitimate use of Congress’ constitutional taxing power.” Writing for the majority, Justice Stephen Breyer “said the Texas-led group of states and two people who filed the latest suit – later backed by the Trump administration – lacked the right to go to court because they weren’t injured by the provision at the center of the case.” CNBC (6/17, Higgins, Breuninger, 7.34M) reports that Breyer wrote, “Neither the individual nor the state plaintiffs have shown that the injury they will suffer or have suffered is ‘fairly traceable’ to the ‘allegedly unlawful conduct’ of which they complain.” Politico (6/17, Luthi, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports that by “finding that the red states and individual plaintiffs couldn’t contest a change to the law, the conservative justices were essentially shielded from grappling with larger questions about whether Obamacare was no longer constitutional.”

The New York Times (6/17, Liptak, 20.6M) says that the ACA’s “future now seems secure and its potency as a political issue for Republicans reduced.” Similarly, the Washington Post (6/17, Barnes, 10.52M) reports that the decision “felt something like closure to a decade of attempts to overturn the law through the courts. Congress was never able to muster the votes to undo it even when Republicans controlled both chambers.” Politico (6/17, Luthi, 6.73M), for its part, reports that “Democrats and Republicans are offering the same message on Obamacare: The landmark health care law is here to stay.” The ruling “marks a clear turning point in the long-running health care wars that have defined a generation of politics. Even the law’s staunchest foes on Thursday dismissed the chances it would face another life-or-death moment before the courts.”

The Hill (6/17, Sullivan, 5.69M), in its takeaways, says that it is “impossible to ever fully rule out another lawsuit challenging the health law or another repeal push if Republicans win back Congress,” but “after more than 10 years of fighting the Affordable Care Act, GOP efforts at fighting the law are seriously deflated, as many Republicans themselves acknowledge.”

Axios (6/17, Baker, 1.26M) says that the ruling “shows there are some limits to how much of the Republican agenda can be accomplished through the courts, even with a solid conservative majority.” The New York Times (6/17, Liptak, 20.6M) notes that at Justice Amy Coney Barrett’s confirmation hearing in 2020, “Democrats portrayed her as a grave threat to the health care law.” In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/17, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says that SCOTUS ruling against efforts to throw out the ACA shows that Democrats’ claim that the conservative justices move in lock-step is false, and that they, in fact, hold a fairly wide range of legal views.

More broadly, Roll Call (6/17, Ruger, 130K) reports that the decision “turns down the political heat on the Supreme Court — at least in one major controversial area. Justices from both sides of the ideological spectrum joined a majority opinion authored by a liberal justice. And that opinion rested on legal terms that avoided discussions about policy.” The Los Angeles Times (6/17, Savage, 3.37M) reports that Chief Justice John Robert “and his colleagues surprised many by finding a way to bring together those on the right and left, rather than issue the usual 5-4 decision that has often divided the bench on such culture-war cases.” They “did so by keeping the decision narrowly focused and not making a broad pronouncement on the law.” The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Kendall, Bravin, Armour, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) similarly says that the decision showed that the court was still able to find a broad coalition in a politically sensitive case.

USA Today (6/17, Fritze, Wolf, 12.7M) reports that Democrats “praised it as the latest indication of permanency for the controversial law, a centerpiece of former President Barack Obama’s policy agenda, after years in which Republicans in Congress, the White House and several states sought to chip away at its provisions or unwind it entirely.” The Hill (6/17, Oshin, 5.69M) reports that in a series of tweets on Thursday, Obama “applauded the Supreme Court’s Thursday ruling upholding the act, saying it would ensure health insurance for millions.” Obama said, “The principle of universal coverage has been established, and 31 million people now have access to care through the law we passed—with millions more who can no longer be denied coverage or charged more because of a preexisting condition.”

In another piece, Roll Call (6/17, McIntire, 130K) reports that “several health care industry groups had urged the Supreme Court to uphold the law in amicus briefs filed before the November oral arguments. Hospitals, physicians, insurers and others stood to lose financially if the law had been overturned.”

Becerra Lauds SCOTUS ACA Ruling. Asked on CNN (6/17, 608K) about the Supreme Court rejection of the latest attempt to overturn key parts of the Affordable Care Act, Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said, “It’s great to know that the Affordable Care Act is the law of the land. Now there’s no question about it. This is the third time we’ve been before the Supreme Court. ... It’s a great victory – not just for those who believed in the Affordable Care Act – but for the 131 million or so Americans who have a pre-existing condition...to the 31 million Americans who have insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act. ... It’s great news.”

On MSNBC (6/17, 661K), Becerra addressed the possibility of a fourth Supreme Court challenge to the Affordable Care Act, saying, “If we were playing baseball, we would say three strikes, you’re out. By the way if you count the seventy...times that

members in Congress tried to dismantle the law, they've been out a long time. But look, we're going to be ready. ... Health care should be a right, not just a privilege for a few. That's where we're going."

NYT: Democrats Now Have A Chance To Push Forward With Universal Coverage. The New York Times (6/17, Sanger-Katz, Kliff, 20.6M) says that Obamacare "enjoys higher-than-ever public support, with most Americans now favoring the law." Now, Democrats have their "first chance in a decade to press forward on a new campaign: moving the country toward a system of universal health coverage. It seems the end of a period when Democrats played constant defense, fighting back against legislative and legal challenges."

Along those lines, Catherine Rampell writes in the Washington Post (6/17, , 10.52M) that in the wake of Thursday's Supreme Court ruling, which "quashes the latest (and hopefully last) effort to kill the Affordable Care Act," Democrats can "start playing offense again: They can concentrate on expanding, rather than simply maintaining, health coverage." Democrats' "top agenda item should be helping people in the 'Medicaid coverage gap' – that is, the millions of poor people who fell through Obamacare's cracks."

In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says that with the latest defeat of attempts to overturn the ACA in the Supreme Court, "it is past time for Republicans to help make it work better. About 2 million low-income people could get coverage immediately if states such as Georgia, Florida and Texas would expand their Medicaid programs as the law envisioned."

Additional Commentary. Megan McArdle writes in the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) that the Supreme Court's ruling Thursday "marks the third time that John G. Roberts Jr.'s court has rescued" Obamacare "from an existential threat. ... Since no other legal challenges appear on the horizon, and even the feistiest Republicans have given up talking seriously about repeal, it seems safe to say that Obamacare we shall always have with us." McArdle, who says she was "one of Obamacare's most committed critics," says "in a lot of ways," the law was not "as bad as I thought it was going to be," but "that's often because it wasn't as good as my opponents expected, either, which I think most would readily admit." McArdle argues that "even its most zealous boosters should be willing to admit that the program that the Supreme Court saved this week is far from the revolutionary transformation its architects envisioned."

Media Analysis: Biden Made Progress In Europe, But Russia Remains A Challenge. The New York Times (6/17, Sanger, Erlanger, 20.6M) says that Biden "had three big tasks to accomplish on his first foreign trip since taking office: Convince the allies that America was back, and for good; gather them in common cause against the rising threat of China; and establish some red lines for" Putin. The Times says that Biden "largely accomplished the first," and "made inroads on the second, at least in parts of Europe." However, it is not clear that the meeting with Putin "will fundamentally change a bad dynamic."

In an "analysis," Reuters (6/17, Hunnicutt, Lewis) says that Biden "on his first foreign foray sought to cast Russia not as a direct competitor to the United States but as a bit player in a world where Washington is increasingly pre-occupied by China." Aides "wanted to send a message that Putin was isolating himself on the international stage with his actions." However, Biden "could struggle in a parallel attempt to stop the rot in U.S.-Russia relations and deter the threat of nuclear conflict while also talking down Russia, some observers said."

NBC News (6/17, Smith, 4.91M) says that the "pragmatic get-together in Geneva on Wednesday is one that many observers say suits both leaders just fine for the time being."

The New York Times (6/17, Shear, 20.6M) reports that another US president "might have been frustrated, or even angry" by Putin's statements after the summit, but if Biden "was annoyed by his counterpart's performance, there was no sign of it during his own subsequent news conference, or at a later conversation with reporters under the wing of Air Force One before he left Switzerland." Biden's response to Putin "underscored a persistent feature of his presidency: a stubborn optimism that critics say borders on worrisome naïveté and that allies insist is an essential ingredient to making progress."

Republicans Critical Of Biden's Summit Performance. NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 6, 1:15, Díaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported that the White House and Republicans are "offering sharply different views" on how the summit with Putin went. NBC (Bennett) says that the White House is "touting what it calls a successful trip, punctuated by that summit with Russia's Vladimir Putin." The President "says it was important to set some rules of the road in the relationship with Russia that's been eroding for years." However, Republicans are "panning the President's performance."

CNN (6/17, Diaz, 89.21M) reports that, for his part, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy "criticized" the summit with Putin, "saying in a statement on Thursday that Biden 'gave Vladimir Putin a pass.'" McCarthy said in a statement Thursday, "President Biden should have used today's summit to stand up for our national interests and send a message to the world that the United States will hold Russia accountable for its long list of transgressions. Unfortunately, President Biden gave Vladimir Putin a pass."

Following Summits, Russians Portraying Biden In New Light. The New York Times (6/17, Troianovski, 20.6M) reports that while the Russian state media had previously “ridiculed” Biden as “bumbling, confused and well past his prime,” but by Thursday “the mood had shifted: Here was a man in the White House, some said, who understands us, whom we can do business with.” The summit “touched off celebrations on Russia’s often over-the-top political talk shows as well as quieter expressions of cautious optimism in Moscow’s foreign policy establishment.” There “seemed to be broad agreement” that Biden “was a new sort of counterpart, more predictable and professional” than President Trump and “more inclined to reckon with Russian interests than other recent predecessors,” such as President Obama.

Bloomberg (6/17, Rudnitsky, Arkhipov, 3.57M) reports that for his part, Putin “slammed the door on state-media speculation” that Biden “was too old to go toe-to-toe with him after the two met Wednesday for their first summit.” In response to a question from a Russian senator, Putin said, “The image of President Biden that our, and even American, media present has nothing to do with reality. Biden’s a professional, you have to be very attentive with him so as not to miss anything. He doesn’t let anything get by, I assure you.” CNN (6/17, Gaouette, Ullah, 89.21M) reports that Putin’s “praise was striking in part because Russia had tried to portray Biden as mentally unstable during the presidential campaign.” The Washington Post (6/17, Dixon, 10.52M) that the shift “was reflected in pro-Kremlin media: Gone was the usual portrait of the U.S. president as a dodderly threat to global stability. Instead he was the leader of a great power meeting with another leader of a great power.”

Ukrainian Foreign Minister: “Now It’s Time To Make Russia Pull Back From Ukraine.” Reuters (6/17) reports that on Thursday, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba “said...he welcomed” President Biden’s “tough messaging when he met...Putin this week and said now was the time to make Russia withdraw from Ukraine.” Reuters adds, “In the first high-level Ukrainian government reaction since the Biden-Putin summit in Geneva on Wednesday, Kuleba told Reuters that the talks had not caused any concern for Kyiv. ‘This summit demonstrated that America is back, and now it’s time to make Russia pull back from Ukraine,’ Kuleba said in an interview, adding that Moscow has no power of veto over Ukraine’s accession to NATO.” According to Reuters, the Ukrainian government “had been wary of the prospect of Biden and Putin cutting a deal about Ukraine’s future without it being present at the table.”

Axios’ Allen: “Sharp Questions” Needed To Elicit Honest Answers From Officials. Mike Allen of Axios (6/17, Allen, 1.26M) writes, “After eight days of talking on the world stage, President Biden got prickly – then blunt, then reflective – in the final minutes before Air Force One lifted off for home.” Allen continues, “Biden was walking off the stage at his post-summit press conference in Geneva when CNN’s Kaitlan Collins shouted a provocative, but totally fair question after his three hours with Vladimir Putin: ‘Why are you so confident he’ll change his behavior, Mr. President?’” According to Allen, Biden “stopped and snapped as he waved his finger: ‘I’m not confident he’ll change his behavior. Where the hell — what do you do all the time? When did I say I was ‘confident?’ ... I’m not confident of anything.’” According to Allen, “Of course, sharp questions are designed to do exactly what these had done — elicit what the person is really thinking.”

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says Biden’s “flash of frustration briefly revived memories of president Donald Trump’s frequent heated exchanges with the White House press corps, though Biden’s staid summit with Putin was in stark contrast to the deference Trump brought to his interactions with the Russian leader. As his exchange with Collins went viral, some critics jumped to defend the reporter, while others argued that her question unfairly reflected the president’s earlier statements.”

Ignatius: Biden Should Leverage Foreign Success To Advance Domestic Goals. David Ignatius writes in the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) President Biden should “make his foreign success a platform for progress at home.” Biden’s “next challenge, after the successful summits, is to pass key parts of his domestic legislative agenda over objections from Republicans who seem, weirdly, more antagonistic toward him than [Russian President Vladimir] Putin.” Ignatius argues that the President “should use the same tactics that worked in his trip abroad. Negotiate with his adversaries but remind them of his hard options. Be a pragmatic centrist, not bipartisan. Make them worry about the political dangers of obstruction.”

Prosecutors Say Newly Released Video Shows Former NYPD Officer Striking Police With Flagpole During Capitol Siege. The Washington Post (6/17, Kornfield, 10.52M) reports, “A previously unpublished video of the Capitol riot on Jan. 6 captures an alleged rioter wielding a flagpole brawling with a police officer as violence unfolded outside the building.” The Post adds, “A man who the Justice Department identified as Marine veteran and retired New York Police Department officer Thomas Webster, 54, screams profanities at officers, striking at least one with a flagpole before tackling him to the ground in a 56-second clip from the officer’s body camera, which was released Thursday. This is the second such video shared with more than a dozen news outlets that have sued for access to evidence gathered by the Justice Department and available to judges but not the public, CNN first reported.”

Two Georgia Residents Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe.

WRDW-TV

Augusta, GA (6/17, 39K) reports,

"The FBI arrested two more Georgians in connection with the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, but there's a twist." WRDW-TV adds, "According to documents, 21-year-old Nolan Kidd and 20-year-old Savannah McDonald say they marched to the Capitol, where uniformed officers told them they could go in. The FBI was able to search McDonald's Snapchats that allegedly boast about how far they got into the Capitol, calling themselves 'stormtroopers.'" According to WRDW-TV, "Fourteen Georgians have now been arrested following the riot."

Tucker Carlson Questions FBI's Role In Capitol Siege.

Newsweek

(6/17, Palmer, 2.67M) reports, "After

spending months downplaying the seriousness of the attack on the U.S. Capitol, Tucker Carlson is now spreading a conspiracy theory that the FBI helped to orchestrate the entire thing." Newsweek adds, "On Tuesday night, the Fox News host said there were still 'basic factual matters that we don't understand' about the riots of January 6, including why a number of people known to have been present have yet to be charged. Citing an article from the right-wing site Revolver News, Carlson claimed that this could be because the government is 'hiding the identity of many law enforcement officers who were present at the Capitol on January 6,' not just the officer who shot and killed Ashli Babbitt. 'According to the government's own court filings, those law enforcement officers participated in the riots, sometimes in violent ways,' Carlson said."

In an analysis piece for the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M), Philip Bump writes that Carlson "spoke to a writer who had worked for the Trump White House and who alleged that charging documents filed by the Justice Department included a number of unindicted co-conspirators who, in his estimation, were necessarily undercover FBI agents. Carlson ate this theory up, suggesting it showed some sort of 'deep state' involvement in the day's actions. The Washington Post's Aaron Blake walked through the many, many reasons this theory doesn't hold up, such as the fact that undercover FBI agents wouldn't be identified in that way as well as much simpler explanations of who these people were – including, in one case, making obvious that the co-conspirator was the arrested person's wife."

In an analysis piece for the Washington Post (6/16, 10.52M), Aaron Blake writes, "Carlson's theory is essentially that the presence of unindicted co-conspirators in the Capitol riot indictments means those people are government agents and that this, in turn, means the FBI was involved in organizing the riot. The idea has since caught on with conspiratorially minded congressional Republicans." Blake adds, "The theory follows Carlson's well-established style of asking extremely suggestive questions with little basis in evidence – and which are easily disputed – and then treating the answers he likes as fact to build a narrative he prefers." According to Blake, "Legal experts say the government literally cannot name an undercover agent as an unindicted co-conspirator. 'There are many reasons why an indictment would reference unindicted co-conspirators, but their status as FBI agents is not one of them,' said Jens David Ohlin, a criminal law professor at Cornell Law School."

Professors Criticize Wray's Testimony On January 6 Intel Failures.

In an op-ed for the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M), Ryan Goodman, a former special counsel at the Defense Department and a law professor at New York University, and Andrew Weissmann, a law professor at New York University who previously served as general counsel of the FBI, write that FBI Director Wray's recent "stingy, unenlightening testimony" about intelligence failures before the January 6 attack on the Capitol "is particularly disappointing," as "Wray repeatedly failed to provide the information lawmakers seek to perform their oversight role." Goodman and Weissmann argue that "the FBI knew enough to take further action, but failed to do so." They write that Wray's "responsibility for leading the FBI during a foreseeable domestic terrorist attack needs to come under greater scrutiny," and that "he must do more to give lawmakers the information they need to assure this kind of assault does not happen again."

Poll Finds Nearly Half Of Republican Voters Call Capitol Riot "Legitimate Protest."

Forbes

(6/17,

Brewster, 10.33M) reports, "About half of Republican voters characterize the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol as a 'legitimate protest,' according to a new survey published Thursday, a finding that comes as a handful of GOP lawmakers continue to try and cast the riot in a more positive light." Forbes adds, "The Monmouth University poll—conducted June 9 to June 14 in a survey of 810 adults—found 47% of Republican voters say 'legitimate protest' is an 'appropriate term for the U.S. Capitol incident on January 6,' while 39% of independents and just 13% of Democrats say the same," but "a majority of Republicans (62%) also describe January 6 as a 'riot,' meaning a large number of GOP voters have a nuanced understanding of the attack. Nearly nine in ten Democrats (87%) and seven in ten independents (67%) also describe January 6 as a 'riot,' the only definition that drew across-the-board bipartisan support."

FBI Investigating More Louisville, Kentucky Officers For Conduct During Protests.

WAVE-TV

Louisville, KY (6/17, 90K) reports from Louisville, Kentucky, "Former LMPD Officer Cory Evans was the first to be charged federally with civil rights violations related to protests, but he may not be the last." WAVE-TV adds, "FBI Special Agent in Charge Robert Brown told WAVE 3 News the Public Corruption and Civil Rights Task Force is still working on several other similar cases." Evans "was federally charged after being accused of hitting a kneeling protester with a riot stick during the protests in

Breonna Taylor's name. There are other allegations being investigated involving other officers such as Dustin Dean. Dean was seen on live television shooting pepper balls at a WAVE 3 News reporter and photographer."

Iowa Man Pleads Guilty To Shooting Black Girl At Trump Rally. The [AP](#) (6/17, Foley) reports from Iowa City, Iowa, "A supporter of former President Donald Trump has pleaded guilty to felony charges for firing his handgun into a carful of Black girls who were arguing with pro-Trump agitators near the Iowa Capitol last December, injuring one." Michael McKinney, 26, "pleaded guilty Wednesday to intimidation with a dangerous weapon and willful injury," and is "expected to receive a prison term at his Aug. 9 sentencing." The AP adds, "Under a plea agreement that a prosecutor called 'generous,' the state will dismiss four charges including attempted murder and won't seek sentencing enhancements that would require McKinney to serve a mandatory minimum of five years on each count before becoming eligible for parole." McKinney, "an Army veteran and resident of Saint Charles, Iowa, admitted that he intentionally fired into the girls' vehicle, 'causing the occupants to fear serious injury from my action.'"

St. Louis Couple Who Waved Guns At Floyd Protestors Plead Guilty To Reduced Charges. The [AP](#) (6/17) reports that on Thursday, Mark and Patricia McCloskey, the St. Louis residents "who gained notoriety for pointing guns at social justice demonstrators" during the Floyd protests pleaded guilty to reduced misdemeanor charges of harassment and assault based on their actions during the incident. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Mark McCloskey will pay a \$750 fine and Patricia McCloskey will pay a \$2,000 fine. "They also agreed to give up the weapons they used during the confrontation." The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (6/17, Currier, 694K) explains "the couple were indicted last year on charges of unlawful use of a weapon and evidence tampering, both felonies," after they pointed their weapons at protestors who "marched past their home."

The [Washington Post](#) (6/17, 10.52M) reports that Gov. Mike Parson (R-MO) had "said he would pardon the couple if they were convicted," but his spokesperson said the governor has not yet received a formal request from the couple or their attorneys.

Protestors Reflect On Post-Floyd Changes. The [Washington Post](#) (6/17, 10.52M) profiles Floyd protestors as the country moves past the first anniversary of the death of George Floyd. The Post reports that many of these protestors "said they had seen little change in their communities, but had made big changes in their personal lives."

Mayorkas Pledges "Ideology Neutral" Approach To Domestic Terrorism. The [Washington Times](#) (6/17, Dinan, 626K) reports DHS Secretary Mayorkas "said Thursday that his department will take a broad approach to domestic terrorism, realizing that it's not just right-wing extremists who engage in the violence." In a Congressional hearing, Mayorkas "specifically mentioned the 2017 attack by a left-wing activist on Republican lawmakers practicing baseball at a field in Alexandria, Virginia" and "said his department is aware that the threats come from across the ideological spectrum."

House Judiciary Committee Seeks Documents On Trump-Era Probes Of Leaks. [Reuters](#) (6/17, Wolfe) reports that the House Judiciary Committee "on Thursday requested documents from the Justice Department related to the Trump administration's seizure of phone records from lawmakers, journalists and the then-White House counsel as part of its investigations into leaks of classified information." Reuters adds, "The House Democrats, led by Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, sent a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland requesting a wide range of documents before July 1. The documents included any communications between the Justice Department and former President Donald Trump or White House staff relating to the opening of the leaks investigations." The letter "represented the first major public step in an investigation that Nadler announced on Monday."

DOJ's "China Initiative" Waging Legal Campaign Against Chinese Scientists. [Reuters](#) (6/17) reports that the DOJ "China Initiative" project is "aimed at preventing the transfer of U.S. technology to China," and Chinese brain researcher Song Chen "has been charged with lying to investigators and destroying evidence as part of an alleged effort to conceal ties to the Chinese military." Song, who "works for the Xi Diaoyutai Hospital in Beijing," has "pleaded not guilty to the charges and denies being an active-duty member of China's military."

Mistrial In Fraud Case Against Tennessee Professor Prompts Renewed Scrutiny Of "China Initiative." The [Washington Post](#) (6/17, Nakamura, Nakashima, 10.52M) reports, "Federal prosecutors failed to win a conviction this week in a case against a college professor in Tennessee accused of hiding his part-time work for a Chinese university, renewing criticism from civil rights advocates over a Trump-era Justice Department program targeting China's economic espionage." The Post adds, "A Knoxville judge declared a mistrial Wednesday after a 12-member jury deadlocked in the case of Anming Hu, 52, a Chinese Canadian charged in February 2020 with federal counts of wire fraud and making false

statements. Prosecutors alleged that Hu, an associate professor of mechanical, aerospace and biomedical engineering, sought to conceal part-time work for the Beijing University of Technology to satisfy restrictions on grant funding from the U.S. government, including NASA." Hu "was the first academic to stand trial on non-espionage charges under the Justice Department's 'China Initiative.'"

Bill Would Restrict Use Of Surveillance "Stingrays."

BuzzFeed News

(6/17, Haskins) reports,

"Democrats Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon and Rep. Ted Lieu of California are introducing a bill on Thursday that would restrict the use of 'stingray' cell site simulators, powerful surveillance devices capable of intercepting calls, texts, and other information sent to cell phones and determining their current location." According to BuzzFeed News, "Dubbed the Cell-Site Simulator Warrant Act of 2021, the bill would require law enforcement agencies to get a warrant establishing probable cause to investigate criminal activity before using a stingray in almost all cases. It would also require that data collected from anyone not listed as the target of a warrant be deleted." BuzzFeed News adds, "There is currently no federal law regulating the use of these devices – which mimic cellphone towers, connecting to mobile devices and capturing any data sent through them. Because of this, when a stingray is used in a populated area, it can collect information about bystanders, not just a target."

FBI Probing Discovery Of Woman's Remains In Maryland National Park.

McClatchy

(6/17,

Capron, 29K) reports, "Hikers discovered a pair of red Nike shoes and a human foot in a Maryland national park, which led rangers to find the rest of the woman's remains nearby on Saturday, the FBI said." According to McClatchy, "Hikers found the foot in a remote part of the woods, away from established paths of Catoctin Mountain Park, FBI spokeswoman Joy Jiras told The Frederick News-Post. Rangers found the rest of the woman's body, except for a missing hand and foot, fewer than 100 yards away, according to the news outlet. The FBI said officials don't know how long the body was in the park, but the agency is investigating."

CBS News

(6/17, 5.39M) reports, "FBI spokeswoman Joy Jiras said the hikers discovered a separated foot in

a remote area well off any established paths. Jiras said most of the rest of the body was located less than 100 yards away, though another foot and hand were still missing as of Wednesday. The FBI said the woman had long, dark hair with braids, and was wearing a black track suit, wrist guard, and red colored Nike shoes. She was also found with a Puma handbag and a set of keys, containing an El Salvador keychain, authorities said. The FBI released images of some of the woman's possessions."

WMAR-TV

Baltimore (6/18) reports, "While an autopsy may help determine if she was the victim of foul play, the fact her dismembered body turned up about two miles from the presidential retreat at Camp David cannot be ignored. 'The National Park Service and the park rangers, the law enforcement branch, definitely it perks their ears with the proximity to Camp David, but for us, it really at this point is not in play, but we understand the sensitivity that comes with that being next to Camp David,' said FBI Special Agent Richard Ruggieri."

Colorado Man Pleads Guilty To Federal Hate Crime For Oregon Stabbing.

The Denver Post

(6/17,

Nicholson, 660K) reports, "A Colorado man pleaded guilty Thursday to a federal hate crime for stabbing a Black man in the neck in an unprovoked attack at an Oregon fast-food outlet." Nolan Levi Strauss, 27, "pleaded guilty to a hate crime involving an attempt to kill, according to the U.S. attorney's office in Oregon. 'Everyone deserves to go to work without fearing they will be a victim of violence because of how they look or how they live. Racist attacks like this one – powered by hate and grounded in ignorance – strike at the heart of our community,' said Kieran L. Ramsey, special agent in charge of the FBI in Oregon."

News Outlets Seek Release Of FBI Recordings In Plot To Abduct Michigan Governor.

WUOM-

FM Ann Arbor, MI (6/17, Newsroom, 24K) reports that on Wednesday, "lawyers for the New York Times, Buzzfeed as well as The Detroit News, and the Scripps network filed a motion" in federal court to compel "the release of recordings of one of the men accused of plotting to kidnap Gov. Gretchen Whitmer." WUOM explains that "the recordings, made by the FBI, feature Barry Croft Jr., one of 14 men charged in the alleged kidnapping scheme," and have been "entered into evidence...but not released."

Veteran Sentenced For COVID Relief Fraud.

The Washington Post

(6/17, 10.52M) reports, "Last April, as veterans

hospitals struggled to find masks to protect their workers and patients from the coronavirus, a veteran reached out with promises to help. 'Unlike most vendors we are commitment [sic] to providing support during this time and are offering a COVID-19 discount to agencies who need large quantities of these items shipped,' Robert Stewart Jr. wrote to a contracting officer at the Department of Veterans Affairs. 'I am glad I can help . . . support our men/women in uniform and vets.' In fact, Stewart, 35, had no masks and no ability to get them. On Wednesday, he was sentenced in federal court in Virginia to 21 months in prison for using fraudulently obtained covid-19 relief loans in part on fruitless efforts to deliver."

Former Illinois Official Pleads Guilty In Red-Light Camera Bribery Case. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (6/17, Long, 2.03M) reports, "A former suburban Chicago official pleaded guilty Thursday in federal court to plotting to pay bribes to get lucrative red-light cameras installed in Oak Lawn." John O'Sullivan, "a onetime Worth Township supervisor and state lawmaker, admitted to conspiring with longtime political operative Patrick Doherty and an executive representing red-light camera company SafeSpeed to pay \$4,000 in bribes to receive the official support of an Oak Lawn trustee to put the ticketing cameras at additional intersections. O'Sullivan, an ally of former House Speaker Michael Madigan, joined a long line of former elected officials and political operatives who are cooperating with the wide-ranging federal corruption investigation involving everything from red-light cameras to suburban liquor licenses."

Ransomware Claims Roil Segment Of Insurance Industry. The [Washington Post](#) (6/17, Lerman, De Vynck, 10.52M) reports, "The recent surge of ransomware attacks is upending the cyber insurance industry, pushing up the requirements and cost of coverage just as more companies need it." Ransomware attacks "have increased in frequency and severity over the past two years. According to blockchain research firm Chainalysis, ransom payments from companies increased 341 percent to a total of \$412 million during 2020. 'This is a tipping point this year,' said John Kerns, an executive managing director at insurance brokerage Beecher Carlson, a division of Brown & Brown, which sells cyber insurance. 'I've been in business for 32 years and haven't seen a market quite like this.'" The surge is "pushing insurance carriers to reevaluate how much coverage they can afford to offer and how much they have to charge clients to do so."

Professor Examines Role Of Insurance In Ransomware Payments. In an op-ed for the [New York Times](#) (6/17, 20.6M), Dr. Josephine Wolff, an assistant professor of cybersecurity policy at Tufts University, writes, "The announcement last week that U.S. law enforcement officials had managed to recover \$2.3 million of the roughly \$4.4 million ransom that Colonial Pipeline paid hackers was a welcome development," but "it also raises questions about who should bear the costs of ransom payments as the threat of online extortion grows." According to Wolff, "in many cases, insurers shoulder almost all of the financial burden for ransomware victims." Wolff argues that "retrieving ransom payments is an important element in making ransomware less profitable," but "the government should also specify that no more than a quarter of the recouped payments will be returned to the victims," which "creates an incentive for companies to work with law enforcement, but not enough for them to make such payments without a second thought."

CISA "Under Pressure" To Implement Tougher Cybersecurity Requirements. [Federal News Network](#) (6/17, Doubleday, 220) reports CISA is facing calls "to take a more muscular approach to its role overseeing the cybersecurity of critical infrastructure in the wake of the Colonial Pipeline attack and other ransomware incidents." The House Homeland Security Committee this week "highlighted CISA's role as an adviser to more powerful regulatory agencies, as lawmakers raised concerns about the cyber agency's visibility into privately owned critical infrastructure networks." During a hearing Thursday, Ranking Member John Katko (R-NY) pressed DHS Secretary Mayorkas "to support increased funding for CISA beyond the budget request," suggesting the agency is "overwhelmed." Mayorkas "said CISA is focused on expending its already increased budget as wisely as possible"

Senate Confirms Inglis As First White House Cyber Czar. [The Hill](#) (6/17, 5.69M) reports that the Senate on Thursday "unanimously confirmed former National Security Agency (NSA) Deputy Director Chris Inglis as the first White House national cyber director." Senate Majority Leader Schumer "brought up Inglis's nomination for a vote through unanimous consent Thursday afternoon, with no senators objecting." Inglis "will be the first to serve as the White House cyber czar after the position was created as part of the most recent National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). It is an expansion of the previous White House cybersecurity coordinator role that was eliminated in 2018 under the Trump administration, drawing bipartisan backlash at the time."

[Politico](#) (6/17, Geller, 6.73M) reports that Inglis "will coordinate federal agencies' disparate work on cyber issues and oversee the development of the U.S.' digital defense strategy." According to Politico, "The recent ransomware attacks on Colonial Pipeline and the meat processing giant JBS, both attributed to Russian cybercrime gangs, as well as the SolarWinds espionage campaign that intelligence agencies linked to Moscow, thrust cybersecurity into the spotlight on Capitol Hill and prompted renewed scrutiny of the challenges facing the federal government, including its limited understanding of attacks on private companies."

Proposed Senate Bill Would Crack Down On Cyber Criminals. [The Hill](#) (6/17, 5.69M) reports, "A bipartisan group of senators on Thursday unveiled legislation intended to crack down on cyber criminals, who have increasingly posed a threat to critical U.S. organizations." Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Richard

Blumenthal (D-CT) introduced the International Cybercrime Prevention Act, "which would enhance criminal violations for hackers targeting critical infrastructure such as dams, power plants, hospitals and election equipment." The bill "would also expand the Justice Department's ability to go after botnet groups by allowing injunctions against botnets involved in certain destructive cyberattacks, destruction of data or other issues that pose a violation of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act," and "would ban the sale of access to a compromised computer if the buyer intends to use this access to create damage, and it cracks down on sale of certain surveillance and spyware devices."

Graham Says A Deal On Police Reform Could Be Close. The CBS Evening News (6/17, story 7, 1:55, 3.79M) reported that "weeks after missing the President's deadline" on police reform, "negotiations continue." On Thursday, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) "told me a deal could be close."

Fifty Portland Police Officers Resign From Rapid Response Team Amid Charges Against Colleague. The New York Times (6/17, Levenson, 20.6M) reports that on Wednesday night, "a group of about 50 police officers who had served voluntarily" on the Portland Police Department's Rapid Response Team, a specialized crowd control unit, "have stepped down from the squad." The Times says the officers' move comes "just hours after a member of the unit, Officer Corey Budworth, was indicted on a misdemeanor assault charge that he physically injured an independent photojournalist during a protest in August."

Milley Vows To Find Fix For Missing Military Firearms. The AP (6/18, Hall) reports that in remarks before a Congressional Committee on Thursday, Gen. Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "signaled...that he will consider a 'systematic fix' to how the armed services keep account of their firearms" after reports circulated in the press that the four armed services recorded 1,900 guns as "lost or stolen during the 2010s." The AP added that some of these weapons have been used in violent crimes.

Opioid Epidemic Continuing To Plague The US. Bloomberg (6/17, Dmitrieva, Pickert, 3.57M) reports that the opioid epidemic "added a record 90,722 overdose deaths in the U.S. for the year through November 2020," and the epidemic "spread to largely untouched parts of the country – exacerbated by the recession and millions of job losses." The crisis has "cost the U.S. more than \$2.5 trillion from 2015 to 2018."

Louisville, Kentucky SAC To Take New DC Role. WDRB-TV Louisville, KY (6/17, Beane, 303K) reports, "Changes are coming to Louisville's FBI field office. Special Agent in Charge Robert Brown is being promoted and will soon begin his new role as Assistant Director of the FBI's Operational Technology. He will transfer to Washington, D.C." Brown "has been in Louisville more than two years. It's not clear who will fill his shoes at this field office. 'I'm very sad to leave Kentucky. It's been one of the best places I've ever lived,' said Brown." Brown "aid he is proud of the resilience he's seen here in the community. He says his new role is very broad, and will include providing technical solutions to problems. Brown said part of it also involves the FBI's movement toward body cameras."

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TO: THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF
DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 2021 6:30 AM EDT

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Leading the News

US Charges Capitol Siege Defendant With Bringing Firearms To Capitol.

The Washington Post (6/17, Hsu, 10.52M) reports that federal prosecutors "for the first time have charged a defendant in the Jan. 6 Capitol breach with violating a federal law that makes it a crime to transport a firearm or explosive for unlawful use in a riot." According to the Post, "The rare weapons charge was handed up Wednesday in a five-count superseding indictment against Guy Wesley Reffitt, 48, who prosecutors say brought a rifle and semiautomatic handgun to Washington and recruited members to a right-wing Texas Three Percenters group claiming he had created a new security business to circumvent gun laws. 'We can get ammo and weapons available to law enforcement. . . . The fight has only just begun,' Reffitt allegedly wrote, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey S. Nestler said earlier this year." Reffitt, of Wylie, Texas, "previously pleaded not guilty to three charges of obstructing Congress's joint session to confirm the 2020 presidential election results, trespassing on restricted Capitol grounds and witness tampering."

CBS News (6/17, McDonald, 5.39M) reports, "The new charges add weight to claims that rioters used weapons during the mob violence and come after dozens of riot defendants have already been charged with wielding other 'deadly or dangerous' weapons." Reffitt "was charged with two new crimes in a superseding indictment Thursday, which alleged that he transported a rifle and a semi-automatic handgun to D.C. and that he carried the semi-automatic handgun while on U.S. Capitol grounds January 6. Reffitt's wife told prosecutors he is a member of a 'Three Percenters' militia -- a group that likens present-day U.S. government to the oppression of British authorities during the Revolutionary war -- and in an April court filing, the government said that Reffitt had spoken over Zoom with two other Three Percenter militia members on January 10, and told them he had been carrying a .40 firearm on his side January 6."

CNN (6/17, Cohen, 89.21M) reports that Reffitt "isn't accused of entering the building itself. But it's still against the law to breach the perimeter of the Capitol complex and storm past fences and barricades, which Reffitt was photographed doing." CNN notes that the new charge "undermines Republican efforts to whitewash the January 6 insurrection. GOP lawmakers have pushed false-flag theories that the FBI, antifa or Black Lives Matter were behind the attack. They also claimed the mob was 'unarmed,' even though rioters are accused of bringing guns and knives to the Capitol and using bear spray, flagpoles and baseball bats to attack police."

BuzzFeed News (6/17, Tillman) reports, "Reffitt's case also underscores that the ongoing investigation is not only yielding new arrests, but also ramping up charges against people who were already arrested. Reffitt was initially arrested on Jan. 16 and indicted two weeks later; the latest indictment adds the weapons charges on top of the three original counts. The first defendant charged with having a gun on the Capitol grounds, Christopher Alberts, also is not accused, so far, of going inside the building."

HuffPost (6/17, Reilly, 363K) reports, "Reffitt was originally arrested on Jan. 18. His son, who had contacted the FBI about two weeks before the Jan. 6 riot, told the feds that Reffitt made threatening statements. He was ordered held until trial."

Media: ACA's Future Seems Secure After SCOTUS Rejects Latest Challenge.

NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 3, 1:50, Diaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported, "The Supreme Court today rejecting a legal challenge to Obamacare brought by a group of red states, keeping the Affordable Care

Act alive for the roughly 30 million Americans who depend on it." NBC (Williams) says that the Court "spared President Obama's healthcare law, the third time the court rejected a Republican challenge." The CBS Evening News (6/17, story 3, 1:35, O'Donnell, 3.79M) reported that the Court "turned back another Republican effort to kill" the ACA. CBS (Crawford) adds, "President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law in 2010, with then-Vice President Biden telling him:" Biden: "This is a big f-ing deal." CBS (Crawford) added that on Thursday, Biden "tweeted that the ruling was a big win and 'the law remains, as ever, a BFD.'" In its lead story, ABC World News Tonight (6/17, lead story, 3:15, Muir, 5.78M) reported that the ruling "brings relief tonight for the 31 million who depend on it for their insurance. For the young people on their parents' coverage until they're 26, and the 54 million Americans with preexisting conditions who are protected by the law. The justices ruling against Texas and 17 other Republican-led states that had sued, support in the their efforts by former President Trump."

The AP (6/17, Sherman) reports that the Justices, "by a 7-2 vote, left the entire Affordable Care Act intact." Biden "called for building further on the law." Reuters (6/17, Hurley) reports that the Biden Administration "in February urged the Supreme Court to uphold Obamacare, reversing the position taken by the government under Trump, who left office in January."

Bloomberg (6/17, Stohr, 3.57M) reports that opponents of the ACA "were trying to use a Republican-backed 2017 tax change to invalidate the entire law. The change eliminated a feature, the penalty for noncompliance with the individual mandate, that had been central in 2012 when the Supreme Court upheld the law as a legitimate use of Congress' constitutional taxing power." Writing for the majority, Justice Stephen Breyer "said the Texas-led group of states and two people who filed the latest suit -- later backed by the Trump administration -- lacked the right to go to court because they weren't injured by the provision at the center of the case." CNBC (6/17, Higgins, Breuninger, 7.34M) reports that Breyer wrote, "Neither the individual nor the state plaintiffs have shown that the injury they will suffer or have suffered is 'fairly traceable' to the 'allegedly unlawful conduct' of which they complain." Politico (6/17, Luthi, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports that by "finding that the red states and individual plaintiffs couldn't contest a change to the law, the conservative justices were essentially shielded from grappling with larger questions about whether Obamacare was no longer constitutional."

The New York Times (6/17, A1, Liptak, 20.6M) says that the ACA's "future now seems secure and its potency as a political issue for Republicans reduced." Similarly, the Washington Post (6/17, A1, Barnes, 10.52M) reports that the decision "felt something like closure to a decade of attempts to overturn the law through the courts. Congress was never able to muster the votes to undo it even when Republicans controlled both chambers." Politico (6/17, Luthi, 6.73M), for its part, reports that "Democrats and Republicans are offering the same message on Obamacare: The landmark health care law is here to stay." The ruling "marks a clear turning point in the long-running health care wars that have defined a generation of politics. Even the law's staunchest foes on Thursday dismissed the chances it would face another life-or-death moment before the courts."

The Hill (6/17, Sullivan, 5.69M), in its takeaways, says that it is "impossible to ever fully rule out another lawsuit challenging the health law or another repeal push if Republicans win back Congress," but "after more than 10 years of fighting the Affordable Care Act, GOP efforts at fighting the law are seriously deflated, as many Republicans themselves acknowledge."

Axios (6/17, Baker, 1.26M) says that the ruling "shows there are some limits to how much of the Republican agenda can be accomplished through the courts, even with a solid conservative majority." The New York Times (6/17, A1, Liptak, 20.6M) notes that at Justice Amy Coney Barrett's confirmation hearing in 2020, "Democrats portrayed her as a grave threat to the health care law." In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/17, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says that SCOTUS ruling against efforts to

throw out the ACA shows that Democrats' claim that the conservative justices move in lock-step is false, and that they, in fact, hold a fairly wide range of legal views.

More broadly, Roll Call (6/17, Ruger, 130K) reports that the decision "turns down the political heat on the Supreme Court — at least in one major controversial area. Justices from both sides of the ideological spectrum joined a majority opinion authored by a liberal justice. And that opinion rested on legal terms that avoided discussions about policy." The Los Angeles Times (6/17, Savage, 3.37M) reports that Chief Justice John Robert "and his colleagues surprised many by finding a way to bring together those on the right and left, rather than issue the usual 5-4 decision that has often divided the bench on such culture-war cases." They "did so by keeping the decision narrowly focused and not making a broad pronouncement on the law." The Wall Street Journal (6/17, A1, Kendall, Bravin, Armour, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) similarly says that the decision showed that the court was still able to find a broad coalition in a politically sensitive case.

USA Today (6/17, Fritze, Wolf, 12.7M) reports that Democrats "praised it as the latest indication of permanency for the controversial law, a centerpiece of former President Barack Obama's policy agenda, after years in which Republicans in Congress, the White House and several states sought to chip away at its provisions or unwind it entirely." The Hill (6/17, Oshin, 5.69M) reports that in a series of tweets on Thursday, Obama "applauded the Supreme Court's Thursday ruling upholding the act, saying it would ensure health insurance for millions." Obama said, "The principle of universal coverage has been established, and 31 million people now have access to care through the law we passed—with millions more who can no longer be denied coverage or charged more because of a preexisting condition."

In another piece, Roll Call (6/17, McIntire, 130K) reports that "several health care industry groups had urged the Supreme Court to uphold the law in amicus briefs filed before the November oral arguments. Hospitals, physicians, insurers and others stood to lose financially if the law had been overturned."

Becerra Lauds SCOTUS ACA Ruling. Asked on CNN (6/17, 608K) about the Supreme Court rejection of the latest attempt to overturn key parts of the Affordable Care Act, Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said, "It's great to know that the Affordable Care Act is the law of the land. Now there's no question about it. This is the third time we've been before the Supreme Court. ... It's a great victory — not just for those who believed in the Affordable Care Act — but for the 131 million or so Americans who have a pre-existing condition...to the 31 million Americans who have insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act. ... It's great news."

On MSNBC (6/17, 661K), Becerra addressed the possibility of a fourth Supreme Court challenge to the Affordable Care Act, saying, "If we were playing baseball, we would say three strikes, you're out. By the way if you count the seventy...times that members in Congress tried to dismantle the law, they've been out a long time. But look, we're going to be ready. ... Health care should be a right, not just a privilege for a few. That's where we're going."

NYT: Democrats Now Have A Chance To Push Forward With Universal Coverage. The New York Times (6/17, Sanger-Katz, Kliff, 20.6M) says that Obamacare "enjoys higher-than-ever public support, with most Americans now favoring the law." Now, Democrats have their "first chance in a decade to press forward on a new campaign: moving the country toward a system of universal health coverage. It seems the end of a period when Democrats played constant defense, fighting back against legislative and legal challenges."

Along those lines, Catherine Rampell writes in the Washington Post (6/17, , 10.52M) that in the

wake of Thursday's Supreme Court ruling, which "quashes the latest (and hopefully last) effort to kill the Affordable Care Act," Democrats can "start playing offense again: They can concentrate on expanding, rather than simply maintaining, health coverage." Democrats' "top agenda item should be helping people in the 'Medicaid coverage gap' -- that is, the millions of poor people who fell through Obamacare's cracks."

In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says that with the latest defeat of attempts to overturn the ACA in the Supreme Court, "it is past time for Republicans to help make it work better. About 2 million low-income people could get coverage immediately if states such as Georgia, Florida and Texas would expand their Medicaid programs as the law envisioned."

Additional Commentary. Megan McArdle writes in the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) that the Supreme Court's ruling Thursday "marks the third time that John G. Roberts Jr.'s court has rescued" Obamacare "from an existential threat. ... Since no other legal challenges appear on the horizon, and even the feistiest Republicans have given up talking seriously about repeal, it seems safe to say that Obamacare we shall always have with us." McArdle, who says she was "one of Obamacare's most committed critics," says "in a lot of ways," the law was not "as bad as I thought it was going to be," but "that's often because it wasn't as good as my opponents expected, either, which I think most would readily admit." McArdle argues that "even its most zealous boosters should be willing to admit that the program that the Supreme Court saved this week is far from the revolutionary transformation its architects envisioned."

Media Analysis: Biden Made Progress In Europe, But Russia Remains A Challenge.

The New York Times (6/17, Sanger, Erlanger, 20.6M) says that Biden "had three big tasks to accomplish on his first foreign trip since taking office: Convince the allies that America was back, and for good; gather them in common cause against the rising threat of China; and establish some red lines for" Putin. The Times says that Biden "largely accomplished the first," and "made inroads on the second, at least in parts of Europe." However, it is not clear that the meeting with Putin "will fundamentally change a bad dynamic."

In an "analysis," Reuters (6/17, Hunnicutt, Lewis) says that Biden "on his first foreign foray sought to cast Russia not as a direct competitor to the United States but as a bit player in a world where Washington is increasingly pre-occupied by China." Aides "wanted to send a message that Putin was isolating himself on the international stage with his actions." However, Biden "could struggle in a parallel attempt to stop the rot in U.S.-Russia relations and deter the threat of nuclear conflict while also talking down Russia, some observers said."

NBC News (6/17, Smith, 4.91M) says that the "pragmatic get-together in Geneva on Wednesday is one that many observers say suits both leaders just fine for the time being."

The New York Times (6/17, Shear, 20.6M) reports that another US president "might have been frustrated, or even angry" by Putin's statements after the summit, but if Biden "was annoyed by his counterpart's performance, there was no sign of it during his own subsequent news conference, or at a later conversation with reporters under the wing of Air Force One before he left Switzerland." Biden's response to Putin "underscored a persistent feature of his presidency: a stubborn optimism that critics say borders on worrisome naïveté and that allies insist is an essential ingredient to making progress."

Republicans Critical Of Biden's Summit Performance. NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 6, 1:15,

Díaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported that the White House and Republicans are "offering sharply different views" on how the summit with Putin went. NBC (Bennett) says that the White House is "touting what it calls a successful trip, punctuated by that summit with Russia's Vladimir Putin." The President "says it was important to set some rules of the road in the relationship with Russia that's been eroding for years." However, Republicans are "panning the President's performance."

CNN (6/17, Diaz, 89.21M) reports that, for his part, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy "criticized" the summit with Putin, "saying in a statement on Thursday that Biden 'gave Vladimir Putin a pass.'" McCarthy said in a statement Thursday, "President Biden should have used today's summit to stand up for our national interests and send a message to the world that the United States will hold Russia accountable for its long list of transgressions. Unfortunately, President Biden gave Vladimir Putin a pass."

Following Summits, Russians Portraying Biden In New Light. The New York Times (6/17, Troianovski, 20.6M) reports that while the Russian state media had previously "ridiculed" Biden as "bumbling, confused and well past his prime," but by Thursday "the mood had shifted: Here was a man in the White House, some said, who understands us, whom we can do business with." The summit "touched off celebrations on Russia's often over-the-top political talk shows as well as quieter expressions of cautious optimism in Moscow's foreign policy establishment." There "seemed to be broad agreement" that Biden "was a new sort of counterpart, more predictable and professional" than President Trump and "more inclined to reckon with Russian interests than other recent predecessors," such as President Obama.

Bloomberg (6/17, Rudnitsky, Arkhipov, 3.57M) reports that for his part, Putin "slammed the door on state-media speculation" that Biden "was too old to go toe-to-toe with him after the two met Wednesday for their first summit." In response to a question from a Russian senator, Putin said, "The image of President Biden that our, and even American, media present has nothing to do with reality. Biden's a professional, you have to be very attentive with him so as not to miss anything. He doesn't let anything get by, I assure you." CNN (6/17, Gaouette, Ullah, 89.21M) reports that Putin's "praise was striking in part because Russia had tried to portray Biden as mentally unstable during the presidential campaign." The Washington Post (6/17, Dixon, 10.52M) that the shift "was reflected in pro-Kremlin media: Gone was the usual portrait of the U.S. president as a doddering threat to global stability. Instead he was the leader of a great power meeting with another leader of a great power."

Ukrainian Foreign Minister: "Now It's Time To Make Russia Pull Back From Ukraine." Reuters (6/17) reports that on Thursday, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba "said...he welcomed" President Biden's "tough messaging when he met...Putin this week and said now was the time to make Russia withdraw from Ukraine." Reuters adds, "In the first high-level Ukrainian government reaction since the Biden-Putin summit in Geneva on Wednesday, Kuleba told Reuters that the talks had not caused any concern for Kyiv. 'This summit demonstrated that America is back, and now it's time to make Russia pull back from Ukraine,' Kuleba said in an interview, adding that Moscow has no power of veto over Ukraine's accession to NATO." According to Reuters, the Ukrainian government "had been wary of the prospect of Biden and Putin cutting a deal about Ukraine's future without it being present at the table."

Axios' Allen: "Sharp Questions" Needed To Elicit Honest Answers From Officials. Mike Allen of Axios (6/17, Allen, 1.26M) writes, "After eight days of talking on the world stage, President Biden got prickly — then blunt, then reflective — in the final minutes before Air Force One lifted off for home." Allen continues, "Biden was walking off the stage at his post-summit press conference in Geneva when CNN's Kaitlan Collins shouted a provocative, but totally fair question after his three hours with Vladimir Putin: 'Why are you so confident he'll change his behavior, Mr. President?'" According to Allen, Biden

"stopped and snapped as he waved his finger: 'I'm not confident he'll change his behavior. Where the hell — what do you do all the time? When did I say I was 'confident?' ... I'm not confident of anything.' According to Allen, "Of course, sharp questions are designed to do exactly what these had done — elicit what the person is really thinking."

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says Biden's "flash of frustration briefly revived memories of president Donald Trump's frequent heated exchanges with the White House press corps, though Biden's staid summit with Putin was in stark contrast to the deference Trump brought to his interactions with the Russian leader. As his exchange with Collins went viral, some critics jumped to defend the reporter, while others argued that her question unfairly reflected the president's earlier statements."

Ignatius: Biden Should Leverage Foreign Success To Advance Domestic Goals. David Ignatius writes in the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) President Biden should "make his foreign success a platform for progress at home." Biden's "next challenge, after the successful summits, is to pass key parts of his domestic legislative agenda over objections from Republicans who seem, weirdly, more antagonistic toward him than [Russian President Vladimir] Putin." Ignatius argues that the President "should use the same tactics that worked in his trip abroad. Negotiate with his adversaries but remind them of his hard options. Be a pragmatic centrist, not bipartisan. Make them worry about the political dangers of obstruction."

Capitol Violence News

Prosecutors Say Newly Released Video Shows Former NYPD Officer Striking Police With Flagpole During Capitol Siege.

The Washington Post (6/17, Kornfield, 10.52M) reports, "A previously unpublished video of the Capitol riot on Jan. 6 captures an alleged rioter wielding a flagpole brawling with a police officer as violence unfolded outside the building." The Post adds, "A man who the Justice Department identified as Marine veteran and retired New York Police Department officer Thomas Webster, 54, screams profanities at officers, striking at least one with a flagpole before tackling him to the ground in a 56-second clip from the officer's body camera, which was released Thursday. This is the second such video shared with more than a dozen news outlets that have sued for access to evidence gathered by the Justice Department and available to judges but not the public, CNN first reported."

Two Georgia Residents Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe.

WRDW-TV Augusta, GA (6/17, 39K) reports, "The FBI arrested two more Georgians in connection with the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, but there's a twist." WRDW-TV adds, "According to documents, 21-year-old Nolan Kidd and 20-year-old Savannah McDonald say they marched to the Capitol, where uniformed officers told them they could go in. The FBI was able to search McDonald's Snapchats that allegedly boast about how far they got into the Capitol, calling themselves 'stormtroopers.'" According to WRDW-TV, "Fourteen Georgians have now been arrested following the riot."

Tucker Carlson Questions FBI's Role In Capitol Siege.

Newsweek (6/17, Palmer, 2.67M) reports, "After spending months downplaying the seriousness of the attack on the U.S. Capitol, Tucker Carlson is now spreading a conspiracy theory that the FBI helped to orchestrate the entire thing." Newsweek adds, "On Tuesday night, the Fox News host said there were still 'basic factual matters that we don't understand' about the riots of January 6, including why a number of people known to have been present have yet to be charged. Citing an article from the right-wing site Revolver News, Carlson claimed that this could be because the government is 'hiding the identity of many law enforcement officers who were present at the Capitol on January 6,' not just the officer who shot and killed Ashli Babbitt. 'According to the government's own court filings, those law enforcement officers participated in the riots, sometimes in violent ways,' Carlson said."

In an analysis piece for the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M), Philip Bump writes that Carlson "spoke to a writer who had worked for the Trump White House and who alleged that charging documents filed by the Justice Department included a number of unindicted co-conspirators who, in his estimation, were necessarily undercover FBI agents. Carlson ate this theory up, suggesting it showed some sort of 'deep state' involvement in the day's actions. The Washington Post's Aaron Blake walked through the many, many reasons this theory doesn't hold up, such as the fact that undercover FBI agents wouldn't be identified in that way as well as much simpler explanations of who these people were -- including, in one case, making obvious that the co-conspirator was the arrested person's wife."

In an analysis piece for the Washington Post (6/16, 10.52M), Aaron Blake writes, "Carlson's theory is essentially that the presence of unindicted co-conspirators in the Capitol riot indictments means those people are government agents and that this, in turn, means the FBI was involved in organizing the riot. The idea has since caught on with conspiratorially minded congressional Republicans." Blake adds, "The theory follows Carlson's well-established style of asking extremely suggestive questions with little basis in evidence -- and which are easily disputed -- and then treating the answers he likes as fact to build a narrative he prefers." According to Blake, "Legal experts say the government literally cannot name an undercover agent as an unindicted co-conspirator. 'There are many reasons why an indictment would reference unindicted co-conspirators, but their status as FBI agents is not one of them,' said Jens David Ohlin, a criminal law professor at Cornell Law School."

Professors Criticize Wray's Testimony On January 6 Intel Failures.

In an op-ed for the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M), Ryan Goodman, a former special counsel at the Defense Department and a law professor at New York University, and Andrew Weissmann, a law professor at New York University who previously served as general counsel of the FBI, write that FBI Director Wray's recent "stingy, unenlightening testimony" about intelligence failures before the January 6 attack on the Capitol "is particularly disappointing," as "Wray repeatedly failed to provide the information lawmakers seek to perform their oversight role." Goodman and Weissmann argue that "the FBI knew enough to take further action, but failed to do so." They write that Wray's "responsibility for leading the FBI during a foreseeable domestic terrorist attack needs to come under greater scrutiny," and that "he must do more to give lawmakers the information they need to assure this kind of assault does not happen again."

Poll Finds Nearly Half Of Republican Voters Call Capitol Riot "Legitimate Protest."

Forbes (6/17, Brewster, 10.33M) reports, "About half of Republican voters characterize the January 6

attack on the U.S. Capitol as a 'legitimate protest,' according to a new survey published Thursday, a finding that comes as a handful of GOP lawmakers continue to try and cast the riot in a more positive light." Forbes adds, "The Monmouth University poll—conducted June 9 to June 14 in a survey of 810 adults—found 47% of Republican voters say 'legitimate protest' is an 'appropriate term for the U.S. Capitol incident on January 6,' while 39% of independents and just 13% of Democrats say the same," but "a majority of Republicans (62%) also describe January 6 as a 'riot,' meaning a large number of GOP voters have a nuanced understanding of the attack. Nearly nine in ten Democrats (87%) and seven in ten independents (67%) also describe January 6 as a 'riot,' the only definition that drew across-the-board bipartisan support."

Pentagon Warns Congress National Guard Capitol Deployment Reimbursement Necessary To Maintain Readiness.

The Hill (6/17, Kheel, 5.69M) reports failure to reimburse "the National Guard for its months-long deployment protecting the Capitol would be detrimental to the guard's readiness, top Pentagon leaders warned Thursday." Defense Secretary Austin told the Senate Appropriations Committee that if the funding is not approved before the August recess, "It will impact their ability in the near term to be able to train and adequately prepare the guard for its future, for its current responsibilities." Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley "added that a lack of reimbursement for the guard" will have a "significant negative impact on their ability to maintain their readiness."

Protests

FBI Investigating More Louisville, Kentucky Officers For Conduct During Protests.

WAVE-TV Louisville, KY (6/17, 90K) reports from Louisville, Kentucky, "Former LMPD Officer Cory Evans was the first to be charged federally with civil rights violations related to protests, but he may not be the last." WAVE-TV adds, "FBI Special Agent in Charge Robert Brown told WAVE 3 News the Public Corruption and Civil Rights Task Force is still working on several other similar cases." Evans "was federally charged after being accused of hitting a kneeling protester with a riot stick during the protests in Breonna Taylor's name. There are other allegations being investigated involving other officers such as Dustin Dean. Dean was seen on live television shooting pepper balls at a WAVE 3 News reporter and photographer."

Iowa Man Pleads Guilty To Shooting Black Girl At Trump Rally.

The AP (6/17, Foley) reports from Iowa City, Iowa, "A supporter of former President Donald Trump has pleaded guilty to felony charges for firing his handgun into a carful of Black girls who were arguing with pro-Trump agitators near the Iowa Capitol last December, injuring one." Michael McKinney, 26, "pleaded guilty Wednesday to intimidation with a dangerous weapon and willful injury," and is "expected to receive a prison term at his Aug. 9 sentencing." The AP adds, "Under a plea agreement that a prosecutor called 'generous,' the state will dismiss four charges including attempted murder and won't seek sentencing enhancements that would require McKinney to serve a mandatory minimum of five years on each count before becoming eligible for parole." McKinney, "an Army veteran and resident of

Saint Charles, Iowa, admitted that he intentionally fired into the girls' vehicle, 'causing the occupants to fear serious injury from my action.'"

St. Louis Couple Who Waved Guns At Floyd Protestors Plead Guilty To Reduced Charges.

The AP (6/17) reports that on Thursday, Mark and Patricia McCloskey, the St. Louis residents "who gained notoriety for pointing guns at social justice demonstrators" during the Floyd protests pleaded guilty to reduced misdemeanor charges of harassment and assault based on their actions during the incident. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Mark McCloskey will pay a \$750 fine and Patricia McCloskey will pay a \$2,000 fine. "They also agreed to give up the weapons they used during the confrontation." The St. Louis Post-Dispatch (6/17, Currier, 694K) explains "the couple were indicted last year on charges of unlawful use of a weapon and evidence tampering, both felonies," after they pointed their weapons at protestors who "marched past their home."

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) reports that Gov. Mike Parson (R-MO) had "said he would pardon the couple if they were convicted," but his spokesperson said the governor has not yet received a formal request from the couple or their attorneys.

Protestors Reflect On Post-Floyd Changes.

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) profiles Floyd protestors as the country moves past the first anniversary of the death of George Floyd. The Post reports that many of these protestors "said they had seen little change in their communities, but had made big changes in their personal lives."

Counter-Terrorism

Mayorkas Pledges "Ideology Neutral" Approach To Domestic Terrorism.

The Washington Times (6/17, Dinan, 626K) reports DHS Secretary Mayorkas "said Thursday that his department will take a broad approach to domestic terrorism, realizing that it's not just right-wing extremists who engage in the violence." In a congressional hearing, Mayorkas "specifically mentioned the 2017 attack by a left-wing activist on Republican lawmakers practicing baseball at a field in Alexandria, Virginia" and "said his department is aware that the threats come from across the ideological spectrum."

Two Yemeni Detainees At Guantanamo Cleared To Transfer.

Reuters (6/18, Psaledakis, Beech) reports two Yemeni men held "at the Guantanamo Bay military prison in Cuba since 2004 have been cleared for transfer to another country, a U.S. review board determined last week, bringing the prison back into the spotlight." Abd al-Salam al-Hilah "and Sharqawi Abdu Ali al-Hajj were both cleared for transfer," and the US "must seek to find countries willing to take the detainees."

Counter-Intelligence

House Judiciary Committee Seeks Documents On Trump-Era Probes Of Leaks.

Reuters (6/17, Wolfe) reports that the House Judiciary Committee "on Thursday requested documents from the Justice Department related to the Trump administration's seizure of phone records from lawmakers, journalists and the then-White House counsel as part of its investigations into leaks of classified information." Reuters adds, "The House Democrats, led by Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, sent a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland requesting a wide range of documents before July 1. The documents included any communications between the Justice Department and former President Donald Trump or White House staff relating to the opening of the leaks investigations." The letter "represented the first major public step in an investigation that Nadler announced on Monday."

DOJ's "China Initiative" Waging Legal Campaign Against Chinese Scientists.

Reuters (6/17) reports that the DOJ "China Initiative" project is "aimed at preventing the transfer of U.S. technology to China," and Chinese brain researcher Song Chen "has been charged with lying to investigators and destroying evidence as part of an alleged effort to conceal ties to the Chinese military." Song, who "works for the Xi Diaoyutai Hospital in Beijing," has "pleaded not guilty to the charges and denies being an active-duty member of China's military."

Mistrial In Fraud Case Against Tennessee Professor Prompts Renewed Scrutiny Of "China Initiative." The Washington Post (6/17, Nakamura, Nakashima, 10.52M) reports, "Federal prosecutors failed to win a conviction this week in a case against a college professor in Tennessee accused of hiding his part-time work for a Chinese university, renewing criticism from civil rights advocates over a Trump-era Justice Department program targeting China's economic espionage." The Post adds, "A Knoxville judge declared a mistrial Wednesday after a 12-member jury deadlocked in the case of Anming Hu, 52, a Chinese Canadian charged in February 2020 with federal counts of wire fraud and making false statements. Prosecutors alleged that Hu, an associate professor of mechanical, aerospace and biomedical engineering, sought to conceal part-time work for the Beijing University of Technology to satisfy restrictions on grant funding from the U.S. government, including NASA." Hu "was the first academic to stand trial on non-espionage charges under the Justice Department's 'China Initiative.'"

DOD Intelligence Agencies To Release Classified Information To Counter Chinese, Russian Information Threats.

The Washington Times (6/17, Gertz, 626K) reports the Pentagon's intelligence agencies "plan to release classified information to the public and to allies as part of efforts to counter information threats from China and Russia, senior Pentagon and military officials told Congress." Ronald Moultrie, undersecretary of defense for intelligence, "said the release is part of a government-wide effort to counter adversaries' widespread use of disinformation." The DIA and NSA "will make the information

available to the military's combatant commands in response to an appeal last year from nine generals and admirals for more intelligence data to fight foreign disinformation claims." NSA Director Army Gen. Paul Nakasone "said his agency is working to find ways to make intelligence available publicly to ensure 'speed and agility against an adversary.'" DIA Director Lt. Gen. Scott Berrier called the release of intelligence to combat disinformation "really a very, very important activity."

Bill Would Restrict Use Of Surveillance "Stingrays."

BuzzFeed News (6/17, Haskins) reports, "Democrats Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon and Rep. Ted Lieu of California are introducing a bill on Thursday that would restrict the use of 'stingray' cell site simulators, powerful surveillance devices capable of intercepting calls, texts, and other information sent to cell phones and determining their current location." According to BuzzFeed News, "Dubbed the Cell-Site Simulator Warrant Act of 2021, the bill would require law enforcement agencies to get a warrant establishing probable cause to investigate criminal activity before using a stingray in almost all cases. It would also require that data collected from anyone not listed as the target of a warrant be deleted." BuzzFeed News adds, "There is currently no federal law regulating the use of these devices – which mimic cellphone towers, connecting to mobile devices and capturing any data sent through them. Because of this, when a stingray is used in a populated area, it can collect information about bystanders, not just a target."

Continuing Coverage: Lawmakers React To Classified UFO Intelligence Briefing.

KRON-TV San Francisco (6/17, Phenix, 267K) reports several House lawmakers "received the first known briefing on the upcoming UAP/UFO briefing due to Congress by June 25." On Wednesday morning, "officials from the United States Navy and the FBI gave a classified briefing for members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Counterintelligence, and Counterproliferation (C3)." The Guardian (UK) (6/17, Gabbatt, 5.53M) reports Rep. Tim Burchett (R-TN) told TMZ, "Clearly, something's going on that we can't handle." Several others "said they are deeply worried about the findings."

WTTG-TV Washington (6/17, 168K) report Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY) said, "I think it's important to understand that there are legitimate questions involving the safety and security of our personnel, and in our operations and in our sensitive activities, and we all know that there's [a] proliferation of technologies out there. We need to understand the space a little bit better."

In an op-ed for CNN (6/17, 89.21M), Don Lincoln, a senior scientist at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, writes that "officials briefed on the findings have said that the report may muddy the conversation with its ambiguous findings," and that the "expectation of multiple redactions, nominally to avoid revealing the US military's capabilities will surely feed the suspicions of conspiracy theorists."

Former CIA Station Chief: US Should Bring "Havana Syndrome" Attackers To Justice.

In an op-ed for The Washington Times (6/17, 626K), former CIA station chief Daniel Hoffman writes CIA Director Burns is "rightly focused" on identifying the source of the "Havana Syndrome" and that the

Biden Administration "needs to mount a publicly accountable, full-throttled effort to bring the perpetrators of 'Havana Syndrome' to justice."

Criminal Investigations

FBI Probing Discovery Of Woman's Remains In Maryland National Park.

McClatchy (6/17, Capron, 29K) reports, "Hikers discovered a pair of red Nike shoes and a human foot in a Maryland national park, which led rangers to find the rest of the woman's remains nearby on Saturday, the FBI said." According to McClatchy, "Hikers found the foot in a remote part of the woods, away from established paths of Catoctin Mountain Park, FBI spokeswoman Joy Jiras told The Frederick News-Post. Rangers found the rest of the woman's body, except for a missing hand and foot, fewer than 100 yards away, according to the news outlet. The FBI said officials don't know how long the body was in the park, but the agency is investigating."

CBS News (6/17, 5.39M) reports, "FBI spokeswoman Joy Jiras said the hikers discovered a separated foot in a remote area well off any established paths. Jiras said most of the rest of the body was located less than 100 yards away, though another foot and hand were still missing as of Wednesday. The FBI said the woman had long, dark hair with braids, and was wearing a black track suit, wrist guard, and red colored Nike shoes. She was also found with a Puma handbag and a set of keys, containing an El Salvador keychain, authorities said. The FBI released images of some of the woman's possessions."

WMAR-TV Baltimore (6/18) reports, "While an autopsy may help determine if she was the victim of foul play, the fact her dismembered body turned up about two miles from the presidential retreat at Camp David cannot be ignored. 'The National Park Service and the park rangers, the law enforcement branch, definitely it perks their ears with the proximity to Camp David, but for us, it really at this point is not in play, but we understand the sensitivity that comes with that being next to Camp David,' said FBI Special Agent Richard Ruggieri."

Colorado Man Pleads Guilty To Federal Hate Crime For Oregon Stabbing.

The Denver Post (6/17, Nicholson, 660K) reports, "A Colorado man pleaded guilty Thursday to a federal hate crime for stabbing a Black man in the neck in an unprovoked attack at an Oregon fast-food outlet." Nolan Levi Strauss, 27, "pleaded guilty to a hate crime involving an attempt to kill, according to the U.S. attorney's office in Oregon. 'Everyone deserves to go to work without fearing they will be a victim of violence because of how they look or how they live. Racist attacks like this one -- powered by hate and grounded in ignorance -- strike at the heart of our community,' said Kieran L. Ramsey, special agent in charge of the FBI in Oregon."

FBI Agents Fatally Shoot Kidnapping Suspect In New Jersey.

The Bergen (NJ) Record (6/17, Jongsma) reports, "FBI agents shot and killed a man early Wednesday in Leonia in a confrontation that authorities say stemmed from a Philadelphia kidnapping." The Record

adds, "On Wednesday morning, agents from the FBI's Newark office surrounded the apartment complex and, after a lengthy stakeout, shot and killed a man they believed was involved in the kidnapping of a 17-year-old boy from Philadelphia. The shooting left the neighborhood swarmed with law enforcement from a number of agencies for nearly the entire day."

The Fort Lee (NJ) Patch (6/17, Moura, 1.44M) reports from Leonia, New Jersey, "The FBI shooting that resulted in the death of a man early morning on Wednesday happened in connection to an ongoing investigation of a kidnapped Philadelphia teen, according to the FBI." Investigators "had information that the 17-year-old boy was being held at a location in Leonia and available resources were deployed in an effort to return him to safety, the FBI said. Early that morning, FBI Newark agents responded to that location, leading to the confrontation with the man who was fatally shot, officials said."

WABC-TV New York (6/16, Caltabiano, 351K) reports, "Agents shot the suspect during the confrontation in a corner apartment and believed the suspect was armed at the time of the shooting. The kidnapping victim was recovered and was not injured. The FBI released a statement, saying, 'The FBI Newark and Philadelphia Field Offices were involved in a kidnapping investigation in the area of Leonia, NJ. During the course of the confrontation with subjects, one subject was shot and is deceased. The victim was safely recovered. There are no threats to the community. Further information will be released as it becomes available.'"

Eight Shootings In Arizona Leave One Dead, Twelve Injured.

CNN (6/17, Rose, Lynch, 89.21M) reports that on Thursday, four people were shot – one fatally – and an additional nine people were injured "by shrapnel and debris" after a gunman went on "a shooting spree in the northwest suburbs of Phoenix." CNN says the "police pulled over the suspect" in Surprise, Arizona. WJBF-TV Augusta, GA (6/17) also reports.

Continuing Coverage: Leader Of Southern California's "Oxy Bandit" Crew Guilty In Robbery Charges.

The Newport Beach (CA) Patch (6/17, 1.44M) reports a federal court convicted Tyrome "Boobie" Lewis of eight felony charges in connection to his role in "organizing and leading" the Oxy Bandit crew, which "committed 15 armed robberies of independent, mom-and-pop pharmacies across Southern California." The Patch continues, "The guilty verdict stems from a broader investigation of armed pharmacy robberies resulting from a partnership between the FBI and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. ... Since the investigation began in 2019, 19 individuals, including Lewis, have been convicted for their participation in pharmacy robberies, while two defendants await trial."

Ontario Attorney Faces Child Porn Charges In US.

KCAL-TV Los Angeles (6/17) reports that on Thursday, the FBI arrested Sagi Schwartzberg, an attorney in Ontario, on a charge of "producing child pornography" after a local California prosecutor dropped child exploitation charges he was facing in state court. KCAL notes that "the case is being investigated by the FBI in conjunction with the Fontana Police Department, as part of Inland Regional Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force." KTLA-TV Los Angeles (6/17, 348K) also reports.

News Outlets Seek Release Of FBI Recordings In Plot To Abduct Michigan Governor.

WUOM-FM Ann Arbor, MI (6/17, Newsroom, 24K) reports that on Wednesday, "lawyers for the New York Times, BuzzFeed as well as The Detroit News, and the Scripps network filed a motion" in federal court to compel "the release of recordings of one of the men accused of plotting to kidnap Gov. Gretchen Whitmer." WUOM explains that "the recordings, made by the FBI, feature Barry Croft Jr., one of 14 men charged in the alleged kidnapping scheme," and have been "entered into evidence...but not released."

In Oregon, Gunman In Marijuana Robbery Convicted In Federal Case After Co-Defendants Flip.

The Oregonian (6/17, 1.02M) reports that nearly four years after a "double shooting" on Aug. 3, 2017, a federal jury on Thursday "concluded that Ernest Franklin Evans...known on the street as 'Smoke,' was the man who fired a sawed-off shotgun that evening" at two men during "an orchestrated marijuana drug rip." The Oregonian continues that the jury convicted Evans of robbery under the Hobbs Act after two of his co-defendants – including "one who had served in the past as an FBI informant" – testified against him at trial.

Ten Face Federal Charges In Idaho Counterfeit Goods Conspiracy.

The Idaho Statesman (6/17, Scholl, 299K) reports that in Boise on Monday, the selection of the federal jury will begin in a case "surrounding accusations of an expansive, multimillion-dollar conspiracy to sell counterfeit Apple and Samsung cell phones and accessories." The Statesman explains that ten people – Pavel, Gennady, Piotr, Timofey, Kristina and Natalya Babichenko, as well as David Bibikov, Anna Iyerusalimets, Mikhail Iyerusalimets and Artur Pupko – face "dozens of counts of wire fraud, mail fraud, money laundering and trafficking in counterfeit goods" after agents with the FBI and Department of Homeland Security "bought over a dozen counterfeit devices" from the Babichenkos as part of a sting from November 2015 to December 2017.

FBI Arrests Miami Springs Man For Cyberstalking.

Miami Herald (6/17, Karantsalis) reports that on June 3, the FBI arrested Robert Rodriguez for cyber stalking. The Herald explains that after his relationship with a woman ended, Rodriguez harassed her and her new boyfriend "by making 'threatening phone calls, communicating harassing social media messages, and posting nude photos of the victim on multiple fake social media profiles without the victim's consent.'"

State, Federal Officials Investigating Abuse Allegations At Tennessee Child Migrant Shelter.

The Tennessean (6/17, 645K) reports that officials from the Tennessee Department of Children's Services have alerted the FBI and several other law enforcement agencies about allegations of abuse

at a child migrant shelter in Chattanooga. According to the Tennesseean the FBI, Department of Homeland Security, and the inspector general of the Office of Refugee Resettlement have are collaborating with local law enforcement in responding to the case.

Two Arrested After Manhunt In Wisconsin.

WTMJ-TV Milwaukee (6/17, 177K) reports that two suspects have been arrested on drug charges "after an early Thursday morning manhunt" in Bayside, Wisconsin led to a "shelter in place" order for residents. WTMJ notes the FBI was among several law enforcement agencies that participated in the search.

Iowa Man Pleads Not Guilty In Death Of Missing Davenport Girl.

WHO-TV Des Moines, IA (6/17, Cook) reports that Henry Dinkins, "the suspect in the death of a missing Davenport girl," pleaded not guilty to state charges of first-degree murder and kidnapping. WHO notes that FBI agents will serve as witnesses in the case.

International Fugitive Extradited To Sacramento For Lewd Acts With Minor.

KXTV-TV Sacramento, CA (6/17) reports that according to the FBI's Sacramento field office, Victor Ponce, a Mexican national who is accused of committing lewd acts with a child, has been extradited from Mexico to California. KXTV adds that the FBI Legal Attaché Mexico City task force had previously arrested Ponce in February.

Feds Grapple With Housing Issues For Aryan Brotherhood Prisoners.

The San Jose Mercury News (6/17, Gartrell, 432K) reports that federal authorities are struggling "to house more than a dozen suspected members and associates of the Aryan Brotherhood as they move forward with the biggest prosecution of the notorious prison gang in two decades." The Mercury News explains that "there are two main options in the Sacramento area, where the charges were filed in June 2019," but both are caught up in scandals: "One, California State Prison, Sacramento, is being investigated by the FBI for alleged widespread corruption. The other, the Sacramento Jail, acknowledged that it recorded privileged attorney/client meetings last year, an admission only recently made public through a lawsuit by an alleged high-ranking Aryan Brotherhood member."

Accused Mother In "Little Zion" Murder Case Waives Extradition.

KPIX-TV San Francisco (6/17, 110K) reports Samantha Moreno Rodriguez, "the San Jose mother accused of killing her young son and leaving his body" off a trailhead southwest of Las Vegas, "has waived extradition and will return to Nevada after her arrest earlier this month in Colorado." KPIX notes, "She was arrested June 8 by an FBI task force after being named the suspect in the murder of her 7-

year-old son Liam Husted. His body was found off a trailhead southwest of Las Vegas last month, triggering a massive effort to find the identity of the boy dubbed John "Little Zion" Doe."

St. Louis Police Officer Convicted Of Civil Rights Charges.

The AP (6/17) says that on Thursday, a federal jury convicted Dustin Boone "of deprivation of rights under color of law...for aiding other officers who were beating Detective Luther Hall on Sept. 17, 2017." Jurors deadlocked on charges against another officer, Christopher Myers.

FBI Raises Reward For Man Who Killed 7-Year-Old Chicago Girl.

The Times of Northwest Indiana (6/17, 254K) reports the FBI "increased its award total for information helping lead to the arrest of Devontay Davoucci Anderson, a man with Northern Indiana connections, wanted in the shooting death" of Jaslyn Adams, a 7-year-old Chicago girl. The Times explains that Anderson "and another man are accused of firing shots into a vehicle at a McDonald's drive-thru in Homan Square April 18, striking Adams and her father. Adams was shot several times and her father sustained a single gunshot wound, but survived."

Drug Trafficking Investigation Leads To Charges For 25 People.

In online coverage, WFMJ-TV Youngstown, OH (6/17, 30K) reports the DEA, the FBI "and the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotics Investigations" led a drug trafficking investigation that resulted in charges for 25 people. This story is also covered by other media outlets, including the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (6/17, Ove, 426K), the WKBN-TV Youngstown, OH (6/17, Simeon, Gostlin, 286K), the New Castle (PA) News (6/17, Wachter, 11K), the WPXI-TV Pittsburgh (6/17, 149K) website and the KDKA-TV Pittsburgh (6/17, 144K) website.

Massachusetts Man Gets Five-Year Prison Sentence In Fentanyl Case.

The North Andover (MA) Eagle Tribune (6/17, Kirk, 76K) reports Massachusetts resident Yunior Darismir Prandys Torres has been sentenced to five years in prison "for distributing and possessing fentanyl." The DEA was involved with a "coordinated enforcement operation" that led to that sentence, which was announced by Acting US Attorney Nathaniel Mendell "and Joseph Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division."

West Virginia Drug Case Defendant Pleads Guilty.

The Martinsburg (WV) Journal (6/17, 51K) reports West Virginia resident Jaime Renee Coddington has "admitted to working with others to distribute eutylone and cocaine base from October 2019 to April 2020 in Berkeley and Jefferson counties." The FBI was involved with investigating the case against Coddington, who "pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to

distribute eutylone and cocaine base."

Connecticut Man Facing Drug Charge Following FBI Raid.

The Herald of Randolph (VT) (6/17) reports Connecticut resident Shiquan Mangual "was arrested and faces a federal drug charge after the FBI raided" a Vermont residence.

Connecticut Man Sentenced To 78 Months in Prison After Drug Case Guilty Plea.

The Connecticut Post (6/17, O'Neill, 310K) reports Connecticut resident Joseph Diaz got a 78-month prison sentence after pleading guilty "to possession with intent to distribute fentanyl and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime." Members "of the FBI Northern Connecticut Gang Task Force were" involved with the investigation of this case.

Financial Crime & Corporate Scandals

Veteran Sentenced For COVID Relief Fraud.

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) reports, "Last April, as veterans hospitals struggled to find masks to protect their workers and patients from the coronavirus, a veteran reached out with promises to help. 'Unlike most vendors we are commitment [sic] to providing support during this time and are offering a COVID-19 discount to agencies who need large quantities of these items shipped,' Robert Stewart Jr. wrote to a contracting officer at the Department of Veterans Affairs. 'I am glad I can help . . . support our men/women in uniform and vets.' In fact, Stewart, 35, had no masks and no ability to get them. On Wednesday, he was sentenced in federal court in Virginia to 21 months in prison for using fraudulently obtained covid-19 relief loans in part on fruitless efforts to deliver."

Former Illinois Official Pleads Guilty In Red-Light Camera Bribery Case.

The Chicago Tribune (6/17, Long, 2.03M) reports, "A former suburban Chicago official pleaded guilty Thursday in federal court to plotting to pay bribes to get lucrative red-light cameras installed in Oak Lawn." John O'Sullivan, "a onetime Worth Township supervisor and state lawmaker, admitted to conspiring with longtime political operative Patrick Doherty and an executive representing red-light camera company SafeSpeed to pay \$4,000 in bribes to receive the official support of an Oak Lawn trustee to put the licketing cameras at additional intersections. O'Sullivan, an ally of former House Speaker Michael Madigan, joined a long line of former elected officials and political operatives who are cooperating with the wide-ranging federal corruption investigation involving everything from red-light cameras to suburban liquor licenses."

In Indiana, Prosecutors Drop Federal Corruption Charges Against Former Local Official.

The Times of Northwest Indiana (6/16, 254K) reports that in Indiana on Wednesday, Acting US Attorney Tina Nommay "asked a federal judge to dismiss fraud charges that have been pending for seven years against Ethel Shelton," the former executive secretary to Calumet Trustee Mary Elgin who served 10 months in prison for extortion and tax evasion. The Times explains the prosecutor's move comes after an appeals court overturned Shelton's conviction for her role in assisting Elgin's activities because the FBI had "improperly gathered" the evidence against her.

FBI's Los Angeles Field Office Issues Warning On Senior Scams.

The Beverly (CA) Press (6/17) reports the FBI's Los Angeles field office "is warning the public about scams targeting seniors" as part of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which is observed on June 15. The warning comes amid rising losses from fraud targeting seniors: the Press reports that according to FBI data, there was "an increase of approximately \$300 million in losses reported in 2020 versus what was reported by victims over 60 in 2019."

Cyber Division

Former NCSC Chief: Russia Could Stop Cyberattacks "In One Moment."

The Washington Times (6/17, Taylor, 626K) reports Russian President Vladimir Putin has "repeatedly denied Moscow's involvement in the surge of ransomware attacks on US targets," but former NCSC director William Evanina "says there is no question Russian intelligence has influence over the hacking operations." Evanina "generally praised the Biden administration's attempts to elevate the government's response to the growing drumbeat of ransomware and other cyberattacks, but he told The Washington Times in an interview that U.S. intelligence could engage in dramatically more aggressive cyberoperations to counter Russian hacking."

Ransomware Claims Roil Segment Of Insurance Industry.

The Washington Post (6/17, Lerman, De Vynck, 10.52M) reports, "The recent surge of ransomware attacks is upending the cyber insurance industry, pushing up the requirements and cost of coverage just as more companies need it." Ransomware attacks "have increased in frequency and severity over the past two years. According to blockchain research firm Chainalysis, ransom payments from companies increased 341 percent to a total of \$412 million during 2020. 'This is a tipping point this year,' said John Kerns, an executive managing director at insurance brokerage Beecher Carlson, a division of Brown & Brown, which sells cyber insurance. 'I've been in business for 32 years and haven't seen a market quite like this.'" The surge is "pushing insurance carriers to reevaluate how much coverage they can afford to offer and how much they have to charge clients to do so."

Professor Examines Role Of Insurance In Ransomware Payments. In an op-ed for the New York Times (6/17, 20.6M), Dr. Josephine Wolff, an assistant professor of cybersecurity policy at Tufts University, writes, "The announcement last week that U.S. law enforcement officials had managed to recover \$2.3 million of the roughly \$4.4 million ransom that Colonial Pipeline paid hackers was a

welcome development," but "it also raises questions about who should bear the costs of ransom payments as the threat of online extortion grows." According to Wolff, "in many cases, insurers shoulder almost all of the financial burden for ransomware victims." Wolff argues that "retrieving ransom payments is an important element in making ransomware less profitable," but "the government should also specify that no more than a quarter of the recouped payments will be returned to the victims," which "creates an incentive for companies to work with law enforcement, but not enough for them to make such payments without a second thought."

CISA "Under Pressure" To Implement Tougher Cybersecurity Requirements.

Federal News Network (6/17, Doubleday, 220) reports CISA is facing calls "to take a more muscular approach to its role overseeing the cybersecurity of critical infrastructure in the wake of the Colonial Pipeline attack and other ransomware incidents." The House Homeland Security Committee this week "highlighted CISA's role as an adviser to more powerful regulatory agencies, as lawmakers raised concerns about the cyber agency's visibility into privately owned critical infrastructure networks." During a hearing Thursday, Ranking Member John Katko (R-NY) pressed DHS Secretary Mayorkas "to support increased funding for CISA beyond the budget request," suggesting the agency is "overwhelmed." Mayorkas "said CISA is focused on expending its already increased budget as wisely as possible"

Senate Confirms Inglis As First White House Cyber Czar.

The Hill (6/17, Miller, 5.69M) reports that the Senate on Thursday "unanimously confirmed former National Security Agency (NSA) Deputy Director Chris Inglis as the first White House national cyber director." Senate Majority Leader Schumer "brought up Inglis's nomination for a vote through unanimous consent Thursday afternoon, with no senators objecting." Inglis "will be the first to serve as the White House cyber czar after the position was created as part of the most recent National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). It is an expansion of the previous White House cybersecurity coordinator role that was eliminated in 2018 under the Trump administration, drawing bipartisan backlash at the time."

Politico (6/17, Geller, 6.73M) reports that Inglis "will coordinate federal agencies' disparate work on cyber issues and oversee the development of the U.S.' digital defense strategy." According to Politico, "The recent ransomware attacks on Colonial Pipeline and the meat processing giant JBS, both attributed to Russian cybercrime gangs, as well as the SolarWinds espionage campaign that intelligence agencies linked to Moscow, thrust cybersecurity into the spotlight on Capitol Hill and prompted renewed scrutiny of the challenges facing the federal government, including its limited understanding of attacks on private companies."

Proposed Senate Bill Would Crack Down On Cyber Criminals.

The Hill (6/17, 5.69M) reports, "A bipartisan group of senators on Thursday unveiled legislation intended to crack down on cyber criminals, who have increasingly posed a threat to critical U.S. organizations." Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) introduced the International Cybercrime Prevention Act, "which would enhance criminal violations for hackers targeting critical infrastructure such as dams, power plants, hospitals and election equipment." The bill "would also expand the Justice Department's ability to go after botnet groups by

allowing injunctions against botnets involved in certain destructive cyberattacks, destruction of data or other issues that pose a violation of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act,” and “would ban the sale of access to a compromised computer if the buyer intends to use this access to create damage, and it cracks down on sale of certain surveillance and spyware devices.”

Biden Order May Open Up Chinese Apps To Subpoenas, Bans.

Reuters (6/17) reports that President Biden’s “executive order aimed at safeguarding Americans’ sensitive data would force some Chinese apps to take tougher measures to protect private information if they want to remain in the U.S. market.” Reuters explains “the goal is to keep foreign adversaries like China and Russia from gaining access to large amounts of personal and proprietary business information.” Reuters says under the order, the U.S. Department of Commerce “may issue subpoenas to collect information about certain smartphone, tablet and desktop computer software applications” and then “negotiate conditions for their use in the United States or ban the apps.”

NSA Cybersecurity Head: NSA-Industry Collaboration Could “Gain More Visibility Into Foreign Hackers.”

ExecutiveGov (6/17, Edwards) reports NSA Cybersecurity Director Rob Joyce “said any proposal that seeks to help the intelligence community address visibility gaps into foreign hacking operations must combine the signals intelligence data that NSA collects with the information gathered by the private sector, CyberScoop reported Wednesday.” Joyce “added that the NSA cybersecurity directorate needs to ‘work smarter’ with available resources amid budget constraints.”

US Faces Shortage Of Cyber Talent.

Newsweek (6/17, Rouhandeh, 2.67M) reports recent attacks on the “Colonial Pipeline and SolarWinds have placed a greater spotlight on the issue as companies rapidly brace to protect their digital infrastructure, which has become ever more essential in wake of the pandemic.” Both the US public and private sectors “face a common problem” in a “chronic shortage of skilled workers.” Some 359,000 American jobs “remain unfilled, according to a 2020 survey by a cybersecurity training nonprofit called (ISC)2.”

Bay Area Water Treatment System Suffered Cyberattack In January.

The San Francisco Chronicle (6/18, Mishanec, 2.44M) reports a hacker accessed the “computer system of a Bay Area water treatment plant in January and deleted programs the plant used to treat drinking water, a senior intelligence official confirmed Thursday.” NBC News first reported “Thursday that the unidentified hacker used a former plant employee’s username and password to gain entry to the unidentified Bay Area water treatment facility on Jan. 15.” Michael Sena, executive director of the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center, “confirmed NBC’s report about the security breach, but declined to say where it occurred or who carried it out.”

Carnival Details Customer Data Breach.

The AP (6/17) reports Carnival said Thursday that a "data breach in March might have exposed personal information about customers and employees on Carnival Cruise Line, Holland America Line and Princess Cruises." In a letter to customers, "the Miami-based company indicated that outsiders might have gained access to Social Security numbers, passport numbers, dates of birth, addresses and health information of people." Carnival spokesman Roger Frizzell "said the company detected outside access to some of its information-technology systems on March 19 and shut down the intrusion and hired a cybersecurity company to investigate. He said Carnival is making changes to improve security of its information systems." Reuters (6/17, Nishant) reports Carnival said, "There is evidence indicating a low likelihood of the data being misused."

Estonia A "Global Leader" On Cyber, Now "Offering To Teach Other Countries."

CNN (6/18, Kottasová, 89.21M) reports Estonia is "punching way above its weight when it comes to online safety," and has "made cybersecurity one of the policy priorities" of its current term on the UN Security Council. Estonia, which is offering training for other EU and NATO allies, has built "secure IT systems, fostered international cooperation and spent a lot of money and time training its citizens," and is "constantly trying to find ways to improve its system."

Law Enforcement Services

Graham Says A Deal On Police Reform Could Be Close.

The CBS Evening News (6/17, story 7, 1:55, 3.79M) reported that "weeks after missing the President's deadline" on police reform, "negotiations continue." On Thursday, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) "told me a deal could be close."

NYPD Cracks Down On Violence In Washington Square Park.

The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Brody, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that the New York Police Department is grappling with how to combat violence in Manhattan's Washington Square Park as narcotics, raucous crowds, and litter have overtaken the iconic space since April.

Fifty Portland Police Officers Resign From Rapid Response Team Amid Charges Against Colleague.

The New York Times (6/17, Levenson, 20.6M) reports that on Wednesday night, "a group of about 50 police officers who had served voluntarily" on the Portland Police Department's Rapid Response Team, a specialized crowd control unit, "have stepped down from the squad." The Times says the officers' move comes "just hours after a member of the unit, Officer Corey Budworth, was indicted on a

misdemeanor assault charge that he physically injured an independent photojournalist during a protest in August.”

USA Today Analysis: Dems Face Political Risks Over Defunding The Police.

USA Today (6/17, 12.7M) analyzes the political risks Democrats face as they consider measures to overhaul policing practices. USA Today writes that “as murder rates rise in major cities and videos of Black Americans having violent encounters with law enforcement continue to draw condemnation, Democrats are searching for a better way to package to voters the demands of left-leaning activists” to reform or defund the police “while fending off GOP attacks.”

Milley Vows To Find Fix For Missing Military Firearms.

The AP (6/18, Hall) reports that in remarks before a Congressional Committee on Thursday, Gen. Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, “signaled...that he will consider a ‘systematic fix’ to how the armed services keep account of their firearms” after reports circulated in the press that the four armed services recorded 1,900 guns as “lost or stolen during the 2010s.” The AP added that some of these weapons have been used in violent crimes.

Opioid Epidemic Continuing To Plague The US.

Bloomberg (6/17, Dmitrieva, Pickert, 3.57M) reports that the opioid epidemic “added a record 90,722 overdose deaths in the U.S. for the year through November 2020,” and the epidemic “spread to largely untouched parts of the country — exacerbated by the recession and millions of job losses.” The crisis has “cost the U.S. more than \$2.5 trillion from 2015 to 2018.”

In Texas, Abbott Signs Bills To Expand Gun Rights.

The San Antonio Express-News (6/17, Harris, 685K) reports that at a ceremony in San Antonio on Thursday, Gov. Greg Abbott “signed a slate of gun-related laws.” The new laws allow Texans “to carry handguns without a license,” require hotels to allow guests to keep guns in their rooms, and prohibit the government from shutting down gun stores “during a declared disaster.”

Other FBI News

Louisville, Kentucky SAC To Take New DC Role.

WDRB-TV Louisville, KY (6/17, Beane, 303K) reports, “Changes are coming to Louisville’s FBI field office. Special Agent in Charge Robert Brown is being promoted and will soon begin his new role as Assistant Director of the FBI’s Operational Technology. He will transfer to Washington, D.C.” Brown

"has been in Louisville more than two years. It's not clear who will fill his shoes at this field office. 'I'm very sad to leave Kentucky. It's been one of the best places I've ever lived,' said Brown." Brown "aid he is proud of the resilience he's seen here in the community. He says his new role is very broad, and will include providing technical solutions to problems. Brown said part of it also involves the FBI's movement toward body cameras."

Other Washington News

Biden Administration Announces Plan To Develop COVID Anti-Viral Pills.

NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 5, 1:40, Díaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported that federal officials "announced a major effort today to develop medication that could one day be used to treat COVID and other viruses." The \$3.2 billion effort seeks to "develop new anti-viral over-the-counter pills to treat COVID and future viruses at home, keeping people out of ERs." The New York Times (6/17, Zimmer, 20.6M) reports that the project was "announced on Thursday by the Department of Health and Human Services," and the federal funding will "speed up the clinical trials of a few promising drug candidates." The CBS Evening News (6/17, story 5, 2:10, O'Donnell, 3.79M) reported that the over-the-counter treatments "could be available by the end of this year," and the project "comes as health experts are becoming more and more concerned about that delta variant."

The Washington Post (6/17, Johnson, 10.52M) says the Biden Administration is "borrowing from the model used to create drugs that transformed HIV from a death sentence into a manageable disease." According to the Post, NIAID Director Anthony Fauci and David Kessler, chief science officer for the covid-19 response, "began brainstorming the idea late last year. With remarkably effective vaccines rolling out, their initial focus was on drugs that could make the next pandemic less devastating. But as virus variants emerged and it became clear that even a historic vaccination campaign wasn't likely to eradicate the coronavirus, they accelerated the deadline." The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Siddiqui, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Fauci said of the effort, "New antivirals that prevent serious Covid-19 illness and death, especially oral drugs that could be taken at home early in the course of disease, would be powerful tools for battling the pandemic and saving lives."

The AP (6/17, Miller) reports that the US "has approved one antiviral drug, remdesivir, specifically for COVID-19, and allowed emergency use of three antibody combinations that help the immune system fight the virus," but these drugs "have to given by IV at hospitals or medical clinics, and demand has been low due to these logistical hurdles." Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) provides additional coverage.

White House Silent On July 4 Vaccination Goal.

The Hill (6/17, Weixel, 5.69M) reports that Biden Administration officials "won't say whether they believe the U.S. will meet President Biden's goal of getting 70 percent of adults partially vaccinated against COVID-19 by July 4." White House coronavirus coordinator Jeff Zients said of the vaccine campaign, "We've made tremendous progress. Today more than 175 million Americans have gotten at least one shot ... hundreds of thousands of people are continuing to get their first shot each day, and we are going to get to 70 percent, and we're going to continue across the summer months to push beyond 70 percent."

Delta Variant Spreads To Additional States.

CBS Evening News (6/17, story 3, 2:45, Muir, 5.78M) reported that the Delta COVID variant is officially documented in 41 states across the United States, and the Biden Administration is urging Americans to quickly vaccinate. White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator Jeffrey Zients said to reporters, "If you're fully vaccinated, you're protected. But if you're unvaccinated, you're at risk of getting seriously ill or spreading the disease to others."

ABC World News Tonight (6/17, story 4, 1:45, Muir, 5.78M) reported Dr. Ashish Jha said of Delta, "This is the most contagious variant we have seen throughout the entire pandemic, and I expect it to be the dominant variant in the United States, the dominant source of infection probably some time late July into early August, so it is definitely something to be concerned about."

Sens. Menendez, Collins Propose Congressional COVID Commission.

The AP (6/17, Reeves, Kunzelman) reports Sens. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Susan Collins (R-ME) have filed a bill to create a new congressional commission to investigate the US response to COVID. The inquiry "could include a look at the origins of the virus; early warnings and other communication with foreign governments; coordination among federal, state and local agencies; the availability of medical supplies; testing and public health surveillance; vaccination development and distribution; the uneven effect on minorities; and government relief policies."

Republican Senators Increasingly Critical Of Mask Mandates For Travelers.

Roll Call (6/17, Wehrman, 130K) reports that Republican senators "are expressing mounting impatience with the federal mask mandate for travelers, arguing that the lifting of restrictions in most public places should extend to airplanes, rail and transit." Transportation-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Collins took the opportunity, and "asked Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg why travelers on airplanes were required to wear masks while those gathered in crowded airport bars were not." Buttigieg "said the mandate remains in place because of some unique circumstances, such as the fact that planes feature 'a number of people from different places passing through the same small place,' as well as the presence of children on airplanes."

MSU's Furr-Holden Discusses Vaccine Rollout, Operation Warp Speed In The US.

The New York Times (6/17, Mervosh, Harmon, 20.6M) "asked more than a dozen public health experts, economists and bioethicists to reflect on the vaccine rollout" in the United States. The Biden Administration "has been vocal in its support for vaccines, but has also been unable to overcome hesitancy on the part of many Americans, including some who are skeptical of government authority, and others who are suspicious of a medical establishment because of its record of racial inequity." Debra Furr-Holden, "associate dean for public health integration at Michigan State University, attributed at least some of the resistance to communications failures, starting with the branding of Operation Warp

Speed.” Furr-Holden said, “When people heard ‘warp speed,’ you know what they heard? Corner cutting, skipped steps, missed steps, quick and dirty.” She “said the United States should have launched a mass literacy campaign on vaccines long before they were produced and made it far easier to get vaccinated once shots were available.”

US Business Owners Express Disappointment In SBA’s Continuing Pandemic Performance.

The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Omeokwe, Simon, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that US business owners are expressing increased frustration with the Small Business Administration, which swelled its loan portfolio to \$900 billion through the Trump Administration’s COVID response plan. The agency’s historic budget, and the resulting strain, has paralyzed the agency. Former SBA regional administrator Robert Scott said of the agency’s performance, “On the disaster side, we did a terrible job.” He added, “The existing systems in place, the existing leadership in place, just have not adjusted to what is necessary to meet the demand right now.”

National Education Association Says 86 Percent Of Union Members Are Partially Vaccinated.

The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Koh, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that the National Education Association announced on Thursday the results of its latest union survey, which found that 86 percent of its members are partially vaccinated. The new data is an increase of 37 percent from a similar survey last month. 2,690 members responded to the poll.

Major Sports Leagues Attempt To Balance Reopening With COVID Regulations.

The New York Times (6/17, Draper, 20.6M) reports that while sports officials “are projecting confidence that the pandemic is in the rearview mirror,” the growing challenge of athlete vaccine hesitancy is undermining efforts to fully reopen. The pandemic challenges “reflect the broader challenges and questions of ensuring widespread vaccination.”

Brooks: COVID Has Fundamentally Shifted Attitudes In The US.

David Brooks writes in the New York Times (6/17, 20.6M) that while COVID “has disrupted daily American life in a way few emergencies have before,” it “has also shaken things up and cleared the way for an economic boom and social revival.” Brooks writes that last year, “4.4 million new businesses were started in 2020, by far a modern record,” and “Americans socked away trillions of dollars... reducing their debt burdens to lows not seen since 1980 and putting themselves in a position to spend lavishly as things open up.” He adds that the “biggest shifts...may be mental. People have been reminded that life is short. ... People are shifting their personal lives to address common problems — loneliness and loss of community. Nobody knows where this national journey of discovery will take us, but the voyage has begun.”

WSJ: US Should Follow The EU And Lift Tourist Restrictions.

The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) argues that the US should reciprocate the EU's latest announcement lifting travel restrictions on US travelers because the ongoing vaccination campaign has succeeded in providing mass partial vaccinations. The Journal calls on President Biden to lift restrictions and support the US tourism industry's recovery.

Senate Confirms Tien As Deputy DHS Secretary.

Law360 (6/17, Subscription Publication, 9K) reports the Senate on Thursday "easily confirmed John K. Tien, a Citigroup Inc. managing director with decades of military and national security experience, as deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security." Tien won confirmation "on a bipartisan 60-34 vote."

Close Friend Of Beau Biden Serving As White House Deputy Staff Secretary.

Politico Playbook (6/17, 6.75M) reports Michael Hochman "isn't the typical candidate to be White House deputy staff secretary." He "has spent the past several years as a lawyer in private practice in Wilmington, Del." But, he "was Beau Biden's college roommate and fraternity brother at the University of Pennsylvania, and he remained close to the president's elder son until Beau died of cancer in 2015." In addition he was "a Biden bundler who raised at least \$100,000 for Joe Biden's 2020 campaign and its allies." Now, he "serves as one of the key intermediaries between Beau's father, the president, and the rest of the Biden administration." Politico says his "presence in the West Wing is demonstrative of how Beau still affects Joe's presidency" and it is "the latest example of the close-knit, hyper-loyal Biden World — many of whom have been in the president's orbit for decades."

Democrats Consider \$6T Reconciliation Package, While Bipartisan Group Continues Work On Infrastructure Proposal.

Politico (6/17, LeVine, Everett, 6.73M) cites "two sources familiar with matter" who say that if bipartisan infrastructure talks fail, Senate Democrats are considering "spending as much as \$6 trillion on their own infrastructure package." Senate Majority Leader Schumer "has repeatedly insisted that infrastructure talks are currently on two tracks: The first track is bipartisan, while the second track will include priorities that have no chance of getting GOP support." On Wednesday, Schumer met "with Democratic members of the Budget Committee to discuss strategy, with no firm decision reached."

The New York Times (6/17, Cochrane, 20.6M)cites "four people familiar with the discussion" who said the group "discussed taking unilateral action" on the package. They "discussed potentially including measures to expand Medicare, including lowering the eligibility age to 60 and expanding benefits for all beneficiaries to cover dental, hearing and vision care, according to three of the people." Ahead of the meeting, Senate Budget Chair Bernie Sanders said, "This is the moment that we have to start addressing issues that have been neglected for a very long time."

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M)says advancing the package via reconciliation "could allow Democrats to adopt some of their most ambitious and controversial spending and tax plans through the

Senate using 51 votes, rather than the usual 60." But reconciliation "carries significant constraints, requiring lawmakers to demonstrate that their proposals have a clear budgetary effect. That may limit the scope of what Democrats can seek." Bloomberg (6/17, Dennis, Wasson, 3.57M) reports House Budget Chairman John Yarmuth "said Thursday he is 'open' to a \$6 trillion plan and said Sanders had told him he was planning to try to craft a larger economic package than Biden had proposed."

In a separate story, Bloomberg (6/17, Dennis, 3.57M) says "it's not clear yet whether Democrats will be able hold together to pass a multi-trillion-dollar plan, especially if it adds to the deficit." House Congressional Progressive Caucus leader Pramila Jayapal (D-WA) "has called for a \$6 trillion to \$10 trillion package and welcomed the Senate expanding its ambitions for a budget bill. ... However Democratic Senator Mark Warner of Virginia, a member of the Budget Committee, sounded a note of skepticism about the plan, saying \$6 trillion may be 'the proverbial bridge too far.'" The Hill (6/17, Bolton, 5.69M) and Roll Call (6/17, Krawzak, Lesniewski, Wehrman, 130K) provides similar coverage of the \$6 trillion plan.

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/17) says Schumer met Thursday "with members of a bipartisan group of senators struggling to develop an infrastructure proposal that could make it through Congress while achieving President Joe Biden's goals. Twenty-one of the 100 senators, including 11 Republicans, nine Democrats and one independent who caucuses with Democrats have joined on the bipartisan proposal, building out a framework that sources said would cost \$1.2 trillion over eight years."

The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Duehren, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) describes growing support for the bipartisan proposal, but the CBS Evening News (6/17, story 7, 1:55, 3.79M) reported, "liberal Democrats may not buy in" to the bipartisan package, and The Hill (6/17, Carney, 5.69 M) says while the proposal "is picking up steam, with 21 senators backing their framework as of Wednesday," they will "need a sizable number of Republicans given that progressives aren't yet on board to help them get to the 60 votes needed to break a Democratic filibuster." Sanders "has said he won't support the bipartisan plan and other Democrats, including Sens. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), want a guarantee that there will be 50 votes for a Democratic-only plan in exchange for supporting the smaller bipartisan bill." NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 7, 0:10, Bennett, 4.82M) reported the President "was briefed [Thursday] on" the bipartisan plan.

Politico (6/17, Forgey, 6.73M) reports in an interview with MSNBC Thursday, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) "warned congressional Democrats...against backing a compromise infrastructure bill that prioritizes bipartisan dealmaking over policy outcomes for underserved communities, urging her party to support a more ambitious proposal." Ocasio-Cortez "said Democrats should not prioritize issues of 'process and how' as they seek a solution." Instead, she said, they should ask, "Are we passing the deal that helps working people the most? Are we passing the deal that makes the most jobs? Are we passing a deal that brings down the most climate emissions? Are we passing a deal that raises wages and actually improves our infrastructure for the next generation?"

Shelby: Republicans Can Accept Biden's \$1.5T For Discretionary Spending If More Goes To Defense.

The Hill (6/17, Elis, 5.69M) reports Senate Republicans "say they are willing to accept President Biden's \$1.5 trillion price tag for discretionary spending provided that more of those funds are allocated toward defense spending." Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL), the top Republican on the Senate Appropriations Committee, said, "My goal is to get more money for defense. We live in a tough world. ... The allocations will shift around, but at the end of the day, there's going to be a struggle for national security." Asked "if the negotiation was limited to the allocation, rather than attempting to bring down the

\$1.5 trillion overall spending figure," Shelby said, "I think that's fair."

Biden Signs Legislation Making Juneteenth A Federal Holiday.

President Biden signed legislation Thursday making June 19, or "Juneteenth" a federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery, "saying he believes it will go down as one of the greatest honors he has as president," the AP (6/17, Freking) reports. The signing came a day after the House voted 415-14 to send the measure to the President's desk. The Senate had passed the bill a day earlier. Biden, who "signed the legislation surrounded by members of the Congressional Black Caucus as well as the lead sponsors of the legislation in the Senate, Sens. Edward Markey, D-Mass., and John Cornyn, R-Texas," highlighted "the overwhelming support for the bill from lawmakers in both parties." He said, "I hope this is the beginning of a change in the way we deal with one another." Roll Call (6/17, Saksa, 130K) says that along with "the bill's cosponsors and members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Biden invited Opal Lee to join him for the signing, giving her the first of the many ceremonial pens. Biden called Lee 'a daughter of Texas, grandmother of the movement to make Juneteenth a holiday,' and credited the 94-year-old's organizing efforts."

Politico (6/17, Niedzwiedek, 6.73M) reports, Biden said, "This is a day of profound weight and profound power. ... A day in which we'll remember the moral stain, the terrible toll that slavery took on the country and continues to take; what I've long called America's original sin. At the same time, I also remember the extraordinary capacity to heal and to hope and to emerge from those painful moments and a bitter, bitter version of ourselves to make a better version of our selves." Biden said he hopes "all Americans can feel the power of this day and learn from our history and celebrate progress and grapple with the distance we've come, but the distance we have to travel, too."

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says Vice President Harris "also signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, a procedural step she carried out in her capacity as Senate president." Harris said, "Throughout history, Juneteenth has been known by many names: Jubilee Day, Freedom Day, Liberation Day, Emancipation Day, and today, a national holiday." On its website, CNBC (6/17, Breuninger, 7.34M) reports that Harris said, "We have come far, and we have far to go. But today is a day of celebration."

The New York Times (6/17, Broadwater, 20.6M) says the law takes effect "immediately, making Friday the first federal Juneteenth holiday in American history. The federal Office of Personnel Management announced on Thursday that most federal employees would observe it on Friday, since June 19 falls on a Saturday this year." But, Bloomberg (6/17, Decker, Natter, Shields, 3.57M) reports, "Across the federal government, agencies struggled to determine who would and wouldn't be working on Friday." Reuters (6/17), The Hill (6/17, Johnson, Gangitano, 5.69M) and the Wall Street Journal (6/17, Lucey, Wise, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provide similar coverage, as did NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 9, 2:20, Díaz-Balart, 4.82M), the CBS Evening News (6/17, story 6, 2:05, O'Donnell, 3.79M) and ABC World News Tonight (6/17, story 8, 2:20, Muir, 5.78M) Thursday evening.

Black Americans Celebrate But Say Policy Changes Are Needed. In a separate story, the AP (6/17, Superville, Freking) says Black Americans "rejoiced" after the signing, "but some said that, while they appreciated the recognition at a time of racial reckoning in America, more is needed to change policies that disadvantage too many of their brethren." Eugene Robinson makes a similar argument in his Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) column. Robinson calls making Juneteenth a national holiday a "hollow" victory when the Republican Party "is now moving heaven and earth to keep African Americans from voting." Voting to add the day to the holiday calendar allows Republicans "to portray themselves

as opponents of racial oppression, which they prefer to leave in the past — rather than as contemporary racism's enthusiastic enablers." Robinson says if Republicans are sincere "about the importance of Juneteenth, let's see them sign on to the voting-rights legislation that passed the House and now is being considered in the Senate."

McConnell Indicates No Senate Republicans Will Back Manchin's Compromise Elections Bill.

Politico (6/17, Everett, 6.73M) reports while Senate Republicans "spent months praising [Sen.] Joe Manchin [D-WV] for his insistence on cross-party compromise," next week "they will almost surely end his hopes for a bipartisan deal on elections." Senate Minority Leader McConnell "said he believed all 50 Republicans would oppose" Manchin's "slimmed-down elections compromise, which focuses on expanding early voting and ending partisan gerrymandering in federal elections." The Hill (6/17, Carney, 5.69M) says McConnell told reporters, "I would make this observation about the revised version...all Republicans I think will oppose that as well if that were to be what surfaced on the floor."

The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says McConnell "gathered a dozen Republican senators to stand with him in front of reporters as he lambasted the Democratic voting-right efforts, a show of force that reflected his own long-standing distaste for legislation that puts federal fetters on campaigns and elections, as well as the depth of support he has within his caucus for his hard-line approach."

The New York Times (6/17, Hulse, 20.6M) reports that Democrats and progressive activists "quickly embraced" Manchin's plan. While "their decision to do so did nothing to improve the chances that the legislation could get through the Senate," it "reflected another significant goal for Democrats: uniting the party around what it has billed as its highest priority and showing that, were it not for Republican opposition and the filibuster, the elections overhaul would become law." Reuters (6/17) says "several Democrats expressed optimism" over Manchin's plan. Sen. Raphael Warnock (D-GA) "said Manchin's ideas were 'very significant' because they could unite the 48 Senate Democrats and two independents, boosting chances for passing a bill."

Ezra Klein writes in the New York Times (6/17, 20.6M) the question Manchin "faces isn't whether there's a voting rights bill he can support. It's whether he's willing to force Republicans to accept it. As the hinge vote, Manchin could offer both sides a choice: a bipartisan bill designed by Manchin (and whatever allies he chooses) or the outcome on voting rights they fear most — for Democrats, that would be nothing, and for Republicans, that would be everything."

Henry Olsen writes in the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) that Manchin's compromise is "overall a good proposal. And it requires only two slight changes to merit Republican support." Olsen argues the proposal's "automatic voter registration requirement should include a provision that ensures only citizens can be registered," and "the voter-ID component should also require a person who relies on an alternative identification measure that does not contain a picture ID to submit to having their photo taken upon voting."

Abrams Backs Manchin's Compromise Proposal. Axios (6/17, Gonzalez, 1.26M) reports that former Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams "said on CNN Thursday that she could 'absolutely' support the policy demands that...Manchin has outlined for a compromise on voting reform, including voter ID." Abrams said, "What Sen. Manchin is putting forward are some basic building blocks we need to ensure that democracy is accessible no matter your geography. ... Those provisions that he is setting forth are strong ones that will create a level playing field, will create standards that do not vary from state to state and, I think, will ensure that every American has improved access to the right to vote