

despite the onslaught of state legislation seeking to restrict access to the right to vote.”

Politico (6/17, Forgey, Montellaro, 6.73M) reports that after Abrams interview, “an email from Fair Fight — the group she leads — said Manchin’s proposal was a first, but not final, step.” The email reads, “This compromise proposal is a positive building block — but it doesn’t do enough to protect voters and elections workers who are under unprecedented attack, it doesn’t support voting by mail, adequate polling location access and more. ... So it’s a building block to getting good done, but we must keep the pressure on.”

#### SCOTUS Backs Religious Groups In Latest Gay Rights Case, But Leaves Bigger Questions Unanswered.

NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 4, 0:20, Díaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported that in a “narrow ruling,” the Supreme Court found “unanimously in favor of a Catholic charity that refuses to place foster children in the homes of same-sex parents because that would violate its religious beliefs.” But the court stopped short of saying that “claims of religious freedom can always trump laws against discrimination.” Axios (6/17, Baker, 1.26M) continues, the justices “ruled that the city of Philadelphia violated the First Amendment when it refused to continue working with a group called Catholic Social Services, which will not certify unmarried couples or same-sex couples as foster parents.” The New York Times (6/17, A1, Liptak, 20.6M) writes that the case, *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia*, No. 19-123, is “latest clash between antidiscrimination principles and claims of conscience” and represents “a setback for gay rights and further evidence that religious groups almost always prevail in the current court.”

However, the AP (6/17, Gresko) says the ruling was “specific to the facts of the case” and sidestepped “bigger questions about how to balance religious freedom and anti-discrimination laws.” The AP explains that in his opinion for the majority of the court, Chief Justice Roberts “pointed to language in the city’s standard foster care contract” that says agencies “cannot reject prospective foster or adoptive parents based on their sexual orientation ‘unless an exception is granted.’” According to the AP, the chief justice concluded that “because the city created a process for granting exemptions,” it could not “then deny Catholic Social Services an exemption.”

Bloomberg (6/17, Stohr, 3.57M) says “the decision bore hallmarks of a compromise — or at least one where the court’s liberal wing limited the damage.” ABC World News Tonight (6/17, story 2, 0:45, Muir, 5.78M) agreed, saying the case shows “many of the justices seemed to be looking for ways to come together, stick to the fine points of the law, and stay out of politics.” And CBS Evening News (6/17, story 4, 0:30, O’Donnell, 3.79M) aired a statement from Jeffrey Rosen, President and CEO of the National Constitution Center, who said the decision shows “those who expected consistent ideological divisions on the new Roberts court were wrong.”

But Politico (6/17, Gerstein, 6.73M) says despite consensus on the case, Alito, Thomas and Gorsuch “complained bitterly that the majority’s reasoning was tortured and amounted to dodging the main issue in the case: when government can burden the religious views of those through whom it provides services.” Politico quotes Alito as saying in his concurrence, “This decision might as well be written on the dissolving paper sold in magic shops.” The justice continued, “The City has been adamant about pressuring CSS to give in, and if the City wants to get around today’s decision, it can simply eliminate the never-used exemption power. If it does that, then, voila, today’s decision will vanish — and the parties will be back where they started. ... What is the point of going around in this circle?”

Reuters (6/17, Chung, Hurley) discusses the history of the case, explaining that the U.S. Court of

Appeals for the Third Circuit had previously ruled against Catholic Social Services, saying the group did not show that "Philadelphia had treated it differently because of its religious affiliation." In 2018, Philadelphia-based U.S. District Judge Petrese Tucker "also ruled against the organization, finding that the city's anti-discrimination measures were applied uniformly, meaning the group's religious rights were not violated and it was not entitled to an exemption."

The Washington Post (6/17, Barnes, 10.52M) reports that Catholic Social Services, "which has provided foster care services for decades," has emphasized throughout the dispute that "it had never been approached by a same-sex couple, and that other city contractors were happy to work with those couples."

WSJournal: Push For Consensus Weakens Religious Freedom. The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorializes that while the Supreme Court's unanimous decision in *Fulton v. Philadelphia* is a win for religious freedom, the decision compromises clarity on First Amendment principles to preserve consensus. The Journal argues the Court should do more to protect people of faith.

SCOTUS Dismisses Lawsuit Against Companies Accused Of Slavery In Ivory Coast.

Reuters (6/17, Hurley) reports the US Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit that accused Cargill and a Nestle subsidiary of deliberately abetting the perpetuation of slavery at cocoa farms in Ivory Coast. The 8-1 court ruling, however, "sidestepped a broader ruling on the permissibility of suits accusing American companies of human rights violations abroad." Instead, the New York Times (6/17, Liptak, 20.6M) explains, the court focused on absence of sufficient ties between the companies' activities in the US and the asserted abuses.

Also reporting are the Wall Street Journal (6/17, Bravin, Kendall, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M), CNBC (6/17, Mangan, 7.34M), Bloomberg (6/17, Stohr, Robinson, 3.57M), the AP (6/17, Gresko), The Hill (6/17, Neidig, 5.69M).

Western US Forced To Adapt To Combination Of Climate Change And Drought.

The New York Times (6/17, Plumer, Healy, Choi-Schagrin, Fountain, 20.6M) reports that "global warming, driven by the burning of fossil fuels, has been heating up and drying out the American West for years," but now the region "is broiling under a combination of a drought that is the worst in two decades and a record-breaking heat wave." With temperatures expected "to keep rising as nations struggle to rein in their planet-warming emissions, the Western United States will need to take difficult and costly measures to adapt," such as "redesigning cities to endure punishing heat, conserving water, and engineering grids that don't fail during extreme weather."

CNN (6/17, Ramirez, 89.21M) reports that the American West "has already experienced one significant heat wave this summer, with more expected in coming months." Scientists "say drought and heat are part of a vicious climate-change feedback loop: hot weather leads to drought, drought leads to hot weather and so on."

Greenhouse: Sotomayor Is SCOTUS' "Truth Teller."

Linda Greenhouse writes in the New York Times (6/17, 20.6M) that Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor has become the Court's "truth teller. That's what she was this past fall and winter, as the court passively permitted or actively facilitated the Trump administration's amazing 'expedited spree of executions,' in her words: 13 in its final six months, the last one just four days before President Biden's inauguration." Greenhouse cites other examples and says Sotomayor understands "that on today's Supreme Court, she is fated to be on the losing side of many of the issues she cares most about. So her project, it seems to me, is to make legible, for these times and in times to come, the context for the court's decisions and the consequences likely to flow from them. ... Our obligation is to pay attention."

## International News

### Global COVID Death Toll Breaks 4M.

Reuters (6/18) reports that, according to its analysis, global COVID deaths "passed a grim milestone of 4 million on Thursday...as many countries struggle to procure enough vaccines to inoculate their populations." The data is worrisome because new variants are rapidly increasing death rates in poor, unvaccinated countries. It "took over a year for the COVID-19 death toll to hit 2 million, while the next 2 million were recorded in just 166 days."

WPost: The World Must Investigate COVID's Origins. The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) argues that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine call to investigate COVID's origins is mandatory because the world "needs to know how the pandemic began in order to prepare for the next one." The Post condemns Chinese opposition to an international inquiry, and if the country "refuses to budge, the proper response is to launch an investigation anyway, with international cooperation, based on sound science and dogged forensic methods."

### Colombian Rebels Deny Role In Base Bombing.

Reuters (6/18) reports that the Colombian National Liberation Army rebel group "denied any role in a car bombing at a military base this week that wounded 36 people, causing serious injuries to a Colombian soldier and minor ones to two U.S. military advisers." The bombing "took place on Tuesday afternoon at a base used by the 30th army brigade in the northeastern city of Cucuta, near the border with Venezuela."

### Peru Election Board Reviewing Presidential Election.

Reuters (6/17) reports that the Peruvian National Elections Jury "said on Thursday it was working at top speed to check contested votes from the June 6 presidential election to be able to 'promptly' declare the final results and end swirling tension and uncertainty." National Elections Jury President Jorge Salas "said in a message on Twitter that the organization's full staff would be working through the weekend to ensure the checking of contested votes was 'expedited.'"

Veiras: Mexico's Militarization Contributing To Historic Violence.

Dromómanos editorial director José Luis Pardo Veiras argues in the Washington Post (6/14, 10.52M) that Mexico's slow transformation into a militarized society has contributed to the country's collapse into wanton violence. He condemns the Mexican government for its failures to protect Mexicans, and cites state data showing 350,000 people "have been murdered, and more than 72,000 are still missing," between January 2006 to May 2021.

Amid Crackdown, Nicaragua Blocks NYT Reporter From Entering Country.

The New York Times (6/17, Lopez, 20.6M) reports that one of their journalists "was denied entry into Nicaragua on Thursday amid a nationwide crackdown against the media and civil society in the Central American nation." The denial of Anatoly Kurmanaev's entry into the country "appears to be an escalation of government attacks on independent media amid a crackdown by President Daniel Ortega."

Bloomberg: After European Swing, Biden Free To Confront China.

Bloomberg (6/17, Wingrove, 3.57M) reports that having completed his European swing, President Biden is "poised to confront the country he's called America's most serious global competitor: China and its leader, Xi Jinping." China "was on the agenda throughout Biden's meetings the past week," and the President "has long said China would be at the core of his administration's foreign policy." NSA Sullivan "on Thursday confirmed that planning is now underway for more extensive talks with Beijing. He didn't say whether an actual meeting between Biden and Xi is in the works, though one possibility is during the Group of 20 summit in Rome in October."

China Sends Three Astronauts To Its Space Station.

Reuters (6/17, Garcia) reports three Chinese astronauts "flew to an unfinished space station in China's first crewed mission since 2016," on Thursday, "expanding the country's already growing near-Earth presence and challenging U.S. leadership in orbital space" The astronauts "boarded the module, where they will live for three months, the longest stay in low-Earth orbit by any Chinese national." The AP (6/17, McNeil) says they "will carry out experiments, test equipment, conduct maintenance and prepare the station for receiving two laboratory modules next year. The mission brings to 14 the number of astronauts China has launched into space since 2003, becoming only the third country after the former Soviet Union and the United States to do so on its own."

The Washington Post (6/17, Miller, 10.52M) reports that the Chinese space station "represents another milestone for the country, which didn't launch an astronaut into space until 2003 — more than 40 years after the United States and the Soviet Union — but has since developed its space program at a torrid pace." NBC Nightly News (6/17, story 10, 1:20, Díaz-Balart, 4.82M) reported that on Thursday, China "took a leap forward today in the new space race." NBC (Frayer) adds, "Despite a ban on cooperation, NASA sent congratulations, while tonight high above the Earth, Chinese astronauts



smiled, waved, and took their place in history."

In a second piece, the Washington Post (6/17, Davenport, 10.52M) reports that former VP Mike Pence in 2019 highlighted the challenge of Chinese space competition, and Bill Nelson, President Biden's NASA Administrator, "has carried on that hawkish rhetoric, casting China as 'a very aggressive competitor' that has big ambitions in space and is challenging America's leadership." Nelson's strategy "is to cast China as a competitor racing not only to the moon, but for leadership in space more broadly. It's a scenario that got a boost" by the launch on Thursday. The Post adds that "some doubt the wisdom of Nelson's approach, however."

The New York Times (6/17, Myers, Chang, 20.6M) reports with the astronauts' arrival, "the Chinese station, called Tiangong, or Heavenly Palace, became one of two populated outposts in orbit. The other, the International Space Station, has operated for more than two decades, but its future is uncertain because of age, budget constraints and tensions between its main partners, the United States and Russia."

Xi Tasks Top Deputy With Boosting Nation's Chip Manufacturing Capabilities.

Bloomberg (6/17, 3.57M) reports that Chinese President Xi Jinping is "renewing his years-long push to achieve technology self-sufficiency by tapping a top deputy to shepherd a key initiative aimed at helping domestic chipmakers overcome U.S. sanctions." Liu He, "Xi's economic czar," has "been tapped to spearhead the development of so-called third-generation chip development and capabilities and is leading the formulation of a series of financial and policy supports for the technology." Bloomberg says "it's a nascent field that relies on newer materials and gear beyond traditional silicon and is currently an arena where no company or nation yet dominates, offering Beijing one of its best chances to sidestep the hurdles slapped on its chipmaking industry by the U.S. and its allies."

Hong Kong Police Arrest Editors Of Leading Pro-Democracy Newspaper.

The AP (6/17, Soo) reports that on Thursday, police in Hong Kong "used a sweeping national security law...to arrest five editors and executives" affiliated with the Apple Daily, a pro-democracy newspaper known for its "outspoken" defense of freedom for Hong Kong residents as well as its criticism of the Chinese government, on charges of "colluding with foreign powers." The AP says this is "the first time the legislation has been used against the press" and represents "yet another sign of an intensifying crackdown by Chinese authorities in the city long known for its freedoms."

According to the Washington Post (6/16, 10.52M), "The early-morning operation highlighted the authorities' resolve to shut down any residual space for dissent, including silencing media critical of the Chinese government" even though "press freedom is supposed to be guaranteed under the Basic Law, Hong Kong's mini-constitution." Reuters (6/16) adds that in comments which raised "further alarm over media freedoms" in the city, Security Secretary John Lee "described the newsroom as a 'crime scene' and said the operation was aimed at those who use reporting as a 'tool to endanger' national security."

WSJournal: Arrests At Hong Kong Paper Flout Rule Of Law. The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorializes that the arrests of Apple Daily editors and executives by Hong Kong police constitute are an affront to the rule of law. The Journal argues that as China tightens its control over the once-free city, other businesses may suffer similar abuses of power.

## Chinese Shipping Delays Expected To Aggravate Trade Chaos.

Bloomberg (6/17, 3.57M) reports that "when one of China's busiest ports announced it wouldn't accept new export containers in late-May because of a Covid-19 outbreak, it was supposed to be up and running again in a few days." However, "as the partial shutdown drags on, it's further snarling trade routes and lifting record freight prices even higher." Bloomberg adds the shutdown will be the global shipping industry's "biggest test" yet as it continues to grapple with "pandemic shocks that are adding to inflation pressures and delivery delays."

## Report: World Bank-Funded Undersea Cable Project Collapses Over US Opposition.

Reuters (6/18) reports that, according to two sources, a World Bank-led project "declined to award a contract to lay sensitive undersea communications cables after Pacific island governments heeded U.S. warnings that participation of a Chinese company posed a security threat." The proposed East Micronesia Cable system "was designed to improve communications in the island nations of Nauru, Kiribati and Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), by providing underwater infrastructure with a far greater data capacity than satellites."

## House Lawmakers Propose Bill To Expedite SIVs For Afghans.

Reuters (6/17) reports that on Thursday, Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO) and 24 other House members introduced a bill to "speed up the processing of special immigration visas (SIVs) for Afghans at risk of Taliban retribution because they worked for the U.S. government." According to Reuters, the bill would also raise the number of SIV visas from 11,000 to 19,000.

## US Announces Termination Of Cambodian Aid Program.

Reuters (6/17) reports that the US "is ending a Cambodian aid programme aimed at protecting one its biggest wildlife sanctuaries, citing worsening deforestation and harassment of those who speak out about destruction of natural resources." The US embassy defended the announcement, saying it "had invested more than \$100 million on combating deforestation and despite some progress, high rates of illegal logging had continued."

## Rogin: US Must Do More To Support Taiwan.

Josh Rogin writes in the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) that the US and the West "must do more to support Taiwan. They can start by combating the vaccine blackmail campaign Beijing has launched against the island." Beijing "needn't attack physically in order to threaten and even cause the death of Taiwan's citizens." It is "doing that right now -- because it's blocking Taiwan's efforts to purchase covid-19 vaccines from anyone other than China." Rogin argues, "If the United States and the West won't

come to Taiwan's aid by providing vaccines – something completely within our power that does nothing to challenge the status quo – we are signaling to Taipei that we likely won't come to its aid in the event of a physical invasion." He adds that "failing to respond robustly to Xi's increasing aggression and intimidation toward Taiwan is the surest way to invite more of it."

#### New Leader Of Northern Ireland's DUP Resigns After Three Weeks In Job.

Reuters (6/17) reports that on Thursday, Edwin Poots, the leader of Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party, "announced his resignation...just three weeks after formally taking power, causing disarray in the region's largest party during crucial EU-British trade talks" Reuters explains that Poots resigned after nearly all the regional lawmakers from his own party opposed his choice for first minister. Reuters adds, "Poots' resignation adds to political instability in Northern Ireland, which is the focus of a trade spat between Britain and the European Union and has seen street violence fuelled by anger about restrictions on trade with the rest of the United Kingdom."

#### House Backs Repeal Of AUMF In Bipartisan Vote.

Politico (6/17, Desiderio, O'Brien, 6.73M) reports that on Thursday, the House "voted to repeal the 2002 authorization for the use of military force in Iraq." Politico describes the bipartisan vote as "a rare and historic effort by lawmakers to rein in presidential war powers." 49 Republicans joined all but one Democrat in the 268-161 vote. Politico says Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer indicated that his chamber will also consider the measure "sometime this year." CNBC (6/17, Pramuk, 7.34M) explains on its website that the House had previously "voted in January 2020 to repeal the measure after the U.S. launched an airstrike in Iraq that killed Iranian Gen. Qasem Soleimani," but the Senate, "then held by Republicans, did not pass the bill."

Roll Call (6/17, Oswald, 130K) adds that the Biden Administration had already expressed its support for the measure on Monday in a "statement of administration policy," which said President Biden was "committed to working with the Congress to ensure that outdated authorizations for the use of military force are replaced with a narrow and specific framework appropriate to ensure that we can continue to protect Americans from terrorist threats."

But the Washington Post (6/17, 10.52M) says Congress is "still largely divided along party lines about whether the move to repeal such authorizations will actually allow lawmakers to reclaim their power to permit the use of military force – a decision that some think has been usurped by successive presidents." According to the Post, "People in both parties argued that the authorizations had been stretched beyond recognition to target terrorist groups that didn't even exist when the approvals were granted, while different presidents insisted that they needed the latitude to adapt to a changing threat landscape."

And the New York Times (6/17, Steinhauer, 20.6M) points out that "even if the Senate joins the House in repealing the 2002 authorization, Congress would still leave in place a much broader authorization, passed three days after the Sept. 11 attacks, on approving the use of force against Al Qaeda and the Taliban."

#### Amid Fresh Arson Attacks By Hamas, Israel Launches More Airstrikes.

The CBS Evening News (6/17, story 8, 0:20, O'Donnell, 3.79M) reported that "Israeli fighter jets struck targets in Gaza ... in retaliation for repeated Hamas arson attacks on Israel using...incendiary balloons that are designed to set fires." The AP (6/17, Krauss) explains that Israel "launched airstrikes on the Gaza Strip late Thursday for a second time since a shaky cease-fire ended last month's 11-day war" after supporters of "Gaza's militant Hamas rulers launched incendiary balloons into Israel for a third straight day." The Wall Street Journal (6/17, Nissenbaum, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says the airstrikes threaten to the fragile ceasefire between Israel and Hamas to suspend the May war that killed over 250 people. The Journal adds Lt. Gen. Aviv Kochavi, chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces, has warned troops to prepare for the possibility that the truce may unravel.

NYTimes Analysis: Airstrike On Gaza Building Becomes Focal Point In Debate On Hamas-Israel War. The New York Times (6/17, Kingsley, Abuheweila, Hill, 20.6M) examines an ongoing debate about Israel's deadly bombing of a Gaza apartment building above a Hamas tunnel during the 11-day war in May. The Times explains that "in a conflict in which both sides are accused of war crimes, the air raid on Al Wahda Street...stands out for its shocking civilian death toll and for nearly decimating entire families." Time Times says "the raid on Al Wahda Street remains emblematic of the debate over whether Israel, in striking what it said were legitimate military targets, could have avoided killing civilians" as well as "to what extent Hamas...also bears responsibility for burrowing military infrastructure beneath cities."

Iranian Official Says Vienna Talks Have Produced "Good, Tangible Progress."

Reuters (6/17) reports that, according to Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, "indirect talks between Tehran and Washington on reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal have come closer than ever to an agreement, but essential issues remain to be negotiated." According to Reuters, Araqchi "said Iran's presidential election on Friday would have no effect on the negotiations and the Iranian negotiating team will continue the talks regardless of domestic policy."

On the other hand, the AP (6/17, Gambrell) says the "tattered nuclear deal...hangs in the balance as [Iran] prepares to vote on Friday for a new president and diplomats press on with efforts to get both the U.S. and Tehran to reenter the accord." According to the AP, "The deal represents the signature accomplishment of the relatively moderate President Hassan Rouhani's eight years in office: suspending crushing sanctions in exchange for the strict monitoring and limiting of Iran's uranium stockpile." The AP adds that "the deal's collapse" in 2018 "prompted Tehran to enrich uranium to highest purity levels so far, just shy of weapons-grade levels."

Media: Raisi The Favorite Amid Expectations Of Low Turnout. The Washington Post (6/17, 10.52 M) reports that "recent polls in Iran have forecast historically low voter turnout in the contest to succeed" Rouhani, "as Iranians exhausted by years of political turmoil and economic hardship turn their backs on Iran's politicians." The Post says that "a display of voter apathy is almost certain to benefit Ebrahim Raisi, an ultraconservative cleric who is the preferred choice of the hard-line establishment and the overwhelming favorite to win in several polls."

Reuters (6/17, Hafezi) reports a win for Raisi "would confirm the political demise of pragmatist politicians like Rouhani, weakened by Washington's decision to quit the nuclear deal and reimpose sanctions in a move that stifled rapprochement with the West."

The New York Times (6/17, Yee, Fassihi, 20.6M) reports that Iran "has never been a true Democracy over the past for decades," but it is "now moving increasingly toward what amounts to a one-party system whereby the top council of clerics that vets candidates eliminates anyone seen as a challenge to their conservative policies and views."

Iranian Ships Thought Headed To Venezuela Change Course.

Politico (6/17, Seligman, Toosi, 6.73M) reports that according to US officials, "Iranian navy ships believed to be originally headed toward Venezuela changed course early this week and are now steaming north up the west coast of Africa." According to Politico, "The ships, which U.S. officials believe may have been preparing to conduct an arms transfer, have appeared to change course several times during their journey from Iran – and could do so again." But US officials "believe the course change indicates that a diplomatic campaign to urge governments in the Western Hemisphere to turn away the ships was successful."

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

Supreme Court Leaves Affordable Care Act Intact

Red-Hot US Economy Drives Global Inflation, Forcing Foreign Banks To Act

Boy Scouts Near Bankruptcy Deal With Largest Victims Group

Small Business Needed Federal Help. The Agency In Charge Fell Short.

Thieves Find Money That Grows On Trees: 'Avocados Are The Green Gold'

New York Times:

For Republicans, 'Crisis' Is The Message As The Outrage Machine Ramps Up

Why American Women Everywhere Are Delaying Motherhood

Supreme Court Backs Catholic Agency In Case On Gay Rights And Foster Care

Affordable Care Act Survives Latest Supreme Court Challenge

Many Expected To Shun Iran Vote Seen As Presidential Race Of One

Maya Wiley Takes Credit For Daniel Pantaleo's Firing. Is That Justified?

Washington Post:

Justices Deliver Strike Three To ACA Challengers

Unanimous Victory For Catholic Foster Service

Chinese Bitcoin Miners Are Breaking Ground In The US

Even As Cases Plummet, 'Hygiene Theater' Persists

Embracing History, Seeking More

Financial Times:

Iran's Reformist Candidate Vows To Tackle Nuclear Deal 'At First Chance'

Most Would-Be Crypto Investors Unaware Of UK Regulator's Warnings

ByteDance Revenues More Than Doubled In 2020 to \$34.3BN

#### Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: SCOTUS-ACA; SCOTUS-Foster Care Case; COVID Update; COVID-Expert Comment; Heat Wave; Weather Report; Iran-Election; Juneteenth; St. Louis-McCloskeys Plead Guilty; Death of Frank Bonner; Made In America Series.

CBS: Heat Wave; Weather Report; SCOTUS-ACA; SCOTUS-Foster Care Case; COVID Update; Juneteenth; Biden-Agenda; Israel/Hamas; Inflation; Murder Hornets; US Open; Los Angeles-Great White Sharks; Cross-Country Dad.

NBC: Weather Report; Heat Wave; SCOTUS-ACA; SCOTUS-Foster Care Case; COVID Update; Summit Reaction; Biden-Agenda; Infrastructure-Rural Water Supply; Juneteenth; China-Space Race; Fathers' Letters To Kids.

#### Network TV At A Glance:

Juneteenth – 6 minutes, 45 seconds

SCOTUS-ACA – 6 minutes, 40 seconds

COVID Update – 6 minutes, 35 seconds

SCOTUS-Foster Care Case – 1 minutes, 35 seconds

#### Washington's Schedule

#### Today's Events In Washington.

#### White House:

\* President Biden — receives the President's Daily Brief; delivers remarks on the COVID-19 response and the vaccination program.

\* Vice President Harris — visits Atlanta as part of nationwide tour on COVID-19 vaccinations.

#### US Senate:

\* No schedule released.

#### US House:

\* No votes scheduled in the House of Representatives.

#### Cabinet Officers:

\* Secretary of State Antony Blinken attends meetings and briefings at the State Department

Location: State Department, Washington, DC

#### Visitors:

\* No visitors scheduled.

General Events:

\* Dem Rep. Peter Welch discusses 'Modernizing the U.S. Energy System' on EESI event – Environmental and Energy Study Institute presents 'Modernizing the U.S. Energy System: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Path Forward'. Democratic Rep. Peter Welch introduces the event, with other speakers include Department of Energy Building Technologies Office Technology Manager for Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings Monica Neukomm, Cornell University's Eilyan Bitar, Smart Electric Power Alliance Research and Industry Strategy Senior Manager Jared Leader, and Southern California Edison Integrated System Strategy Director Dana Cabbell

Location: Virtual Event; 12:00 PM

\* Dem Rep. Judy Chu addresses Asian immigrant experiences with racism in the COVID-19 pandemic – 'Asian Immigrant Experiences with Racism, Immigration-related Fears, and the COVID-19 Pandemic' Kaiser Family Foundation online event, with remarks from Democratic Rep. Judy Chu. Other speakers include Blue Shield of California Foundation Chief Program Director Carolyn Wang Kong, Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations Director of Policy and Advocacy Adam Carbullido, International Community Health Services Strategic Initiatives Vice President, and Asian Health Services Chief Deputy of Administration Thu Quach

Location: Virtual Event; 12:00 PM

\* Axios event on Juneteenth with Dem Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee – Axios News Shapers event to commemorate Juneteenth, unpack the historical significance of the day and discuss Black political power in the U.S., with Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, 'On Juneteenth' author Annette Gordon-Reed, and Bank of America Racial Equality and Economic Opportunity Executive Ebony Thomas

Location: Virtual Event; 12:30 PM

\* FTA holds public information session on equity agenda – Federal Transit Administration public information session on 'agency's equity agenda and Request for Information on Transportation Equity Data'

Location: Virtual Event; 2:00 PM

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b7E -3





**From:** [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 18, 2021 11:53 AM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy.docx  
Hi Stephen,

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Thanks very much for the opportunity to review. I just had a few minor comments/edits on the section you noted. Please see attached in redline.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

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

[REDACTED]

b7E -3

From:

[REDACTED]

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

Date: Fri Jun 18 2021 14:46:33 EDT

To: Braverman, Adam L. (ODAG) (JMD)

Cc:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Kelly, Stephen D. (OGO) (FBI)

[REDACTED]

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

Bcc:

Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Re: BWC OIG Report

Attachments:

Thanks very much Adam and a wonderful weekend to all as well.

[REDACTED]  
United States Marshals Service

b6 -5  
b7C -5

[REDACTED]

On Jun 18, 2021, at 1:46 PM, Braverman, Adam L. (ODAG) [REDACTED]

I wanted to share with you the Department's response to the OIG Report.

Have a great weekend,

Adam

<BWC OIG Response Final.pdf>

**From:** [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 18, 2021 3:27 PM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.18.2021 [redacted] edits.docx  
Hi Stephen,

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Here are my edits/thoughts.

Thanks

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

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[redacted]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]  
[redacted]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [redacted]

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

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

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

b7E -3

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Monday, June 21, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 21, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** FBIDirBriefing210621.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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**Contact Information:** Please contact us any time at [REDACTED]  
Use of this email address will automatically result in your message being delivered to everyone involved with your service, including senior management. Thank you.

b7E -3

## **FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS – DIRECTOR’S AM NEWS BRIEFING**

**MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021 5:00 AM EDT**

### **Media Analyses: Despite Carlson’s Efforts To Elevate Conspiracy Theory, FBI Did Not Organize Jan. 6 Capitol Riot.**

A New York Times (6/18, Qiu, 20.6M) fact check says Fox News host Tucker Carlson and other “influential conservative voices” are spreading “an unfounded theory, relying on a misinterpretation of legal terminology, that the F.B.I. organized the Jan. 6 siege on the Capitol,” though legal experts “said this speculation was illogical and far-fetched.” Likewise, a Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) analysis says that even as “the far right rushes to embrace...Carlson’s FBI-Capitol riot conspiracy theory,” the “quickly debunked claims” would have been “trivial for Carlson’s team to unearth before his segment aired.” However, the Post contends that the allegation was “irresistible on the right because it contributed to efforts to reframe the violence that day as something other than the fury of supporters of President Donald Trump misled about claims of rampant voter fraud.”

The Washington Examiner (6/20, Roman, 888K) reports that “a pair of CNN anchors are going after” Carlson “for his claims that undercover federal agents may have orchestrated the Capitol Hill riot on Jan. 6.” The Examiner adds, “CNN’s Jim Acosta, who noted he previously ‘described Fox News as the bulls\*\*\* factory in honor of its steady stream of bogus segments aimed at ginning up viewer outrage,’ said he decided to award Carlson ‘the distinction of bulls\*\*\* factory employee of the month’ because he ‘has really outdone himself this week.’” Brian Stelter “then followed suit on Sunday, claiming he decided to ‘send some questions to Fox News’ about Carlson’s ‘completely bogus conspiracy theory.’ ‘I asked Fox News [public relations] executives, ‘Did anyone vet Carlson’s reporting? Did the Fox newsroom go through his reporting? Did they examine it ahead of time? Why haven’t they followed up on it since?’”

Newsweek (6/19, Roche, 2.67M) reports that Carlson “addressed some of the criticisms of his theory about the FBI and the Capitol riot on Friday, telling his prime-time audience that CNN was now ‘an arm of the woke national security state.’” On Friday, Carlson “pointed to comments from CNN hosts Don Lemon, Chris Cuomo, John Berman, and Brianna Keilar as well as Republican Representative Adam Kinzinger. All of them had criticized Carlson on CNN. Carlson appeared to criticize CNN for not disproving his theory about unindicted co-conspirators and the FBI. ‘And then just to make it totally obvious that CNN now functions as an arm of the woke national security state, which they do, the channel then invited on the former assistant director of the FBI, a man called Chris Swecker, to reassure viewers that the FBI did absolutely nothing wrong on January 6,’ Carlson told his audience. ‘Not one bad thing. Trust us. And, of course, CNN does trust the FBI. The FBI’s word is good enough for them.’”

***WPost Analysis: Conservatives Increasingly Seeking To Turn Babbitt Into A Martyr.*** A Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) analysis says 21 Republican lawmakers this week “voted not to award Congressional Gold Medals to the police officers who protected the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6,” claiming that they opposed language in the measure that “the riot constituted an ‘insurrection,’” but “increasingly, key elements of the conservative movement have expressed another relevant objection involving Capitol Police officers’ conduct that day: suggesting Ashli Babbitt was a martyr.”

***More Democrats Push For Select Committee To Investigate Jan. 6.*** The Hill (6/20, Lillis, Wong, 5.69M) says that as Democrats “chew on their options for investigating Jan. 6, the select committee is rising to the top” after their “first choice – forming an independent, 9/11-style commission – was blocked by Senate Republicans.” The Hill adds that as House Speaker Pelosi “inches closer to her decision, some members have called for the empowerment of a single sitting committee, such as Homeland Security, to take the investigative lead; others want to lend the Senate more time to round up additional support for the outside commission; and still others are urging President Biden to seat an investigative panel of his own. But the emerging consensus appears to favor a fourth option: the creation of a special committee dedicated to examining the extraordinary and violent attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6.”

***Fitzpatrick Calls Rhetoric Around January 6 Insurrection “Incredibly Dangerous.”*** Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), on CNN’s State Of The Union (6/20, 514K), discussed the allegations that the January 6 insurrection was a false flag operation. Fitzpatrick said, “Being a lifelong FBI agent, I will tell you...when I got sworn in to Congress in 2017, I have been very, very taken back and dismayed at the disrespect that law enforcement is being given across the board, both on the left and the right: on the left with local police, and on the right with the FBI. In fact, just this week, the FBI got attacked twice, once from my Democrat colleagues on the Intel Committee in which I sit, and then later by my colleagues on the right, who are trying to come up with this theory that somehow the FBI was behind January 6, which is incredibly irresponsible. ... The facts don’t even follow. And I think the rhetoric is very dangerous, and it’s got to stop.”



**McManus: GOP Is Unsure If It Is Against Political Violence.** Doyle McManus writes in the Los Angeles Times (6/20, 3.37M) that the Republican Party is “not sure whether it’s for it or against” political violence. In the days immediately following the Jan. 6 US Capitol riot, “GOP leaders delivered a sensible, unified response: There’s no place in our constitutional system for that kind of violence.” But since then, “some leading Republicans have been backsliding – offering excuses for the insurgents who sought to overturn the election through extralegal means.” Republicans, McManus argues, “are trying to tiptoe around a fundamental problem: Their candidate lost a presidential election, but he not only refuses to accept the voters’ verdict; he wants his party to ‘fight’ to restore him to power.” While they “want to move past the embarrassment of Jan. 6,” that “can’t happen until they settle their internal debate: Are they a party that condones extraconstitutional violence or not?”

**DOJ Releases Body Cam Footage Showing Jan. 6 Attacks On Capitol Police.** The AP (6/19, Richer) reports the Justice Department has released videos “under court order [that] provide a chilling new look at the chaos at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, including body camera footage that shows a man charging at a police officer with a flagpole and tackling him to the ground.” The AP says the videos, which “are being presented as evidence in prosecutors’ cases against three men charged with assaulting police,” show “a Marine Corps veteran and former New York City police officer wielding a flagpole as he attacks police, as well as rioters crushing another officer into a door as he screams in pain. Still another video shows a New Jersey man punching an officer in the head.” The AP adds the footage comes as Republican lawmakers “increasingly try to downplay the siege, portraying the breach of the Capitol as a mostly peaceful protest despite the shocking violence that unfolded,” and as The Hill (6/19, Marcos, 5.69M) reports “a growing number of Republican lawmakers are refusing to say that the Jan. 6 insurrection was actually an insurrection.”

Politico Magazine (6/19, 6.68M) senior media writer Jack Shafer asserts that unless Republicans “change their stripes – fat chance of that – we can never expect the current Congress to answer our questions definitively. That leaves it to the press to sort the Jan. 6 sense from the nonsense wherever and whenever it appears.”

**Two Pensacola, Florida Men Plead Not Guilty To Capitol Siege Charges.** The Pensacola (FL) News Journal (6/18, Warren-Hicks, 196K) reports, “The two men from Pensacola charged in the Jan. 6 siege of the U.S. Capitol have both entered pleas of not guilty in their respective cases.” Jesus Rivera, 37, “was the first person from Pensacola to be arrested on charges linked to the riot when he was taken into custody Jan. 20. Earlier this month, he rejected a plea deal made by federal prosecutors at a June 7 status hearing. That same day, he entered a plea of not guilty.” Tristan Stevens, 25, “was the second of two men from Pensacola to be arrested for his alleged role in the Capitol siege. He was arrested Feb. 5. Stevens pleaded not guilty March 12. Court records show Stevens is scheduled to appear via a video call before Judge Trevor N. McFadden for an Aug. 8 status conference. No trial has been set for his case.”

**Capitol Rioter Seeks Political Comeback.** The AP (6/20) reports Couy Griffin, “who rode to national political fame by embracing President Donald Trump with a series of horseback caravans and came crashing down with a defiant stand Jan. 6 against President Joe Biden’s election,” is now “divorced, disparaged by family and confronts a political recall drive, a state corruption investigation and federal charges. And yet he remains determined. He sees himself as governor one day.” Griffin is “one of thousands of Trump loyalists in public office who are charting an uncertain future ahead of the 2022 election cycle.” Nevertheless, the AP says, “loyal constituents are easy to come by in a rural county steeped in the anti-establishment, pro-gun culture that dominates southern New Mexico.”

**Texas Man Faces Firearms Charge In Capitol Siege Probe.** The Hill (6/18, 5.69M) reports, “A defendant in the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. capitol is the first to face a firearms charge under a riot law making it unlawful to carry a firearm while rioting.” Guy Wesley Reffitt of Texas “was arrested in January after his wife told the FBI that he threatened to shoot their family if they turned him in. Reffitt pleaded not guilty in March to obstruction of an official proceeding, entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds; as well as obstruction of justice by hindering communication through physical force or threat of physical force. In a superseding indictment on Wednesday, he was issued the additional charge of having a firearm with him at the Capitol.”

**Iowa Governor Signs Measure Enhancing Penalties For Protest-Related Offenses.** The Hill (6/18, Jenkins, 5.69M) reports Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) on Thursday “signed a bill into law that will increase the punishment for protest-related crimes and strengthen legal protections for law enforcement.” The “Back the Blue” bill is going to “make rioting a felony in Iowa as opposed to a misdemeanor.” Moreover, the measure will heighten “legal penalties for blocking streets or highways, a local CBS affiliate reported.”

**Charges Against Individual Who Drove Truck Through Crowd Of Floyd Demonstrators Could Be Dropped.** The [AP](#) (6/18) reports, "A truck driver who drove through a large crowd of protesters on a Minneapolis highway last year during demonstrations over George Floyd's death will have criminal charges dropped if he remains law-abiding for the next year." The AP paraphrases the Star Tribune as having said that "Hennepin County prosecutors entered into a 'continuance without prosecution' agreement with Bogdan Vechirko, of Otsego, on Friday." He "was charged with one felony count of making threats of violence and with criminal vehicular operation, a gross misdemeanor."

**Black Lives Matter Alleges In Court That LAPD Has Not Held Personnel Accountable For Abuses During Protests Last Year.** The [Los Angeles Times](#) (6/18, 3.37M) reports Black Lives Matter Los Angeles "and other protesters claimed in federal court Friday that the Los Angeles Police Department has 'failed completely' to hold officers accountable for excessive force and other abuses during 2020's mass demonstrations." Lawyers representing the demonstrators made the assertion "in an amended complaint filed in their sweeping class-action lawsuit against the city, alleging the LAPD has failed to investigate serious cases of excessive force that have been documented by others, and unjustly ruled in favor of officers in cases it has reviewed."

**Portland Police's Crowd Control Team Resigns In Wake Of Officer's Indictment.** [Reuters](#) (6/18) reports, "All members of the crowd control team of Portland police have resigned from their positions in the unit after an officer was indicted on an assault charge stemming from alleged illegal use of force during a protest last year." In a statement from Thursday in which it indicated that personnel are going to carry on in their typical assignments, Portland Police said, "On June 16, 2021, Portland Police Bureau employees serving as members of the Rapid Response Team (RRT) left their voluntary positions and no longer comprise a team."

**Arizona Medical Student Arrested After Allegedly Threatening To Kill Classmates, Bomb Campus.** [CNN](#) (6/19, Selva, 89.21M) reports, "A student in Arizona was arrested after threatening to kill some of their medical school classmates and bomb the school campus, the Glendale Police Department said in a news release." The student "faces four felony counts of computer tampering by using a computer in a course of conduct that threatened, terrorized or tormented specific individuals, police said." According to CNN, "The dean of Midwestern University at Glendale contacted authorities in April and reported that the student had sent a message from their phone threatening to bomb the campus, according to police and a probable cause statement. When the dean confronted the student, she denied sending the message, the probable cause statement says. The student was arrested Wednesday after she was linked to the email addresses, social media accounts and electronic devices that were involved in the threatening messages, police said. The FBI is assisting in the investigation."

**Some On Left Concerned About Doxing Of Far Right.** The [Washington Post](#) (6/20, A1, Klemko, 10.52M) reports "doxing," the online disclosure of someone's personal information, "is part of a growing effort by left-wing activists to punish members of far-right groups accused of violent behavior by exposing them to their employers, family and friends." The Times says the doxing of Washington state resident Edward Jeremy Dawson "after a violent clash" last year "highlights the effect the tactic can have – unemployment and personal upheaval followed by a new job that pays much less than his old one – but also the limits of the technique: Dawson is unrepentant for his role in galvanizing a mob to harass [freelance journalist Laura] Jedeed and continues to espouse far-right views. Indeed, some on the left, including Jedeed, who is a well-known activist in Portland, Ore., have qualms about the tactic and how effective it can be in the fight against extremism."

**Schiff Looks For Attorney General To Investigate DOJ After Email Subpoenas.** House Intelligence Chair Adam Schiff on [CBS' Face The Nation](#) (6/20, 2.44M) discussed the recent reports that the Department of Justice under the Trump Administration subpoenaed his email records. Schiff said, "I had to hear from Apple and not the Justice Department about what had gone on in the last four years. The inspector general is doing an investigation. I talked with the attorney general about going beyond that. I think he really needs to do a wholesale review of all of the politicization of the department over the last four years. What happened to our committee, what happened to members of the press, that's just a subset. The direct intervention by the president and the attorney general in specific criminal cases implicating the president. ... These are gross abuses of the independence of the Justice Department, and we don't know how far they run."

**CNN Examines How DOJ Subpoenaed Lawmakers In Leak Probe.** [CNN](#) (6/20, Perez, Brown, Polantz, Herb, 89.21M) reports, "The subpoena that swept up the records of two Democratic congressmen, their staff and family members in 2018 appears to have been the result of a leak investigation that initially included scrutinizing a senior aide on the House Intelligence Committee, and not the lawmakers themselves, sources told CNN." According to CNN, "The Justice

Department's original secret subpoena to Apple, sources say, was an effort to identify people connected with the staffer. Apple provided names connected to the accounts the company had records for, including then-House Intelligence ranking member Adam Schiff and Rep. Eric Swalwell, two vocal political enemies of former President Donald Trump. This was potentially the first instance federal investigators knew they had records of the two California Democrats, according to the sources."

**WPost: DOJ Seizure Of Cloud Data Of Lawmakers And Their Families Without A Warrant "Ought To Be Unacceptable."** The [Washington Post](#) (6/19, 10.52M) editorializes that former President Donald Trump's Justice Department's targeting of federal lawmakers and their families' cloud-based calendars, without a warrant, "ought to be unacceptable." The Post argues that Congress should take action and instruct "judges and magistrates to permit secret surveillance using a gag order against a third party storing personal information only under the same stringent circumstances that permit secret surveillance generally."

### **Former NASA Scientist Sentenced For Lying To Federal Agents About China Ties.** [FedScoop](#)

(6/18, Nyczepir) reports, "U.S. District Judge P. Kevin Castel sentenced a former NASA nanotechnologist, suspected of giving Chinese nationals access to its facilities, to 30 days in prison Wednesday for lying to federal agents about working at a Chinese research university." Meyya Meyyappan, 66, "served as chief scientist for exploration technology at the Center for Nanotechnology at NASA's Ames Research Center, until he was caught lying to the FBI and NASA Office of Inspector General about being a visiting professor at Soochow University for an estimated \$1.4 million over five years." FedScoop adds, "The case raises questions about NASA's insider threat protections given Meyyappan's 'long-running deception,' in which he applied in 2016 to China's Thousand Talents Program – known for incentivizing foreign researchers to transfer technology and intellectual property licitly or illicitly, according to court documents."

**Two Kentucky Constables Convicted Of Violating Rights.** The [AP](#) (6/19) reports from London, Kentucky, "A federal jury ruled that two Kentucky constables violated people's rights by illegally searching or detaining them and taking money or other property without going through the legal process." The AP adds, "Pulaski County constables Michael 'Wally' Wallace and Gary E. Baldock were convicted Friday of conspiring to violate civil rights and one charge each of possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute it." FBI agents "found 5.9 grams of meth at Wallace's house when they arrested him and half a gram of meth in the trunk of Baldock's cruiser. Federal authorities didn't argue the two sold drugs, but rather that they kept drugs to plant them on people to make bogus arrests."

The [Lexington \(KY\) Herald-Leader](#) (6/18, 205K) reports that Wallace "had been free on bond, but U.S. District Judge Robert E. Wier ordered him taken into custody. Baldock had already been in jail for some time before the trial after being accused of shooting an FBI agent when federal authorities came to arrest the two men on March 6, 2020."

The [Somerset \(KY\) Commonwealth Journal](#) (6/18, Slavey, 23K) also reports.

**At Least 67 People Killed In Shootings This Weekend.** On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/20, story 6, 1:45, Davis, 4.13M), Alex Presha reported gun violence nationwide is "surging. At least 45 people shot in Chicago since Friday, four of them fatally. In California, at least one person killed, six others wounded during a Juneteenth celebration in Oakland Saturday. One nonprofit that tracks shootings across the country logged 67 fatal shootings in 24 hours between Friday and Saturday." The [Dallas Morning News](#) (6/20, Williams, 772K) reports that two children were among eight people "wounded during a shooting at a strip mall in Old East Dallas early Sunday morning, authorities said."

### **Charlottesville Trial Involving "Unite The Right" Organizers Will Not Be Relocated Due To Violence Concern.**

[Bloomberg](#) (6/18, 3.57M) reports, "Right-wing organizers of the deadly 2017 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, failed to convince a judge that the October trial in a lawsuit against them should be moved because it might have a 'punch-a-Nazi' vibe." Bloomberg paraphrases US District Judge Norman Moon as having determined on Friday that the trial remaining in Charlottesville is going to "be more convenient for witnesses, and all parties have time to ensure the proceeding is conducted in a safe manner." Defendants had requested "to move the trial out of fear police will allow violent protesters to attack them with impunity."

**Phoenix-Area Shooting Rampage Leaves One Dead, 12 Injured.** The [Washington Post](#) (6/18, 10.52M) reports on a Thursday rampage in which police indicate that a shooter killed no less than one individual and injured 12 others at eight sites throughout three Phoenix-area cities. Local news reports say that the shooter seemed "to be targeting victims at random." The Post adds, "A suspect is now in custody, Sgt. Brandon Sheffert, a spokesman with the Peoria Police Department, said at a news conference." [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/18, story 7, 1:21, Johnson, 4.82M) reported that the gunman has been "charged

with murder and assault.” According to correspondent Will Carr, police indicate that 19-year-old Ashin Tricarico “went on a random shooting spree targeting anyone in his sights. The shooting started around 11:10 Thursday morning.” Carr added, “Authorities say they’re still looking for a motive tonight.”

**Authorities Probing Hate Fliers Targeting Fairfax County School Board Members.** The [Washington Post](#) (6/18, 10.52M) reports, “Fairfax County police are investigating hate group fliers targeting school board members that appeared on the doorsteps of some county residents this week, officials said Friday.” According to the Post, “The fliers – which included information about the Ku Klux Klan – resemble the antisemitic mailers that have appeared in Loudoun and Prince William counties in recent years. In all three communities, the fliers were delivered in plastic bags weighed down with birdseed.” The Post adds, “The ones in Fairfax included a veiled threat against the county’s all-Democratic school board, which includes several Jewish members, a Muslim woman and a gay man. ‘Your communist, nation-destroying agenda will not stand,’ the fliers said. ‘Yahweh will smite!!!’ it continued, using an Old Testament name for God.”

**Five Charged In Kickback Scheme Involving National Grid.** [Newsday \(NY\)](#) (6/18, Harrington, 776K) reports, “Five former National Grid employees accepted bribes and kickbacks, including cash, international travel and an RV, from companies that received millions of dollars in contracts from the London-based energy giant, according to a criminal complaint filed in Brooklyn this week.” According to Newsday, “National Grid wasn’t named in the complaint, but the company confirmed to Newsday that the five men charged in the complaint previously worked for National Grid. The company said it ‘fully cooperated’ with the FBI investigation. Federal prosecutors charged the men – four of whom live on Long Island – with soliciting and accepting hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash, gifts and services between 2013 and 2020 from the unnamed contractor and affiliated companies, chiefly to be awarded facilities maintenance work for National Grid.”

**San Francisco Man Pleads Guilty To \$3.5M Fraud Scheme.** The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (6/20, Rubenstein, 2.44M) reports, “A 33-year-old San Francisco man pleaded guilty to cheating investors out of \$3.5 million in an elaborate e-commerce fraud that involved fake contracts with prominent sportswear companies, the U.S. Attorney’s Office announced.” Andrew Chapin, “the CEO and mastermind behind Benja Inc., pleaded guilty Wednesday in connection with the scheme in which investors were told that Chapin and Benja had lucrative contracts with such sportswear companies as Nike and Patagonia, when such contracts did not exist. Under his plea agreement with prosecutors, Chapin admitted to impersonating corporate representatives, creating fake spreadsheets and to submitting false information to obtain bank credit lines for Benja that he used to pay off his personal credit cards, pay off earlier investors and buy cryptocurrency.”

**FBI: Senior Citizens Lost Nearly \$1B In Scams Last Year.** [ABC News](#) (6/18, 2.44M) reports, “Senior citizens lost almost \$1 billion in scams in 2020, according to an FBI report released this week. A total of 105,301 people over the age of 65 were scammed, with an average loss of \$9,175, and almost 2,000 older Americans lost more than \$100,000, the report said.” ABC News adds, “By far, the elderly were being extorted the most, with just over 23,000 victims, the FBI found. The highest number of fraud cases occurred in California, Florida and Texas. ‘Each year, millions of elderly Americans fall victim to some type of financial fraud or internet scheme, such as romance scams, tech support fraud, and lottery or sweepstake scams. Criminals gain their targets’ trust or use tactics of intimidation and threats to take advantage of their victims,’ said Calvin Shivers, assistant director of the FBI’s criminal division. ‘Once successful, scammers are likely to keep a scheme going because of the prospect of significant financial gain.’”

The [Miami Herald](#) (6/19, Aspuru, 647K) reports, “Florida currently ranks second in the country for elder fraud with over \$84,000,000 lost by those over 60 years of age in the state, according to an FBI report.”

**Carnival Cruise Confirms March Data Breach.** A Carnival Cruise spokesperson on Friday told [The Hill](#) (6/18, Williams, 5.69M) that “customer and employee data may have been exposed in a data breach in March.” The Hill reports that the [AP](#) broke the story on Thursday and “noted that the company had also been breached twice last year,” but “did not report how many customers or staffers may have been affected.”

**Cyberattack Breached NYC Law Department Via Stolen Password, Sources Say.** The [New York Times](#) (6/18, Southall, Weiser, Rubinstein, 20.6M) reports the New York City Law Department “holds some of the city’s most closely guarded secrets: evidence of police misconduct, the identities of young children charged with serious crimes, plaintiffs’ medical records and personal data for thousands of city employees. But all it took for a hacker to infiltrate the 1,000-lawyer agency’s network early this month was one worker’s pilfered email password, according to a city official briefed on the matter.” The Times adds that while “officials have not said how the intruder obtained the worker’s credentials, nor have they determined the scope of

the attack," it "was enabled by the Law Department's failure to implement a basic safeguard, known as multifactor authentication, more than two years after the city began requiring it, according to four people with knowledge of the legal agency's system and the incident."

**Vermont Hospital Still Calculating Costs Of Last Year's Ransomware Attack.** The AP (6/18) reports from Burlington, Vermont, "Officials at Vermont's largest hospital are still trying to determine the full financial impact of the cyberattack last October that knocked out computers affecting three hospitals in Vermont and three in New York." The AP adds, "Scheduling and patient medical records were affected and some cancer patients faced delays in treatment." According to the AP, "It took months for the University of Vermont Health Network to recover from the attack, estimated to cost upwards of \$63 million. The network is insured for \$30 million and officials are continuing to negotiate with the insurance companies, but the final cost will exceed the coverage, WCAX-TV reported. The FBI is still investigating the origins of the attack."

**AP Analysis: "Hands-Off Approach In Washington" Increasing Confusion Surrounding Death Penalty.** An AP (6/18, Tarm) analysis says activists broadly anticipated that the President would "take swift action against the death penalty as the first sitting president to oppose capital punishment, especially since an unprecedented spate of executions by his predecessor ended just days before Biden took office." The White House, though, has been mainly quiet, as Biden hasn't indicated whether he'd support a measure "introduced by fellow Democrats to strike the death penalty from U.S. statutes," and additionally hasn't abolished "Trump-era protocols enabling federal executions to resume and allowing prisons to use firing squads if necessary, something many thought he'd do on day one." Moreover, the Administration this week requested that the Supreme Court restore "the Boston Marathon bomber's original death sentence." The AP adds that "the hands-off approach in Washington is adding to disarray around the death penalty nationwide."

**Death Row Inmate In North Carolina Released Following Recently Found Evidence.** The Hill (6/18, 5.69M) reports that "an inmate on death row in North Carolina" was released in the wake of recently found evidence having prompted "him to plead to lesser charges." The Hill paraphrases the Charlotte Observer as having said that Michael Sherril "left prison on Wednesday evening after he pleaded guilty to second-degree murder, second-degree rape and second-degree arson charges related to the 1984 death of Cynthia Dotson." The Observer also said there were several problems with Sherril's initial conviction, even though his DNA was discovered at the scene. The Hill adds, "For example, a missing fingerprint was taken at the scene, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg police had destroyed a rape kit the year after Dotson's death that had material collected from her body."

**Senate Democrats To Move On Scaled-Down Gun Legislation.** Politico (6/20, Wu, 6.73M) reports Democrats "are preparing to vote on a scaled-down guns bill – most likely a curtailed plan to boost background checks for firearm buyers" in an effort "to unite the party and pick up a limited number of Republican votes, even as their effort appears headed towards the same doomed fate as previous proposals to curb gun violence." Instead of putting up "House-passed bills that established universal background checks and closed other loopholes, Democrats are leaning towards scheduling a vote next month on legislation increasing the number of online and gun show transactions covered by federal background checks. Unlike the House-passed gun bills, Senate Democrats are betting such legislation could unite them and even tempt Republicans to join them." Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI) said that even if the measure fails, as expected, the show of Democratic unity would send an "important message to the American people" on where senators stand on the issue.

**AP Analysis: Some Republican States Expand Law Enforcement's Powers.** An AP (6/19, Amiri) analysis says that after a year of demonstrations regarding police brutality, a number of GOP-led states have disregarded or obstructed "police-reform proposals, moving instead in the other direction by granting greater powers to officers, making it harder to discipline them and expanding their authority to crack down on demonstrations." The AP adds that "the sponsors of the GOP measures acted in the wake of the nationwide protests that followed George Floyd's death, and they cited the disturbances and destruction that spread last summer through major U.S. cities."

**San Francisco Debates Shifting Resources From Police To Community-Headed Homelessness Response.** The San Francisco Chronicle (6/19, Moench, 2.44M) says, "San Francisco policymakers generally agree that police are not best suited to respond to homelessness and mental illness – but debate still rages over how to shift resources and whether money should be taken from police to do so." The Chronicle adds that "the issue looms large as the Board of Supervisors" concludes talks regarding San Francisco's budget. Part of the law enforcement funding debate pertains to a proposal to remove police from "the equation for homelessness calls." The Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) "would respond to diverted 911 and 311 calls related to homelessness that are low priority and don't pose a danger." While the proposal has the support of "a

group of supervisors,” Mayor London Breed is against it. CART teams would be “community workers trained in mental health and first aid to de-escalate crises and connect people with services.”

**CNN Analysis: Worries Regarding “Retreat In Proactive Policing” Increasing.** A [CNN](#) (6/19, Sanchez, Nickeas, Morales, 89.21M) analysis says that as US cities face an increase “in gun violence ahead of an expected summertime crime surge, concerns about a retreat in proactive policing are mounting across the country amid a debate over brutality and systemic racism that followed the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis.” Police Executive Research Forum Executive Director Chuck Wexler said, “You just have to be honest and say that police in America are far more cautious today about stopping someone than they were a year ago.” Wexler added, “Proactive policing is much more complicated. And now we’re in the post George Floyd era, which makes police understandably cautious.” According to CNN, “Proactive policing involves aggressive, officer-initiated enforcement – such as street stops – and heightened police presence in high crime areas to combat firearms violations and other crimes.”

**Bipartisan Bill Would Limit Use Of “Stingray” Cell Tower Simulators By Police.** The [Washington Times](#) (6/18, Blake, 626K) reports, “Bipartisan legislation proposed in both houses of Congress would require local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to get a warrant to use so-called ‘stingray’ devices that suck up cellphone data.” The Times adds, “Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden and California Rep. Ted Lieu, both Democrats, introduced the legislation Thursday with Sen. Steve Daines of Montana and Rep. Tom McClintock of California, both Republicans. The bill would set nationwide rules for how authorities use stingrays, or cell site simulators, reining in what its sponsors described as invasive and unconstitutional surveillance devices. ‘Cell site simulators have existed in a kind of legal no-man’s land for far too long,’ Mr. Wyden said in a statement, adding the bill would establish ‘clear, transparent rules’ for when they may be used.”

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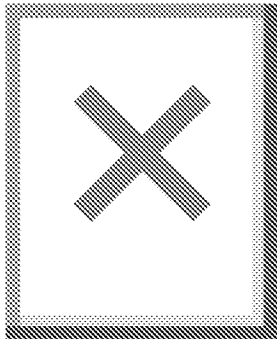
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#### LEADING THE NEWS

### **Media Analyses: Despite Carlson's Efforts To Elevate Conspiracy Theory, FBI Did Not Organize Jan. 6 Capitol Riot.**

A [New York Times](#) (6/18, Qiu, 20.6M) fact check says Fox News host Tucker Carlson and other "influential conservative voices" are spreading "an unfounded theory, relying on a misinterpretation of legal terminology, that the F.B.I. organized the Jan. 6 siege on the Capitol," though legal experts "said this speculation was illogical and far-fetched." Likewise, a [Washington Post](#) (6/18, 10.52M) analysis says that even as "the far right rushes to embrace...Carlson's FBI-

Capitol riot conspiracy theory," the "quickly debunked claims" would have been "trivial for Carlson's team to unearth before his segment aired." However, the Post contends that the allegation was "irresistible on the right because it contributed to efforts to reframe the violence that day as something other than the fury of supporters of President Donald Trump misled about claims of rampant voter fraud."

The Washington Examiner (6/20, Roman, 888K) reports that "a pair of CNN anchors are going after" Carlson "for his claims that undercover federal agents may have orchestrated the Capitol Hill riot on Jan. 6." The Examiner adds, "CNN's Jim Acosta, who noted he previously 'described Fox News as the bulls\*\*\* factory in honor of its steady stream of bogus segments aimed at ginning up viewer outrage,' said he decided to award Carlson 'the distinction of bulls\*\*\* factory employee of the month' because he 'has really outdone himself this week.'" Brian Stelter "then followed suit on Sunday, claiming he decided to 'send some questions to Fox News' about Carlson's 'completely bogus conspiracy theory.'" "I asked Fox News [public relations] executives, 'Did anyone vet Carlson's reporting? Did the Fox newsroom go through his reporting? Did they examine it ahead of time? Why haven't they followed up on it since?'"

Newsweek (6/19, Roche, 2.67M) reports that Carlson "addressed some of the criticisms of his theory about the FBI and the Capitol riot on Friday, telling his prime-time audience that CNN was now 'an arm of the woke national security state.'" On Friday, Carlson "pointed to comments from CNN hosts Don Lemon, Chris Cuomo, John Berman, and Brianna Keilar as well as Republican Representative Adam Kinzinger. All of them had criticized Carlson on CNN. Carlson appeared to criticize CNN for not disproving his theory about unindicted co-conspirators and the FBI. 'And then just to make it totally obvious that CNN now functions as an arm of the woke national security state, which they do, the channel then invited on the former assistant director of the FBI, a man called Chris Swecker, to reassure viewers that the FBI did absolutely nothing wrong on January 6,' Carlson told his audience. 'Not one bad thing. Trust us. And, of course, CNN does trust the FBI. The FBI's word is good enough for them.'"

***WPost Analysis: Conservatives Increasingly Seeking To Turn Babbitt Into A Martyr.*** A Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) analysis says 21 Republican lawmakers this week "voted not to award Congressional Gold Medals to the police officers who protected the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6," claiming that they opposed language in the measure that "the riot constituted an 'insurrection,'" but "increasingly, key elements of the conservative movement have expressed another relevant objection involving Capitol Police officers' conduct that day: suggesting Ashli Babbitt was a martyr."

***More Democrats Push For Select Committee To Investigate Jan. 6.*** The Hill (6/20, Lillis, Wong, 5.69M) says that as Democrats "chew on their options for investigating Jan. 6, the select committee is rising to the top" after their "first choice – forming an independent, 9/11-style commission – was blocked by Senate Republicans." The Hill adds that as House Speaker Pelosi "inches closer to her decision, some members have called for the empowerment of a single sitting committee, such as Homeland Security, to take the investigative lead; others want to lend the Senate more time to round up additional support for the outside commission; and still others are urging President Biden to seat an investigative panel of his own. But the emerging consensus appears to favor a fourth option: the creation of a special committee dedicated to examining the extraordinary and violent attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6."

***Fitzpatrick Calls Rhetoric Around January 6 Insurrection "Incredibly Dangerous."*** Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), on CNN's State Of The Union (6/20, 514K), discussed the allegations that the January 6 insurrection was a false flag operation. Fitzpatrick said, "Being a lifelong FBI agent, I will tell you...when I got sworn in to Congress in 2017, I have been very, very taken back and dismayed at the disrespect that law enforcement is being given across the board, both on the left and the right: on the left with local police, and on the right with the FBI. In fact, just this week, the FBI got attacked twice, once from my Democrat colleagues on the Intel Committee in which I sit, and then later by my colleagues on the right, who are trying to come up with this theory that somehow the FBI was behind January 6, which is incredibly irresponsible. ... The facts don't even follow. And I think the rhetoric is very dangerous, and it's got to stop."

***McManus: GOP Is Unsure If It Is Against Political Violence.*** Doyle McManus writes in

the Los Angeles Times (6/20, 3.37M) that the Republican Party is "not sure whether it's for it or against" political violence. In the days immediately following the Jan. 6 US Capitol riot, "GOP leaders delivered a sensible, unified response: There's no place in our constitutional system for that kind of violence." But since then, "some leading Republicans have been backsliding – offering excuses for the insurgents who sought to overturn the election through extralegal means." Republicans, McManus argues, "are trying to tiptoe around a fundamental problem: Their candidate lost a presidential election, but he not only refuses to accept the voters' verdict; he wants his party to 'fight' to restore him to power." While they "want to move past the embarrassment of Jan. 6," that "can't happen until they settle their internal debate: Are they a party that condones extraconstitutional violence or not?"

### **Biden Touts 300M Vaccine-Dose Milestone, Emphasizes Danger Of Remaining Unvaccinated.**

The AP (6/18, Superville) reports that President Biden "took a cautious victory lap Friday in his quest to bring the COVID-19 pandemic under control, announcing that 300 million vaccine shots have been administered in the 150 days since he took office." The AP says Biden "credited scientists, companies, the American people and his whole-of-government effort," and "noted that the widespread vaccination campaign had set the stage for most Americans to have a relatively normal summer as businesses reopen and employers hire," but even as the President "marks one milestone, he is in danger of failing to meet another: his target to have 70% of American adults at least partially vaccinated by July Fourth, in a little over two weeks."

Axios (6/18, 1.26M) reports Biden had set a July 4 "goal to get 160 million Americans fully vaccinated and 70% to have received at least one shot." The Hill (6/18, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports that a White House fact sheet distributed on Friday "notes that 15 states and Washington, D.C., have met or exceeded the benchmark of 70 percent of adults with at least one vaccine dose. About half of U.S. states and D.C. have fully vaccinated more than half of their adult populations."

However, the New York Times (6/18, Stolberg, Walker, 20.6M) emphasizes that as the Administration "makes a last push to reach the July 4 goal," the "time frame is tight." A Times analysis "shows that, if the rate of adult vaccinations continues on the seven-day average," only 67.6% of Americans will have received their first dose of the vaccine by Independence Day. Reuters (6/18, Erman, Shalal) reports that "as of Friday, around 65.1% of people in the United States had gotten at least one shot, and that mark has increased by less than one percentage point over the past two weeks." On ABC World News Tonight (6/18, story 5, 0:29, Johnson, 4.82M), Stephanie Ramos said that "on average, about 387,000 adults are getting their first shot every day, but to reach the President's goal, that number would need to more than double to 806,000 adults every day between now and July Fourth."

The Washington Post (6/18, Wagner, 10.52M) reports Biden "acknowledged the United States is falling short of that goal and pleaded with the unprotected public to go get their shot," while Bloomberg (6/18, Fabian, 3.57M) reports that the President is "warning that a highly transmissible variant of the virus could cause more deaths." Politico (6/18, Leonard, 6.73M) reports he "warned that with the Delta variant, people could be more likely to die from the virus in areas with lower levels of vaccination." Politico adds Biden "said he didn't expect the variant to force another lockdown, but said that some places 'will be very hurt' by it."

CNBC (6/18, Lovelace, 7.34M) reports on its website that studies "suggest delta is around 60% more transmissible than alpha, the variant first identified in the United Kingdom that was more contagious than the original strain that emerged from Wuhan, China, in late 2019." CNBC adds health experts "say the delta strain is particularly worrisome for young people, many of whom have yet to get vaccinated. While scientists still don't know whether delta causes more severe symptoms, there are signs that it could provoke different symptoms than other variants." On ABC World News Tonight (6/18, story 4, 2:33, Johnson, 4.82M), Stephanie Ramos reported that 30 million Americans "still need their second vaccine dose, something experts say is critical for protection against the Delta variant."

Meanwhile, USA Today (6/18, Quarshie, Rouan, 12.7M) reports Biden "also touted closing the racial gap in vaccinations." The President said, "More than 58% of shots administered by federally

run vaccination sites have gone to people of color. Across the nation people of color have accounted for more than half of all vaccinations in the last month." He added, "The more we close the racial gap in vaccination rates, the more lives we'll save."

The Hill (6/18, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports Biden "encouraged Americans who have lingering questions about the vaccine to consult friends, family members and their doctors." The Hill adds the President "noted the various steps the administration has taken to make getting the vaccine as convenient as possible, such as partnering with Uber and Lyft to offer free rides to vaccination sites through July 4." The Wall Street Journal (6/18, Parti, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

**Harris Addresses Vaccine Hesitancy In Atlanta.** The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (6/18, 1.46M) reports Vice President Harris on Friday traveled to Clark Atlanta University, where she "told the crowd of about 300 people that it's critical to address the barriers that prevent people from getting vaccinated. 'Getting vaccinated is about building the power of community, of our country,' she said." According to the AJC, Harris "plans to participate in private conversations on voting rights with community leaders at CAU before leaving Georgia around 6:15 p.m." The AJC says Harris' "visit to two historically Black institutions – Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s spiritual home at Ebenezer Baptist and Clark Atlanta – is meant to highlight outreach to minority communities where vaccination rates have lagged, due to logistical hurdles, mistrust of the government and other factors."

On the CBS Evening News (6/18, story 4, 2:05, Dokoupil, 3.56M), Nancy Cordes reported the Vice President "framed the choice to get the shot in biblical terms." Harris: "It's also about love thy neighbor. And that is what the vaccine is about, too." In an exclusive interview with WSB-TV Atlanta (6/18, 448K), Harris said, "I think people realize that we each have the power to end this if we get vaccinated, and it will save our lives and will save the life of our community by extension."

**Becerra Promotes Vaccines At Mobile Clinic Near Denver.** The AP (6/18, Nieberg) reports Health and Human Services Secretary Becerra "visited a mobile vaccine clinic near Denver on Friday to promote COVID-19 shots among underserved communities of color that have some of the nation's lowest vaccination rates." The AP says Becerra met with Colorado Gov. Jared Polis (D) and "discussed the state's pandemic response and a new law creating a state-administered health insurance plan designed to reduce premiums and costs of care as well as get more people covered." The AP adds his visit "included a discussion of the effects of President Joe Biden's American Families Plan on communities of color."

**AP-NORC Poll: 46% Of Unvaccinated Americans Say They "Definitely" Will Not Get Vaccinated.** The AP (6/18, Sainz, Fingerhut) reports that a new Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll of 1,125 US adults (6/10-6/14) found only 21% "are very or extremely worried about a COVID-19 infection in their inner circle – the lowest level since the pandemic began – and only 25% are highly concerned that the lifted restrictions will lead to additional people being infected in their community." However, the AP adds 46% of unvaccinated Americans "say they will definitely not get a vaccine, and 29% say they probably will not," whereas 7% "say they definitely will get a COVID-19 vaccine, and 15% say they probably will." According to the AP, "Young adults, Americans without a college degree, white evangelicals, rural Americans and Republicans are most hesitant to get vaccinated."

**J&J's Vaccine Distribution Has "Fallen Flat" In the US.** The New York Times (6/18, A1, Weiland, 20.6M) says that when the FDA authorized Johnson & Johnson's single-dose COVID vaccine for emergency use in February, it had been "seen as a breakthrough for reaching vulnerable and isolated Americans, a crucial alternative to vaccines that require two shots weeks apart and fussier storage." Months later, "the 'one and done' vaccine has fallen flat," with only 11.8 million shots distributed. That compares unfavorably to the 135 million doses of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines that have been doled out. The shot has suffered due to manufacturing delays at Emergent BioSolutions' Baltimore facility, and a pause by the FDA over safety concerns. The vaccine "also suffered from a 'social network effect,'" because "most Americans who were inoculated in the early months of the vaccine campaign received Moderna and Pfizer shots, and so their friends and family were less likely to deviate and accept a different brand."

**Maynard Says Low Detroit Vaccination Rate Is Because Of More Than Black**

**"Hesitancy."** Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) contributing columnist Micheline Maynard says the reason only 36.8% of Detroit residents age 12 and up have received at least one dose of the COVID vaccine "might be simple: vaccine hesitancy and distrust of the health-care system, a historic factor that has been evident in urban areas with sizable African American populations. But other reasons make Detroit's situation more complex, says Ken Haddad, the digital content manager at WDIV-TV." Maynard highlights that "getting to the clinics isn't simple for many people," and a lack of Internet access in many homes means that getting the necessary information to residents is difficult as well.

### **Sullivan Says Preventing Iran From Obtaining Nuclear Weapon Is "Paramount Priority."**

The Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) reports that the "day after the election of Iran's new president, Ebrahim Raisi, who was previously the country's ultraconservative judiciary chief," NSA Sullivan on ABC's This Week (6/20, 2.06M) "said Sunday that preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon remains a 'paramount priority' for the United States, emphasizing that diplomacy 'is the best way to achieve that.'" Sullivan said that the US needs to "keep our eye on the ball" and "negotiate in a clear-eyed, firm way with the Iranians to see if we can arrive at an outcome that puts their nuclear program in a box." The Post reports Sullivan "added that the United States believes the decision on whether to revive the 2015 nuclear deal lies not with Raisi but with Iran's 82-year-old supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei."

On CNN's State Of The Union (6/20, 516K), Sullivan said Khamenei "at the end of the day [is] the person who makes the decision about whether Iran will go back into the Iran nuclear deal." Although a Wall Street Journal (6/19, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorial says Raisi's election sends the message to the US that Khamenei still controls Iran, the Wall Street Journal (6/20, A1, Rasmussen, Norman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Raisi, who has been sanctioned by the US, will play a key role in the nuclear talks.

Meanwhile, The Hill (6/20, Folley, 5.69M) reports Sullivan "said...there remains a 'fair distance to travel' when it comes to efforts to renegotiate a nuclear agreement with Iran," and Politico (6/20, Cohen, 6.73M) reports Sullivan "said...it was too soon to tell if the election of a new president in Iran would lead to a change for better or worse in nuclear talks with the Islamic state." On Fox News Sunday (6/20, 836K), Sullivan said the US "vigorously object[s] to the worldview and the outlook that Raisi has put forward. We don't share his values, we don't share his interests."

In addition, The Hill (6/20, Vakil, 5.69M) reports House Intelligence Chair Adam Schiff on CBS' Face The Nation (6/20, 2.44M) "said Sunday that Iran's presidential election on Saturday was 'predetermined,' noting that the country had a low voter turnout." Schiff described Raisi's election as "a protest vote to say you have essentially stripped us of any choice of a more moderate leader and instead it's just ratifying who the Supreme Leader wants."

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), on Fox News Sunday (6/20, 836K), said there were "no moderates on the ballot in Iran. The Ayatollah is a religious Nazi, he controls the place. Religious zealots run the place." Graham also warned that if the US reenters a nuclear deal with Iran, there will be "a nuclear arms race in the Mideast," and Israel will have no choice except to "use military force" to stop Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

***Diplomats Cite Progress In Nuclear Talks As Negotiators Adjourn.*** According to the AP (6/20, Jenne, Grieshaber), "Top diplomats said Sunday that further progress had been made at talks between Iran and global powers to try to restore a landmark 2015 agreement to contain Iranian nuclear development that was abandoned by the Trump administration." The AP reports the diplomats "said it was now up to the governments involved in the negotiations to make political decisions." Reuters (6/20) reports the talks have focused on "the nature and sequencing of steps Iran and the United States must take on nuclear activities and sanctions to return to full compliance with the nuclear pact."

However, Reuters (6/20, Murphy, Hafezi) reports in another article that "Western officials" on Sunday "warned Tehran...that negotiations to revive its nuclear deal could not continue indefinitely," and Bloomberg (6/20, Tirone, Motevalli, 3.57M) says that "significant gaps" persist

before negotiators can "mend the six-year-old accord." Bloomberg adds that Sunday marked "the third time since talks began in April that negotiators have missed self-imposed deadlines to rejuvenate the agreement."

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (6/20, Motevalli, 3.57M) reports Abbas Araghchi, Iran's lead negotiator, "said one of the "serious issues" raised in the latest round of talks to revive the 2015 nuclear deal was the need for a guarantee from the U.S. that it won't exit the accord and reimpose sanctions on the Islamic Republic again in the future." Araghchi reportedly told Iranian state TV, "We need guarantees that give us assurances that a repeat of these sanctions and exiting the nuclear deal, as the past U.S. government did, won't happen again."

Bloomberg (6/20, Paola, 3.57M) reports analysts "including Sara Vakhshouri, president of SVB Energy International LLC," expect Raisi's election "will probably hold up the lifting of U.S. sanctions on the Islamic Republic's energy exports." Robin Mills, CEO of Dubai-based consultancy Qamar Energy, concurred that any deal to rapidly lift sanctions was "always more of a long-term hope and now, with Raisi elected, even more so," but Raisi "will be keen to have a deal done by the time he gets to office so he can benefit from improving economic conditions."

*Israel's New Prime Minister Warns Against Negotiations With "Hangman Of Tehran."* The AP (6/20, Zion) reports Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett "opened his first Cabinet meeting on Sunday by slamming Iran's newly-elected president and calling on world powers to 'wake up' to the perils of returning to a nuclear agreement with Tehran." He also "said...Khamenei had chosen the 'hangman of Tehran' to be the country's next president, a man 'infamous among Iranians and across the world for leading the death committees that executed thousands of innocent Iranian citizens throughout the years.'" Reuters (6/20) reports Bennett is "a nationalist atop of a cross-partisan coalition" who has "hewed to the opposition of his conservative predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu, to the 2015 Iranian nuclear deal, whose caps on projects with bomb-making potential Israel deemed too lax."

The AP (6/20, Krauss) reports that while President Biden and Bennett "are ushering in an era no longer defined by the powerful personality of...Netanyahu, who repeatedly defied the Obama administration and then reaped the rewards of a warm relationship with President Donald Trump," Iran poses "a key test" to their relationship. According to the AP, "The new Israeli government remains staunchly opposed to Biden's efforts to resurrect the deal. But it maintains it will discuss the issue behind closed doors rather than staging public confrontations, such as Netanyahu's controversial address slamming the agreement to the U.S. Congress in 2015."

In an op-ed for the New York Times (6/20, 20.6M), Anshel Pfeffer, a senior writer at Ha'aretz and the Israel correspondent for The Economist, writes that while Bennett "has been sworn in as prime minister," it is "still very much Mr. Netanyahu's Israel." Pfeffer says that for Bennett's government "to have any realistic chance of survival, it can't completely dismantle Mr. Netanyahu's legacy, lest it unravel its fragile coalition. The clock cannot be turned back on the 12 years of his long rule." The Netanyahu era, Pfeffer writes, "is not yet over, though it may be in its twilight. Don't expect this government to start tackling the core questions of Israel's future. It has a hard enough task as it is."

*Iran Announces Emergency Shutdown Of Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant For A "Technical Overhaul."* The AP (6/20) says Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant "has undergone an unexplained temporary emergency shutdown, state TV reported on Sunday." While Reuters (6/20) says Iranian state TV attributed the temporary shutdown to a "technical overhaul" that "will continue for a few days," according to an Iranian official, Axios (6/20, Saric, 1.26M) highlights that it "marks the first time the plant...has reported a shutdown," and "power outages could result from the shutdown, Gholamali Rakhshanimehr, an official from state electric company, Tavanir, told a local talk show Sunday, per AP."

## CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

### DOJ Releases Body Cam Footage Showing Jan. 6 Attacks On Capitol Police.

The AP (6/19, Richer) reports the Justice Department has released videos "under court order



[that] provide a chilling new look at the chaos at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, including body camera footage that shows a man charging at a police officer with a flagpole and tackling him to the ground." The AP says the videos, which "are being presented as evidence in prosecutors' cases against three men charged with assaulting police," show "a Marine Corps veteran and former New York City police officer wielding a flagpole as he attacks police, as well as rioters crushing another officer into a door as he screams in pain. Still another video shows a New Jersey man punching an officer in the head." The AP adds the footage comes as Republican lawmakers "increasingly try to downplay the siege, portraying the breach of the Capitol as a mostly peaceful protest despite the shocking violence that unfolded," and as The Hill (6/19, Marcos, 5.69M) reports "a growing number of Republican lawmakers are refusing to say that the Jan. 6 insurrection was actually an insurrection."

Politico Magazine (6/19, 6.68M) senior media writer Jack Shafer asserts that unless Republicans "change their stripes – fat chance of that – we can never expect the current Congress to answer our questions definitively. That leaves it to the press to sort the Jan. 6 sense from the nonsense wherever and whenever it appears."

### **Two Pensacola, Florida Men Plead Not Guilty To Capitol Siege Charges.**

The Pensacola (FL) News Journal (6/18, Warren-Hicks, 196K) reports, "The two men from Pensacola charged in the Jan. 6 siege of the U.S. Capitol have both entered pleas of not guilty in their respective cases." Jesus Rivera, 37, "was the first person from Pensacola to be arrested on charges linked to the riot when he was taken into custody Jan. 20. Earlier this month, he rejected a plea deal made by federal prosecutors at a June 7 status hearing. That same day, he entered a plea of not guilty." Tristan Stevens, 25, "was the second of two men from Pensacola to be arrested for his alleged role in the Capitol siege. He was arrested Feb. 5. Stevens pleaded not guilty March 12. Court records show Stevens is scheduled to appear via a video call before Judge Trevor N. McFadden for an Aug. 8 status conference. No trial has been set for his case."

### **Capitol Rioter Seeks Political Comeback.**

The AP (6/20) reports Couy Griffin, "who rode to national political fame by embracing President Donald Trump with a series of horseback caravans and came crashing down with a defiant stand Jan. 6 against President Joe Biden's election," is now "divorced, disparaged by family and confronts a political recall drive, a state corruption investigation and federal charges. And yet he remains determined. He sees himself as governor one day." Griffin is "one of thousands of Trump loyalists in public office who are charting an uncertain future ahead of the 2022 election cycle." Nevertheless, the AP says, "loyal constituents are easy to come by in a rural county steeped in the anti-establishment, pro-gun culture that dominates southern New Mexico."

### **Texas Man Faces Firearms Charge In Capitol Siege Probe.**

The Hill (6/18, 5.69M) reports, "A defendant in the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. capitol is the first to face a firearms charge under a riot law making it unlawful to carry a firearm while rioting." Guy Wesley Reffitt of Texas "was arrested in January after his wife told the FBI that he threatened to shoot their family if they turned him in. Reffitt pleaded not guilty in March to obstruction of an official proceeding, entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds; as well as obstruction of justice by hindering communication through physical force or threat of physical force. In a superseding indictment on Wednesday, he was issued the additional charge of having a firearm with him at the Capitol."

## **PROTESTS**

### **Iowa Governor Signs Measure Enhancing Penalties For Protest-Related Offenses.**

The Hill (6/18, Jenkins, 5.69M) reports Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) on Thursday "signed a bill into law that will increase the punishment for protest-related crimes and strengthen legal protections for law enforcement." The "Back the Blue" bill is going to "make rioting a felony in Iowa as



opposed to a misdemeanor." Moreover, the measure will heighten "legal penalties for blocking streets or highways, a local CBS affiliate reported."

***Charges Against Individual Who Drove Truck Through Crowd Of Floyd Demonstrators Could Be Dropped.*** The AP (6/18) reports, "A truck driver who drove through a large crowd of protesters on a Minneapolis highway last year during demonstrations over George Floyd's death will have criminal charges dropped if he remains law-abiding for the next year." The AP paraphrases the Star Tribune as having said that "Hennepin County prosecutors entered into a 'continuance without prosecution' agreement with Bogdan Vechirko, of Otsego, on Friday." He "was charged with one felony count of making threats of violence and with criminal vehicular operation, a gross misdemeanor."

### **Black Lives Matter Alleges In Court That LAPD Has Not Held Personnel Accountable For Abuses During Protests Last Year.**

The Los Angeles Times (6/18, 3.37M) reports Black Lives Matter Los Angeles "and other protesters claimed in federal court Friday that the Los Angeles Police Department has 'failed completely' to hold officers accountable for excessive force and other abuses during 2020's mass demonstrations." Lawyers representing the demonstrators made the assertion "in an amended complaint filed in their sweeping class-action lawsuit against the city, alleging the LAPD has failed to investigate serious cases of excessive force that have been documented by others, and unjustly ruled in favor of officers in cases it has reviewed."

### **Portland Police's Crowd Control Team Resigns In Wake Of Officer's Indictment.**

Reuters (6/18) reports, "All members of the crowd control team of Portland police have resigned from their positions in the unit after an officer was indicted on an assault charge stemming from alleged illegal use of force during a protest last year." In a statement from Thursday in which it indicated that personnel are going to carry on in their typical assignments, Portland Police said, "On June 16, 2021, Portland Police Bureau employees serving as members of the Rapid Response Team (RRT) left their voluntary positions and no longer comprise a team."

## **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

### **CIA HQ's Front Gate Was Briefly Closed Over Discovery Of Remote For Dog Collar.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) reports the front gate of CIA headquarters "was briefly closed Friday afternoon as authorities investigated a small electronic device that was left outside the security perimeter, a spokeswoman said." The Post adds that the device "turned out to be a remote control for a dog training collar, the spokeswoman said, but that wasn't discovered before law enforcement teams were called to the scene and news helicopters were circling overhead."

### **Arizona Medical Student Arrested After Allegedly Threatening To Kill Classmates, Bomb Campus.**

CNN (6/19, Selva, 89.21M) reports, "A student in Arizona was arrested after threatening to kill some of their medical school classmates and bomb the school campus, the Glendale Police Department said in a news release." The student "faces four felony counts of computer tampering by using a computer in a course of conduct that threatened, terrorized or tormented specific individuals, police said." According to CNN, "The dean of Midwestern University at Glendale contacted authorities in April and reported that the student had sent a message from their phone threatening to bomb the campus, according to police and a probable cause statement. When the dean confronted the student, she denied sending the message, the probable cause statement says. The student was arrested Wednesday after she was linked to the email addresses, social media accounts and electronic devices that were involved in the threatening messages, police said. The FBI is assisting in the investigation."

### **Some On Left Concerned About Doxing Of Far Right.**

The Washington Post (6/20, A1, Klemko, 10.52M) reports "doxing," the online disclosure of someone's personal information, "is part of a growing effort by left-wing activists to punish members of far-right groups accused of violent behavior by exposing them to their employers, family and friends." The Times says the doxing of Washington state resident Edward Jeremy Dawson "after a violent clash" last year "highlights the effect the tactic can have – unemployment and personal upheaval followed by a new job that pays much less than his old one – but also the limits of the technique: Dawson is unrepentant for his role in galvanizing a mob to harass [freelance journalist Laura] Jeede and continues to espouse far-right views. Indeed, some on the left, including Jeede, who is a well-known activist in Portland, Ore., have qualms about the tactic and how effective it can be in the fight against extremism."

## COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

### **Schiff Looks For Attorney General To Investigate DOJ After Email Subpoenas.**

House Intelligence Chair Adam Schiff on CBS' Face The Nation<sup>8</sup> (6/20, 2.44M) discussed the recent reports that the Department of Justice under the Trump Administration subpoenaed his email records. Schiff said, "I had to hear from Apple and not the Justice Department about what had gone on in the last four years. The inspector general is doing an investigation. I talked with the attorney general about going beyond that. I think he really needs to do a wholesale review of all of the politicization of the department over the last four years. What happened to our committee, what happened to members of the press, that's just a subset. The direct intervention by the president and the attorney general in specific criminal cases implicating the president. ... These are gross abuses of the independence of the Justice Department, and we don't know how far they run."

*CNN Examines How DOJ Subpoenaed Lawmakers In Leak Probe.* CNN (6/20, Perez, Brown, Polantz, Herb, 89.21M) reports, "The subpoena that swept up the records of two Democratic congressmen, their staff and family members in 2018 appears to have been the result of a leak investigation that initially included scrutinizing a senior aide on the House Intelligence Committee, and not the lawmakers themselves, sources told CNN." According to CNN, "The Justice Department's original secret subpoena to Apple, sources say, was an effort to identify people connected with the staffer. Apple provided names connected to the accounts the company had records for, including then-House Intelligence ranking member Adam Schiff and Rep. Eric Swalwell, two vocal political enemies of former President Donald Trump. This was potentially the first instance federal investigators knew they had records of the two California Democrats, according to the sources."

*WPost: DOJ Seizure Of Cloud Data Of Lawmakers And Their Families Without A Warrant "Ought To Be Unacceptable."* The Washington Post (6/19, 10.52M) editorializes that former President Donald Trump's Justice Department's targeting of federal lawmakers and their families' cloud-based calendars, without a warrant, "ought to be unacceptable." The Post argues that Congress should take action and instruct "judges and magistrates to permit secret surveillance using a gag order against a third party storing personal information only under the same stringent circumstances that permit secret surveillance generally."

### **Former NASA Scientist Sentenced For Lying To Federal Agents About China Ties.**

FedScoop (6/18, Nyczepir) reports, "U.S. District Judge P. Kevin Castel sentenced a former NASA nanotechnologist, suspected of giving Chinese nationals access to its facilities, to 30 days in prison Wednesday for lying to federal agents about working at a Chinese research university." Meyya Meyyappan, 66, "served as chief scientist for exploration technology at the Center for Nanotechnology at NASA's Ames Research Center, until he was caught lying to the FBI and NASA Office of Inspector General about being a visiting professor at Soochow University for an estimated \$1.4 million over five years." FedScoop adds, "The case raises questions about NASA's insider threat protections given Meyyappan's 'long-running deception,' in which he applied in 2016 to China's Thousand Talents Program – known for incentivizing foreign researchers to transfer

technology and intellectual property licitly or illicitly, according to court documents.”

### **NSA Publishes Guidance On Call Processing Security.**

ExecutiveGov (6/20, Martin) reports the NSA has released a document “to help organizations protect call processing systems from cyber threats.” The report, titled “Deploying Secure Unified Communications/Voice and Video over IP Systems,” provides guidance on the “security of Voice and Video over Internet Protocol (VVoIP) and Unified Communications (UC) systems.”

### **Fiancee Says Assange “Suffering” In Prison.**

The Washington Times (6/19, Blake, 626K) reported WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is “being driven to depression and despair by remaining locked up in the UK amid ongoing efforts to put him on trial in the US, his fiancée, Stella Moris, said Saturday.” She told reporters, “He was happy to see the kids, but he’s suffering in there. It’s a grim, horrible place.” She asked the Biden Administration to drop its case against Assange.

## **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

### **Two Kentucky Constables Convicted Of Violating Rights.**

The AP (6/19) reports from London, Kentucky, “A federal jury ruled that two Kentucky constables violated people’s rights by illegally searching or detaining them and taking money or other property without going through the legal process.” The AP adds, “Pulaski County constables Michael ‘Wally’ Wallace and Gary E. Baldock were convicted Friday of conspiring to violate civil rights and one charge each of possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute it.” FBI agents “found 5.9 grams of meth at Wallace’s house when they arrested him and half a gram of meth in the trunk of Baldock’s cruiser. Federal authorities didn’t argue the two sold drugs, but rather that they kept drugs to plant them on people to make bogus arrests.”

The Lexington (KY) Herald-Leader (6/18, 205K) reports that Wallace “had been free on bond, but U.S. District Judge Robert E. Wier ordered him taken into custody. Baldock had already been in jail for some time before the trial after being accused of shooting an FBI agent when federal authorities came to arrest the two men on March 6, 2020.”

The Somerset (KY) Commonwealth Journal (6/18, Slavey, 23K) also reports.

### **At Least 67 People Killed In Shootings This Weekend.**

On ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, story 6, 1:45, Davis, 4.13M), Alex Presha reported gun violence nationwide is “surging. At least 45 people shot in Chicago since Friday, four of them fatally. In California, at least one person killed, six others wounded during a Juneteenth celebration in Oakland Saturday. One nonprofit that tracks shootings across the country logged 67 fatal shootings in 24 hours between Friday and Saturday.” The Dallas Morning News (6/20, Williams, 772K) reports that two children were among eight people “wounded during a shooting at a strip mall in Old East Dallas early Sunday morning, authorities said.”

### **California Man Charged For Assaulting Newsom.**

On its website, Fox News (6/18, Lea, 23.99M) says California Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) was “reportedly approached in an aggressive manner by a man in Oakland on Friday, with authorities arresting the individual and charging him with assault.” The California Highway Patrol “confirmed in a statement...that Newsom was approached by an ‘aggressive individual,’ and his security team removed him from the situation.” According to Fox News, the East Bay (CA) Times “reported that the 54-year-old man allegedly threw a water bottle at the governor. He was booked on suspicion of resisting an executive officer and assaulting a public official. The individual, from Berkeley, California, was arrested by CHP officers and booked at Santa Rita jail, a spokesperson for CHP said.” ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (6/18, story 13, 0:11, Johnson, 4.82M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

## **Charlottesville Trial Involving "Unite The Right" Organizers Will Not Be Relocated Due To Violence Concern.**

Bloomberg (6/18, 3.57M) reports, "Right-wing organizers of the deadly 2017 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, failed to convince a judge that the October trial in a lawsuit against them should be moved because it might have a 'punch-a-Nazi' vibe." Bloomberg paraphrases US District Judge Norman Moon as having determined on Friday that the trial remaining in Charlottesville is going to "be more convenient for witnesses, and all parties have time to ensure the proceeding is conducted in a safe manner." Defendants had requested "to move the trial out of fear police will allow violent protesters to attack them with impunity."

## **Phoenix-Area Shooting Rampage Leaves One Dead, 12 Injured.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) reports on a Thursday rampage in which police indicate that a shooter killed no less than one individual and injured 12 others at eight sites throughout three Phoenix-area cities. Local news reports say that the shooter seemed "to be targeting victims at random." The Post adds, "A suspect is now in custody, Sgt. Brandon Sheffert, a spokesman with the Peoria Police Department, said at a news conference." ABC World News Tonight<sup>®</sup> (6/18, story 7, 1:21, Johnson, 4.82M) reported that the gunman has been "charged with murder and assault." According to correspondent Will Carr, police indicate that 19-year-old Ashin Tricarico "went on a random shooting spree targeting anyone in his sights. The shooting started around 11:10 Thursday morning." Carr added, "Authorities say they're still looking for a motive tonight."

## **Gunman Pursuing Other Man In Bronx Opens Fire, Nearly Hitting Two Children.**

ABC World News Tonight<sup>®</sup> (6/18, story 6, 1:14, Johnson, 4.82M) reported on a "horrifying scene in the Bronx, a gunman chasing another man on a crowded sidewalk, opening fire just inches from children who huddled in terror to avoid the bullets." The NYPD is "asking for the public's help to find that gunman and his accomplice." According to correspondent Erielle Reshef, the shooting was captured on camera, with Reshef also saying, "Two children escap[ed] tragedy by a matter of inches. You can see the 10-year-old little girl shielding her 5-year-old brother as the suspect sprays bullets striking his 24-year-old target in the back and both legs. Police say the victim, who has an extensive criminal history, may have tried to use the kids as cover." The CBS Evening News<sup>®</sup> (6/18, story 6, 0:25, Dokoupil, 3.56M) said, "Police are also looking for a second man who drove the shooter away on a scooter."

## **Suspect In California Road Rage Shooting Charged With Slaying Six-Year-Old.**

The CBS Evening News<sup>®</sup> (6/18, story 7, 1:34, Dokoupil, 3.56M) reported that "we're learning new details in that terrible road rage shooting in California that left a kindergartner dead. The main suspect may have had another altercation just a week later. He and his girlfriend went before a judge" on Friday. Correspondent Carter Evans said that Marcus Eriz "is charged with killing six-year-old Aiden Leos in an act of road rage on a California freeway. Investigators say his girlfriend, 23-year-old Wynne Lee, was driving the car and helped cover up the crime. Both pleaded not guilty." Court documents show Eriz admitted to law enforcement that "he was angry after being flipped off by the boy's mother so he grabbed his loaded Glock 17 and took a shot at her vehicle. The bullet struck Aiden strapped in a booster seat on his way to kindergarten. Less than a week later, prosecutors said Eriz again took out his gun and brandished it to another driver."

## **Michigan AG Announces Criminal Investigation Into Boy Scouts Regarding Sex Abuse Allegations.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/18, Maher, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel has announced a statewide criminal probe into the Boy Scouts pertaining to sex-abuse allegations. In an interview, Nessel indicated that she intends to probe systemic shortcomings at the organization, with Nessel also saying that she will put out a report upon the conclusion of the probe.

### **Prosecutor Not Charging Officers Who Shot Man In Midst Of Mental Health Crisis.**

The Washington Post (6/19, Hawkins, 10.52M) says that Chris Craven of Mooresville, North Carolina, a 38-year-old who was contending with a mental health crisis, "was threatening suicide the night of Aug. 2, 2020, after allegedly assaulting someone in his household, according to police." Craven wound up being "killed by a hail of high-velocity bullets from two officers' rifles," and the Post adds that a prosecutor on Friday indicated "he would not file criminal charges in connection with the shooting, finding that Mooresville police officers Alexander Arndt and Christopher Novelli reasonably feared for their lives when they opened fire on Craven." Randolph County District Attorney Andy Gregson indicated that body camera video as well as other evidence supported the officers' account of what occurred. The Post adds that "Craven's wife and attorney reject Gregson's conclusions, saying the body camera footage – which has not been released publicly – doesn't support the official version of events."

### **California Deputy Being Investigated Following Violent Arrest.**

ABC World News Tonight<sup>®</sup> (6/19, Story 9, 0:24, Johnson, 3.66M) reported that "a California deputy is under investigation after a violent arrest caught on camera." The video authorities are analyzing, which was first acquired by TMZ, seems "to show a deputy kicking a man in the head while he was on the ground." ABC added, "Authorities say the suspect was wanted for several traffic violations and fleeing from police, and received medical care before his booking."

### **Truck Drives Into Pride Parade, Kills One Person And Narrowly Misses Wasserman Schultz.**

The Miami Herald (6/19, Cetoute, 647K) reports the Stonewall Pride Parade and Festival in Wilton Manors, Florida "turned deadly Saturday night when a person drove a truck into two people, killing one, and narrowly missing U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis told reporters. A third man was also hit and is expected to survive, the South Florida Sun Sentinel reported." The Herald adds that "it is unclear if the crash was intentional," but "a senior official briefed on the incident told CBS4 that initial indications are that the crash was an accident."

**Officials Say Crash Was An Accident.** The Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) reports that the Wilton Manors Stonewall Pride Parade "was moments from starting, with rainbow-flag-toting vehicles lined up, elected officials ready to march and spectators gathered alongside the route through the heart of South Florida's LGBTQ community," when the driver of a white pickup truck "plowed" into the attendees, "hitting two men. Both were taken to a hospital, where one was pronounced dead, police said." According to the Post, "Horrorified paradegoers and first responders tried to aid the injured. In the chaos, many onlookers – including some elected officials – immediately feared a hate crime."

However, the AP (6/20, Kennedy) reports that Wilton Manors Vice Mayor Paul Rolli and Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis on Saturday "said the early investigation shows it was an accident." According to the AP, "The 77-year-old driver was taken into custody, but police said no charges have been filed and the investigation is ongoing." On ABC World News Tonight<sup>®</sup> (6/20, story 3, 2:00, Davis, 4.13M), Victor Oquendo reported police "say the driver is being cooperative. They checked for DUI here at the scene, and say there were no signs of impairment."

On the CBS Weekend News<sup>®</sup> (6/20, story 3, 1:20, Duncan, 3.59M), Mola Lenghi said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) "narrowly avoided being hit herself. She said in a tweet, 'I am so heartbroken by what took place at this celebration. May the memory of the life lost be for a blessing.'"

### **Colorado Man Who Stabbed Black Man Pleads Guilty To Hate Crime.**

The Hill (6/19, Pitofsky, 5.69M) reports, "A Colorado man this week pleaded guilty to a federal hate crime for stabbing a Black man in a 2019 attack." Nolan Levi Strauss "pleaded guilty to a hate crime involving an attempt to kill, according to a Thursday statement from the Department of Justice." The victim entered an Ontario, Oregon, Arby's eatery during "December 2019 to provide documents for a job application." Strauss subsequently entered the restaurant, approached the

victim, and "stabbed the man in the neck twice and attempted to continue stabbing him."

### **Scottish Man Who Faked Death Receives Prison Sentence For Sexual Assault, Rape.**

The New York Times (6/19, Hauser, Gross, 20.6M) says that after a teenager informed "the authorities that his father had not returned from a late afternoon swim" at Monastery Beach in California "in February 2019, the authorities got to work, sending divers, a helicopter and a drone to search the chilly waters off Carmel, just south of Monterey Bay. But the reported disappearance of Kim Avis, a 57-year-old man from Scotland, struck investigators as off from the beginning." Investigators were proven to be correct, as following a probe that went on for "months and spanned states and continents, Mr. Avis was sentenced last week in a Scottish court to 15 years in prison on charges of rape and sexual assault, an end investigators said he had tried to avoid by faking his death on the coast of one of California's most scenic beaches."

### **Missouri Man Pleads Guilty To Threatening To Lynch Two Members Of Congress.**

The New York Times (6/18, Levenson, 20.6M) reports, "A Missouri man pleaded guilty on Thursday to charges that he had threatened to lynch a Black congressman the day after the Jan. 6 siege at the U.S. Capitol and a Jewish congressman in 2019, court records show." Kenneth R. Hubert, 63, of Marionville, Missouri, "was arrested in March after, prosecutors said, he had directed the threats at Representatives Emanuel Cleaver II of Missouri and Steve Cohen of Tennessee, both Democrats. According to a plea agreement filed in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri, Mr. Hubert pleaded guilty to two counts of threatening to assault a United States official. Each count carries a maximum penalty of six years in prison, the agreement states. It was unclear whether a sentencing date had been set."

The AP (6/18) reports, "Hubert acknowledged that he left a voicemail at Cleaver's office in Independence, Missouri, on Jan. 7. After calling Cleaver, who is Black, a racial slur, he said, 'How about a noose around his neck?,' according to the documents. Hubert told FBI agents who contacted him on Jan. 19 that he was upset over a statement Cleaver made in the U.S. House of Representatives. Cleaver has said previously that he didn't know Hubert and was unaware of the call until Cohen told him about the investigation. Hubert also admitted that on May 6, 2019 he called Cohen's office in Washington D.C. and told a staff member that 'he has a noose with the Congressman's name on it' and planned to 'put a noose around his neck and drag him behind his pickup truck.'"

### **Authorities Probing Hate Fliers Targeting Fairfax County School Board Members.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) reports, "Fairfax County police are investigating hate group fliers targeting school board members that appeared on the doorsteps of some county residents this week, officials said Friday." According to the Post, "The fliers – which included information about the Ku Klux Klan – resemble the antisemitic mailers that have appeared in Loudoun and Prince William counties in recent years. In all three communities, the fliers were delivered in plastic bags weighed down with birdseed." The Post adds, "The ones in Fairfax included a veiled threat against the county's all-Democratic school board, which includes several Jewish members, a Muslim woman and a gay man. 'Your communist, nation-destroying agenda will not stand,' the fliers said. 'Yahweh will smite!!!' it continued, using an Old Testament name for God."

### **Minnesota Man Charged With Transportation Of Stolen Golf Carts.**

The AP (6/18) reports from Fargo, North Dakota, "Federal authorities have charged a Minnesota man with transportation of stolen vehicles in what they say was a litany of thefts of golf carts." The AP adds, "An FBI affidavit filed in North Dakota this week says the man is suspected of stealing at least 63 carts in at least seven states, including Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin in recent years. KVRN reports the man was arrested June 11 in Georgia while trying to steal golf carts in a city there."

### **Three Rhode Island Men Indicted In Connection With Drug Investigation.**

The AP (6/18) reported that a federal grand jury has indicted three Rhode Island men in connection with a drug investigation. Edgar Medina, Andres Garay, and Ronald Hall are accused of participating in an operation that mailed cocaine "from Puerto Rico to Rhode Island." The Pawtucket (RI) Patch (6/18, Serreze) published a similar article.

## FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

### **Five Charged In Kickback Scheme Involving National Grid.**

Newsday (NY) (6/18, Harrington, 776K) reports, "Five former National Grid employees accepted bribes and kickbacks, including cash, international travel and an RV, from companies that received millions of dollars in contracts from the London-based energy giant, according to a criminal complaint filed in Brooklyn this week." According to Newsday, "National Grid wasn't named in the complaint, but the company confirmed to Newsday that the five men charged in the complaint previously worked for National Grid. The company said it 'fully cooperated' with the FBI investigation. Federal prosecutors charged the men – four of whom live on Long Island – with soliciting and accepting hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash, gifts and services between 2013 and 2020 from the unnamed contractor and affiliated companies, chiefly to be awarded facilities maintenance work for National Grid."

### **San Francisco Man Pleads Guilty To \$3.5M Fraud Scheme.**

The San Francisco Chronicle (6/20, Rubenstein, 2.44M) reports, "A 33-year-old San Francisco man pleaded guilty to cheating investors out of \$3.5 million in an elaborate e-commerce fraud that involved fake contracts with prominent sportswear companies, the U.S. Attorney's Office announced." Andrew Chapin, "the CEO and mastermind behind Benja Inc., pleaded guilty Wednesday in connection with the scheme in which investors were told that Chapin and Benja had lucrative contracts with such sportswear companies as Nike and Patagonia, when such contracts did not exist. Under his plea agreement with prosecutors, Chapin admitted to impersonating corporate representatives, creating fake spreadsheets and to submitting false information to obtain bank credit lines for Benja that he used to pay off his personal credit cards, pay off earlier investors and buy cryptocurrency."

### **FBI: Senior Citizens Lost Nearly \$1B In Scams Last Year.**

ABC News (6/18, Barr, 2.44M) reports, "Senior citizens lost almost \$1 billion in scams in 2020, according to an FBI report released this week. A total of 105,301 people over the age of 65 were scammed, with an average loss of \$9,175, and almost 2,000 older Americans lost more than \$100,000, the report said." ABC News adds, "By far, the elderly were being extorted the most, with just over 23,000 victims, the FBI found. The highest number of fraud cases occurred in California, Florida and Texas. 'Each year, millions of elderly Americans fall victim to some type of financial fraud or internet scheme, such as romance scams, tech support fraud, and lottery or sweepstake scams. Criminals gain their targets' trust or use tactics of intimidation and threats to take advantage of their victims,' said Calvin Shivers, assistant director of the FBI's criminal division. 'Once successful, scammers are likely to keep a scheme going because of the prospect of significant financial gain.'"

The Miami Herald (6/19, Aspuru, 647K) reports, "Florida currently ranks second in the country for elder fraud with over \$84,000,000 lost by those over 60 years of age in the state, according to an FBI report."

### **USA Today Reviews DeJoy's Tumultuous First Year As Postmaster General.**

USA Today (6/19, Quarshie, 12.7M) reports Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has been in the position since May 2020, and "during his tenure...has dealt with an onslaught of criticism due to changes made to the Postal Service during the 2020 presidential campaign season." USA Today provides an overview of "what has happened since DeJoy's appointment as postmaster," from the FBI investigation into "campaign funds involving his former North Carolina business New Breed

Logistics" to DeJoy's defense of systemic "changes as a cost-cutting measure meant to improve the agency's financial health."

## CYBER DIVISION

### **Carnival Cruise Confirms March Data Breach.**

A Carnival Cruise spokesperson on Friday told The Hill (6/18, Williams, 5.69M) that "customer and employee data may have been exposed in a data breach in March." The Hill reports that the AP broke the story on Thursday and "noted that the company had also been breached twice last year," but "did not report how many customers or staffers may have been affected."

### **Cyberattack Breached NYC Law Department Via Stolen Password, Sources Say.**

The New York Times (6/18, Southall, Weiser, Rubinstein, 20.6M) reports the New York City Law Department "holds some of the city's most closely guarded secrets: evidence of police misconduct, the identities of young children charged with serious crimes, plaintiffs' medical records and personal data for thousands of city employees. But all it took for a hacker to infiltrate the 1,000-lawyer agency's network early this month was one worker's pilfered email password, according to a city official briefed on the matter." The Times adds that while "officials have not said how the intruder obtained the worker's credentials, nor have they determined the scope of the attack," it "was enabled by the Law Department's failure to implement a basic safeguard, known as multifactor authentication, more than two years after the city began requiring it, according to four people with knowledge of the legal agency's system and the incident."

### **Ransomware Payments Might Be Tax Deductible.**

The AP (6/19, Suderman, Gordon) says that ransoms paid to perpetrators of ransomware attacks might be tax deductible. The IRS "offers no formal guidance on ransomware payments, but multiple tax experts interviewed by The Associated Press said deductions are usually allowed under law and established guidance." However, "those looking to discourage payments" are concerned that the deduction is a possibly "problematic incentive that could entice businesses to pay ransoms against the advice of law enforcement. At a minimum, they say, the deductibility sends a discordant message to businesses under duress."

### **Vermont Hospital Still Calculating Costs Of Last Year's Ransomware Attack.**

The AP (6/18) reports from Burlington, Vermont, "Officials at Vermont's largest hospital are still trying to determine the full financial impact of the cyberattack last October that knocked out computers affecting three hospitals in Vermont and three in New York." The AP adds, "Scheduling and patient medical records were affected and some cancer patients faced delays in treatment." According to the AP, "It took months for the University of Vermont Health Network to recover from the attack, estimated to cost upwards of \$63 million. The network is insured for \$30 million and officials are continuing to negotiate with the insurance companies, but the final cost will exceed the coverage, WCAX-TV reported. The FBI is still investigating the origins of the attack."

### **Schiff Says US Should "Go More On Offense" Against Cyberattacks.**

Axios (6/20, Saric, 1.26M) reports House Intelligence Chair Adam Schiff on CBS' Face The Nation (6/20, 2.44M) called on the US to "go more on offense" over cyberattacks. Axios adds Schiff "said that while U.S. intelligence on cyberattacks is good, 'it's not predictive,'" and he "added that many hacking groups have a 'synergistic' relationship with their governments."

### **US Lawmakers Urge The Private Sector To Increase Cybersecurity Preparedness.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/18, Rundle, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that US lawmakers urged the private sector to do more to protect its cybersecurity interests on Thursday, when various legislators introduced new legislation written to increase penalties on hacking groups. The new bill emerged out of the Colonial Pipeline Co. hacking incident, and it follows a 2018 proposal,



which did not receive a Senate vote.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

### **Missouri Joins States Prohibiting Police From Enforcing Federal Gun Laws.**

The New York Times (6/18, Thrush, Bogel-Burroughs, 20.6M) reports Missouri "has become the latest state to throw down a broad challenge to the enforcement of federal firearms laws, as Republican-controlled state legislatures intensify their fierce political counterattack against President Biden's gun control proposals. A bill signed by Gov. Mike Parson over the weekend...threatens a penalty of \$50,000 against any local police agency that enforces certain federal gun laws and regulations that constitute 'infringements' of Second Amendment gun rights." According to the Times, "At least eight other states – Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia – have taken similar action this year, passing laws of varying strength that discourage or prohibit the enforcement of federal gun statutes by state and local agents and officers."

***North Carolina Governor Again Vetoes Bill To Allow Armed Parishioners At More Churches*** The AP (6/18, Robertson) reports North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper (D) "vetoed gun-rights legislation on Friday that would allow parishioners at more churches to be armed, marking the second year in a row that he's blocked the idea." The AP says the bill "affirms that people going to religious services at a location where private schools or some charter schools also meet can carry handguns in full view or under clothing if they have a concealed weapons permit. There would be other limits." According to the AP, "Cooper's action is just his second veto this year."

### **AP Analysis: "Hands-Off Approach In Washington" Increasing Confusion Surrounding Death Penalty.**

An AP (6/18, Tarm) analysis says activists broadly anticipated that the President would "take swift action against the death penalty as the first sitting president to oppose capital punishment, especially since an unprecedented spate of executions by his predecessor ended just days before Biden took office." The White House, though, has been mainly quiet, as Biden hasn't indicated whether he'd support a measure "introduced by fellow Democrats to strike the death penalty from U.S. statutes," and additionally hasn't abolished "Trump-era protocols enabling federal executions to resume and allowing prisons to use firing squads if necessary, something many thought he'd do on day one." Moreover, the Administration this week requested that the Supreme Court restore "the Boston Marathon bomber's original death sentence." The AP adds that "the hands-off approach in Washington is adding to disarray around the death penalty nationwide."

***Death Row Inmate In North Carolina Released Following Recently Found Evidence.*** The Hill (6/18, 5.69M) reports that "an inmate on death row in North Carolina" was released in the wake of recently found evidence having prompted "him to plead to lesser charges." The Hill paraphrases the Charlotte Observer as having said that Michael Sherrill "left prison on Wednesday evening after he pleaded guilty to second-degree murder, second-degree rape and second-degree arson charges related to the 1984 death of Cynthia Dotson." The Observer also said there were several problems with Sherrill's initial conviction, even though his DNA was discovered at the scene. The Hill adds, "For example, a missing fingerprint was taken at the scene, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg police had destroyed a rape kit the year after Dotson's death that had material collected from her body."

### **Senate Democrats To Move On Scaled-Down Gun Legislation.**

Politico (6/20, Wu, 6.73M) reports Democrats "are preparing to vote on a scaled-down guns bill – most likely a curtailed plan to boost background checks for firearm buyers" in an effort "to unite the party and pick up a limited number of Republican votes, even as their effort appears headed towards the same doomed fate as previous proposals to curb gun violence." Instead of putting up "House-passed bills that established universal background checks and closed other loopholes, Democrats are leaning towards scheduling a vote next month on legislation increasing the number

of online and gun show transactions covered by federal background checks. Unlike the House-passed gun bills, Senate Democrats are betting such legislation could unite them and even tempt Republicans to join them." Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI) said that even if the measure fails, as expected, the show of Democratic unity would send an "important message to the American people" on where senators stand on the issue.

### **Female Personnel At Fort Hood Face Greater Sexual Assault Risk Relative To Average Female In Army.**

The New York Times (6/18, Steinhauer, 20.6M) reports, "As Congress and the Department of Defense debate how to address the ongoing scourge of sexual assault and harassment in the military, a study on the Army released Friday found that age, experience and where soldiers are based strongly correlate to both offenses." The Times adds that "women at Fort Hood in particular – where an Army specialist was killed by another soldier last year – have a far higher risk of sexual assault at that base in Texas than the average woman in the Army according to the new study, conducted by the RAND Arroyo Center." Researchers determined that the overall "sexual assault risk to Army women at Fort Hood during 2018 was 8.4 percent, compared with a 5.8 percent risk for all women in the Army."

*Gillibrand Pushing For Alterations To Military Justice System That Extend Beyond Eliminating Sexual Assault Cases From Chain Of Command.* The AP (6/18, Baldor) reports Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) "is on the brink of success in her yearslong campaign to get sexual assault cases removed from the military chain of command." However, finishing the job may be contingent "on whether she can overcome wariness about broader changes she's seeking to the military justice system." There is extensive backing for utilizing "independent military lawyers to handle sexual misconduct cases, but Gillibrand is promoting legislation that goes beyond that, extending that change to all major crimes." The AP paraphrases Gillibrand as having said during an AP interview that the broader "change is necessary to combat racial injustice within the military, where studies have found that Black people are more likely to be investigated and arrested for misconduct." Gillibrand "intends to press that point in the coming days."

### **Slaying Of Soldier In Barracks Yields Grief As Well As Confusion.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) says that in June 2020, an Army Chaplain informed the grandmother of Spec. Austin Hawk that Hawk had been fatally stabbed in his Fort Stewart barracks room. The Post adds that the alleged suspect "was a former soldier from Hawk's platoon who walked uncontested through an unmanned installation gate to carry out what prosecutors have said was a conspiracy to 'silence' Hawk for reporting misconduct." During an interview, Hawk's grandmother, Sandra Hodge, said, "I was devastated," adding, "It left a huge, huge hole in our lives. And I'll never get that filled." The episode has piled "confusion on top of the family's grief: How could a soldier who was a witness to alleged crimes be killed on a military base by a man who walked off the street?"

### **California AG Debuts New Teams To Combat Human Trafficking.**

The AP (6/18, Dazio) reports California Attorney General Rob Bontas (D) "launched new anti-human trafficking teams to apprehend perpetrators and support survivors on Friday amid an alarming increase in labor and sexual exploitation statewide during the coronavirus pandemic." California's lockdown worsened "problems with human trafficking, officials said Friday, and made it much harder for victims to escape and find housing and other services."

### **Few Los Angeles County Police Agencies Have Provided DA With Names Of Cops With Histories Of Misconduct.**

The Los Angeles Times (6/20, 3.37M) reports four months after Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón (D) asked county law enforcement agencies "to provide his office with names of officers who have histories of dishonesty and other misconduct that could affect their credibility in court," more than 40 departments have yet to do so. The Times says, "Only a half-dozen agencies have submitted names of officers who have been disciplined for wrongdoing, which

prosecutors are obligated to disclose to the defense in criminal cases. A dozen say they have no officers who fit the description."

### **Women Claim Pornhub Gains Financially From Nonconsensual Activity.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) reports, "Nearly three dozen women sued Pornhub on Thursday, alleging that the firm operates as a 'classic criminal enterprise' that profits from content showing rape, child pornography, sex trafficking and other nonconsensual activity." The suit alleges, in the Post's words, that Pornhub and Pornhub parent MindGeek permitted "any type of pornography to be published and incentivized people to watch more of it." The suit was "filed in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California."

### **AP Analysis: Some Republican States Expand Law Enforcement's Powers.**

An AP (6/19, Amiri) analysis says that after a year of demonstrations regarding police brutality, a number of GOP-led states have disregarded or obstructed "police-reform proposals, moving instead in the other direction by granting greater powers to officers, making it harder to discipline them and expanding their authority to crack down on demonstrations." The AP adds that "the sponsors of the GOP measures acted in the wake of the nationwide protests that followed George Floyd's death, and they cited the disturbances and destruction that spread last summer through major U.S. cities."

*San Francisco Debates Shifting Resources From Police To Community-Headed Homelessness Response.* The San Francisco Chronicle (6/19, Moench, 2.44M) says, "San Francisco policymakers generally agree that police are not best suited to respond to homelessness and mental illness – but debate still rages over how to shift resources and whether money should be taken from police to do so." The Chronicle adds that "the issue looms large as the Board of Supervisors" concludes talks regarding San Francisco's budget. Part of the law enforcement funding debate pertains to a proposal to remove police from "the equation for homelessness calls." The Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) "would respond to diverted 911 and 311 calls related to homelessness that are low priority and don't pose a danger." While the proposal has the support of "a group of supervisors," Mayor London Breed is against it. CART teams would be "community workers trained in mental health and first aid to de-escalate crises and connect people with services."

*CNN Analysis: Worries Regarding "Retreat In Proactive Policing" Increasing.* A CNN (6/19, Sanchez, Nickeas, Morales, 89.21M) analysis says that as US cities face an increase "in gun violence ahead of an expected summertime crime surge, concerns about a retreat in proactive policing are mounting across the country amid a debate over brutality and systemic racism that followed the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis." Police Executive Research Forum Executive Director Chuck Wexler said, "You just have to be honest and say that police in America are far more cautious today about stopping someone than they were a year ago." Wexler added, "Proactive policing is much more complicated. And now we're in the post George Floyd era, which makes police understandably cautious." According to CNN, "Proactive policing involves aggressive, officer-initiated enforcement – such as street stops – and heightened police presence in high crime areas to combat firearms violations and other crimes."

### **Following Recent State Law, Boulder Leaders Hoping To Reinstate Ban On Certain Guns.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/19, Elinson, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that following a recent state law permitting local governments to implement their own firearm regulations, municipal leaders in Boulder, Colorado, where a mass shooting in March killed 10 individuals, wish to bring back a ban on semiautomatic guns that the city deemed as being assault weapons.

### **New York City Department Of Corrections Has Fallen "Further Into Crisis."**

The New York Times (6/19, Ransom, 20.6M) reports, "More than a year after the coronavirus sickened thousands in New York City's jail system, the Department of Correction has plunged further into crisis as complaints of severe mismanagement, persistent violence and deaths of incarcerated people continue to mount." The first half of 2021 has seen six detainees die, including

no less than "two by suicide and one who passed away later at a hospital," whereas the figure for all of 2020 was seven. Meanwhile, as a result of staffing shortages, "guards have been forced to work triple and occasionally quadruple shifts."

### **Police Shoot Motorist Who Hit Bicyclists In Arizona.**

The New York Times (6/19, Levenson, Cramer, 20.6M) reports, "The driver of a pickup truck hit a group of cyclists at a bicycle race in Show Low, Ariz., on Saturday, seriously injuring six people before the driver fled and was shot by the police, the authorities said." The driver hit "the bicyclists during the Bike the Bluff race at about 7:25 a.m. local time, the police said." Law enforcement attempted to stop the motorist, "which 'ultimately led to the suspect being shot,' about a mile and a half away, Navajo County Emergency Management and Preparedness said in a statement." Moreover, the motorist "was in critical but stable condition, the agency said."

### **NYTimes: Military Policy For Handling Sexual Assault Cases "Ill Serves Everyone Involved."**

In an editorial, the New York Times (6/19, 20.6M) says, "The military's current handling of sexual assault cases ill serves everyone involved." The Times writes in support of Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's (D-NY) attempt to introduce legislation reforming how sexual assault cases are handled, while also acknowledging that "the bill may not receive a proper vote," pointing to objections by Sens. Jack Reed (D-RI) and Jim Inhofe (R-OK). With regards to the Senate filibuster, the Times argues "Ms. Gillibrand's bill has more than enough support to clear that hurdle and take a much needed step forward to address an urgent, longstanding crisis. If only it is given a fighting chance."

### **Kristof: US Needs Domestic Campaign To End Child Marriage.**

New York Times (6/19, 20.6M) columnist Nicholas Kristof discusses Patricia Abatemarco having "married just after her 14th birthday to a man who was 27." The now 55-year-old Abatemarco, who's quoted as having said regarding the marriage, "No one asked me for consent," indicated that the road to the marriage started "when she was 12." She had become very religious and in the midst of "a personal crisis sought help from an evangelical Christian telephone hotline. A counselor, Mark, showed up and offered free counseling services; these became increasingly intense, she said, and he began to forcibly rape her repeatedly." The rapes resulted in Abatemarco becoming pregnant at age 13, and while Abatemarco was unsure as to what to do, Mark "and her mother favored marriage." Kristof goes on to say that the US "is quite right to campaign to end child marriage in Bangladesh and Yemen. Let's do the same at home."

### **Bipartisan Bill Would Limit Use Of "Stingray" Cell Tower Simulators By Police.**

The Washington Times (6/18, Blake, 626K) reports, "Bipartisan legislation proposed in both houses of Congress would require local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to get a warrant to use so-called 'stingray' devices that suck up cellphone data." The Times adds, "Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden and California Rep. Ted Lieu, both Democrats, introduced the legislation Thursday with Sen. Steve Daines of Montana and Rep. Tom McClintock of California, both Republicans. The bill would set nationwide rules for how authorities use stingrays, or cell site simulators, reining in what its sponsors described as invasive and unconstitutional surveillance devices. 'Cell site simulators have existed in a kind of legal no-man's land for far too long,' Mr. Wyden said in a statement, adding the bill would establish 'clear, transparent rules' for when they may be used."

### **WPost Criticizes Missouri AG's Office Opposition To Overturning Wrongful Convictions.**

A Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) editorial says Missouri law constrains local prosecutors' ability "to correct wrongful convictions, while giving an outsized role to the state's attorney general's office – and that office for decades has fought nearly every wrongful conviction case, no matter how compelling the evidence." As examples, the Post cites the cases of Lamar Johnson, who "has been imprisoned for nearly 26 years for a murder in Missouri he did not commit," and Kevin Strickland, who "has been in prison in Missouri for 43 years for a triple murder that prosecutors now say he

didn't commit, and for which they think he should be exonerated." The Post says the nonprofit group Injustice Watch "has detailed the longtime pattern of both Democratic and Republican attorneys general of stymieing exonerations."

### **Dionne: Fighting Crime And Racism Not Mutually Exclusive.**

E.J. Dionne writes in the Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) that racism and crime should be fought "at the same time." House Democratic Caucus Chair Hakeem Jeffries argued in an interview, "Public safety and justice in policing are not mutually exclusive. We can do both, and we must do both." Jeffries said, "The fundamental objective of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act is to try and shift the mind-set of policing from a warrior mentality to a guardian mentality. ... When members of law enforcement engage with communities of color, having adopted a warrior mentality, then some individuals they encounter tend to be viewed as enemy combatants. And when that occurs, things can go wrong, as was the case in the death of George Floyd." Dionne argues that "innovative ideas won't even be debated if our rancid politics pushes voters to choose between justice and security."

### **Former Reporter Describes Her Rape By MLB Player.**

In an op-ed for the New York Times (6/20, 20.6M), Kat O'Brien, a former journalist and baseball writer for The Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Newsday, writes that she kept silent about her rape by a Major League Baseball player for 18 years until January when she "heard that the New York Mets' general manager, Jared Porter, was fired for sending sexually explicit texts and photographs to a female reporter in 2016." O'Brien writes "as I read accounts of other women's experiences with sexual harassment, the full force of my own assault hit me. And with it came the relief that I actually hadn't invited it, hadn't done anything wrong at all, something I had never once considered." O'Brien goes on to describe the assault in the hope that "by sharing my experiences, more women will feel comfortable speaking up when something is inappropriate."

## **OTHER FBI NEWS**

### **WSJournal Lauds Garland For Reopening DOJ Case Into Whether Bolton's Book Contains Classified Information.**

In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/18, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says that just as Attorney General Garland is right in keeping former President Donald Trump's position on a variety of sensitive litigation, Garland is also justified in reexamining the case of whether former National Security Adviser John Bolton's book, "The Room Where It Happened," contains classified information, as Trump had alleged.

## **OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS**

### **While 65% Of Adults Nationwide Are Vaccinated, 30 States "Lag Behind."**

On the CBS Weekend News (6/19, story 3, 1:58, Diaz, 2.16M), Lilia Luciano reported that on the first Saturday "since California fully reopened," 73% of adults in the state "are at least partially vaccinated. And there's a new digital system to show they got their dose, no paper card needed." Luciano added, "Nationally, 65% of adults are at least partially vaccinated, but 30 states lag behind with Mississippi, Louisiana, Wyoming, and Alabama at the bottom. In three of those states, new COVID cases are increasing."

On ABC World News Tonight (6/19, Story 5, 2:31, Johnson, 3.66M), Trevor Ault reported the delta COVID variant has now been "detected in at least 46 states and expected to accelerate." CDC Director Walensky: "We know that the delta variant is even more transmissible than the UK variant, and I anticipate that will be the predominant variant in the months ahead." Ault continued, "It's already sinking its teeth into under-vaccinated areas like Southwest Missouri where CoxHealth says the delta variant now makes up 90% of their new cases."

***Politico Analysis: Unvaccinated Adults Not Swayed By Incentives.*** Politico (6/19, Goldberg, Doherty, 6.73M) reports that as states seek to "juice Covid-19 vaccination rates through million-dollar lotteries," they have only "made some small gains without showing evidence of any comparable surge, a POLITICO analysis of federal and state data shows." According to Irwin Redlener, Director of the Pandemic Resource and Response Initiative at Columbia University, "People aren't buying it. The incentives don't seem to be working – whether it's a doughnut, a car or a million dollars." Rather, Politico says teenagers "have buoyed the numbers, with 12- to 15-year-olds taking 25 percent of the country's shots since they became eligible last month, despite making up only 7 percent of the population, federal and state data show." The Washington Post (6/19, 10.52M) reports on the "surge" in teen vaccinations in the Washington, DC region, where "in just over a month, up to 57 percent of adolescents in this youngest-yet bracket have received at least one dose."

***Many First Responders In California Are Unvaccinated.*** The Los Angeles Times (6/19, Welsh, 3.37M) reports that while first responders "got priority access" to vaccines in California, as well as an "array of incentives, vaccination rates for police, fire and corrections agencies across L.A. and California have lagged well behind the state's average for adult residents, according to a survey of agencies conducted by The Times," which revealed that although "about 72% of adult Californians and 64% of Los Angeles residents 16 and older have received at least one vaccine dose, only about 51% of city firefighters and 52% of LAPD officers are at least partially vaccinated." The AP (6/19) reports law enforcement analysts and ethicists "said public safety workers should be allowed to make independent decisions about their health," but they "said the reluctance to get vaccinated is a matter of public concern because they work in close spaces, such as jails and courthouses, and interact with some of the most vulnerable populations."

### **Biden To Promote Vaccinations In North Carolina On Thursday.**

Bloomberg (6/20, Litvan, 3.57M) reports President Biden on Thursday will travel to Raleigh, North Carolina to "encourage more Americans to get vaccinated against the virus that causes Covid-19." In a statement, the White House said the President "will use the visit to the state's capital to 'highlight the ease of getting vaccinated, encourage vaccinations, and mobilize grassroots vaccine education and outreach efforts.'" Bloomberg states that the trip "comes 10 days before July 4, Biden's stated target date to see at least 70% of adult Americans at least partially vaccinated – a goal that risks slipping out of reach. So far, slightly more than 65% of adults in the U.S. have had at least one dose, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, despite a vaccine supply that has become plentiful across the nation."

***Gottlieb Warns Of Rebound In COVID Cases If Vaccination Rates Lag.*** The Washington Post (6/20, Whalen, 10.52M) reports former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb on CBS' Face The Nation (6/20, 2.44M) warned "the transmission of the more contagious delta variant in the United States could spur a fall surge in coronavirus infections if only 75 percent of the country's eligible population is vaccinated." The Post adds that while Gottlieb "cited one projection forecasting an increase in infections reaching as high as 20 percent of last winter's peak, he called that an 'aggressive estimate,' saying he doesn't 'think it'll be quite that dire.' But he said states with low vaccination rates already are showing a concerning rise in cases with the spreading of delta, which is up to 60 percent more contagious than earlier variants."

### **Fauci Argues Critics Of His COVID Response Are Attacking Science.**

Axios (6/20, Allen, 1.26M) reports that NIAID Director Fauci, who has become "a top punching bag for the right," in an interview with the New York Times "Sway" podcast that will be published Monday is "defending himself with a sharp new edge, arguing that an attack on him is an attack on science." Fauci is quoted as saying, "It is essential as a scientist that you evolve your opinion and your recommendations based on the data as it evolves." He continued, "That's the reason why I say people who then criticize me about that are actually criticizing science." He added that his critics "giving the ad hominem are saying, 'Ah, Fauci misled us. First he said no masks, then he said masks.'" However, Fauci continued, "That's the way science works. You work with the data you have at the time." The Hill (6/20, Choi, 5.69M) describes Fauci as "a target for many right-

wing lawmakers, particularly" Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), "who has repeatedly attacked him during multiple Senate hearings," and "controversial" Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA).

***Johnson Accuses Fauci Of "Mismanagement" Of COVID Response.*** On Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/20), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Pierre Kory, the Chief Medical Officer of the FLCCC Alliance, criticized Fauci and alleged that social media companies censored posts about the pandemic. Johnson said, "Dr. Fauci happened. Media arrogance. Social media. Censorship happened." He criticized YouTube over its decision to pull a video showing Kory's testimony about NIH guidelines. Johnson added that "Dr. Fauci, people in the health agencies, the media, the social media, they will never admit they were wrong because if they do, they're going to have to admit that literally hundreds of thousands of people didn't have to lose their lives but for their censorship, their arrogance and Dr. Fauci's mismanagement." Meanwhile, the Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) reports Johnson, who had initially objected to the vote to designate Juneteenth as a federal holiday, "was booed at Milwaukee's Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, with some members of the crowd yelling at the Wisconsin Republican: 'We don't want you here.'"

### **Delta COVID Variant Detected In Nearly Every US State.**

On ABC World News Tonight (6/20, story 4, 2:35, Davis, 4.13M), Trevor Ault reported the Delta COVID variant has now been "detected in nearly every state, and frontline hospital workers growing concern for people who still aren't vaccinated." On the CBS Weekend News (6/20, story 4, 2:00, Duncan, 3.59M), Lilia Luciano reported Sunday "marks 500 days since 57-year-old Patricia Dowd died of COVID in San Jose, California. She was the first identified COVID victim in the nation of more than 601,000 lives lost." She added the Delta variant is "accelerating in the Midwest and accounting for nearly a fourth of new infections in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska."

A Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) editorial contends that "at more than 600,000 deaths," the pandemic "is one of the gravest mass casualty events of the past century, and the actual toll is likely higher." The Post adds, "The sober truth is that the pandemic has not ended either here or abroad. Nor is it going to come to an abrupt end." The Post concludes Americans should "go ahead and toast the reopening, never forgetting those who have been lost. But don't lose sight of the forever virus – because it will not lose sight of us."

### **Many Undocumented Immigrants Resort To Using Unproven Drugs As COVID Treatments.**

The New York Times (6/20, Maxmen, 20.6M) says that while "health and consumer protection agencies have repeatedly warned that several [purported COVID] treatments, as well as vitamin infusions and expensive injections of 'peptide therapies' sold at alternative wellness clinics for more than \$1,000, are not supported by reliable scientific evidence," these "unproven remedies, often promoted by doctors and companies on social media, have appealed to many people in low-income immigrant communities in places across the country where Covid-19 rates have been high but access to health care is low." Per the Times, "Some turn to unregulated drugs because mainstream medicine is too expensive or is inaccessible because of language or cultural barriers."

### **Biden Announces Nominees To DOJ, HHS, USDA Positions.**

Politico (6/18, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports President Biden "announced a slate of five high-level nominees Friday, including for a Justice Department slot that oversees vetting of judicial nominees and for the top internal watchdog position at the Department of Health and Human Services." The President "picked North Carolina attorney Hampton Dellinger, 54, to lead Justice's Office of Legal Policy – a unit that works with the White House to research and recruit potential judicial nominees." Meanwhile, Biden "also announced plans to promote the acting HHS inspector general, Christi Grimm, to serve as the permanent IG for the sprawling health bureaucracy."

The AP (6/18) reports ex-Rep. Xochitl Torres Small (D-NM) "has been nominated by President Joe Biden to serve as the under secretary for rural development at the U.S. Department of Agriculture." The AP adds, "Members of New Mexico's congressional delegation announced Torres Small's nomination on Friday."



### **HUD Was Understaffed When Biden Took Office.**

The New York Times (6/18, Thrush, 20.6M) reports that when President Biden took office, "in some divisions" of Housing and Urban Development "as many as 25 to 30 percent of jobs were unfilled or occupied by interim employees." According to the Times, "The losses were concentrated among the ranks of highest-skilled managers and policy experts, many of whom had been overruled, sidelined, exiled and eventually driven away under President Donald J. Trump and his appointees." The Times adds, "Roughly 10 percent of the agency's work force left during Mr. Trump's first years in office, according to agency estimates. But that came on top of a decade-long decline resulting from attrition, poor recruitment and budget deals cut by the Obama administration with a Republican-led Congress at the time that prevented the agency from replacing departing employees."

### **WPost Report: Children Of Biden Aides In "Coveted" Administration Posts.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) reports that "at least five children of [President Biden's] top aides have secured coveted jobs in the new administration. They include two sons and a daughter of the White House counselor, the daughter of a deputy White House chief of staff and the daughter of the director of presidential personnel." According to the Post, "The pattern – which continued this week with the Treasury Department's announcement that it was hiring J.J. Ricchetti, son of Biden counselor Steve Ricchetti – has drawn concerns from ethics experts, diversity advocates and others." The Post adds, "Beyond children, other relatives of top Biden aides also have secured high-level administration jobs or nominations. They include the wife of White House Chief of Staff Ron Klain and the sister of White House press secretary Jen Psaki."

### **NYTimes Profiles 32-Year-Old Member Of Treasury Team Created To Reduce Tax Gap.**

A New York Times (6/18, Rappeport, 20.6M) analysis says, "shrinking the \$7 trillion so-called tax gap" is assuming "new urgency as the Biden administration looks to win bipartisan support for its infrastructure proposal." Treasury Secretary Yellen "has created a team to tackle the issue and staffed" the Treasury Department "with economists and others who have spent years studying how the government can hunt down money that it is owed but fails to collect." One of the group's members is Natasha Sarin, "a 32-year-old Harvard-trained economist who has written extensively on closing the gap." While Sarin's appointment was perceived by many as being evidence of "how important tax code compliance is to the administration," it has additionally brought up "questions about the progressiveness of Mr. Biden's agenda given her previous writings and her ties to Lawrence H. Summers, who has become a vocal critic of the president's spending plans, warning they would fuel rapid inflation that could get out of control."

### **Republican Lawmakers Press Biden To Remove Harris From Migration Role.**

Fox News (6/18, Shaw, 23.99M) reports on its website that 56 House Republicans called on President Biden to remove Vice President Harris "from her role dealing with the migrant crisis that has overwhelmed the southern border in recent months – accusing her of 'inaction' on the crisis due to her failure to visit the border." Fox News adds that although the Vice President "recently visited both Guatemala and Mexico as part of her responsibilities, meeting with leaders and announcing a number of investments in both countries to tackle those root causes – while urging migrants not to come to the border," and the White House has "sought to clarify that Harris is not in charge of the border per se and is instead focused on diplomatic talks," Republicans want her to visit the border so she can "truly understand the crisis that saw more than 180,000 migrant encounters in May."

*WSJournal Analysis Examines Why Migrant Families Are Willing To Separate At Border.* In a more than 2,700-word analysis, the Wall Street Journal (6/18, A1, de Cordoba, Pérez, Rivera, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) looks at some of the reasons that analysts say migrants are willing to separate from their children in attempting to cross the southern border of the US.

*King Says Remittances Are Key Factor In Migration.* Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M)



columnist Colbert King argues discussions of illegal immigration rarely include the subject of remittances, "especially in the mainstream media and among the commentariat. But they should." King adds, "By any measure, remittances have more transformative economic power in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala than all U.S. aid contributions to those countries combined." He concludes that the Administration "may steadfastly focus on getting at the region's 'root causes' with more dollars, public jawboning about corruption, and pleas to turn away from wicked ways of the past and toward "good governance" policies," but if Biden and Harris "believe their message is going to cause the Northern Triangle trio to do anything to disrupt the billions in workers' remittances flowing from here to there," they are kidding themselves.

### **Americans Celebrate First Juneteenth As A Federal Holiday.**

The Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) reports Americans on Friday "celebrated the federal government's decision this week to enshrine June 19 as a holiday marking the liberation of the last enslaved people in Texas (since that date fell on a Saturday this year, the federal day off was on Friday)," and "to commemorate Juneteenth, Washingtonians joined tourists at public monuments and museums to reflect on the country's painful history of slavery and its present-day repercussions." However, the Post adds that for "some" Americans, "feelings of joy and relief were tinged with anxiety over a push in parts of the country to restrict voting access and curtail how and when racism is taught in schools." The CBS Evening News (6/18, story 10, 0:19, Dokoupil, 3.56M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

In addition, ABC World News Tonight (6/18, story 15, 1:52, Johnson, 4.82M) profiled 94-year-old Opal Lee, whose "home was set on fire by white rioters on Juneteenth, 1939" and who as "the grandmother of Juneteenth" has been "fighting for decades for this recognition." ABC said when President Biden "signed Juneteenth into law, Opal Lee was right there. Kamala Harris, the first Black Vice President, holding her hand. The President inviting her to the White House, kneeling before her." Biden: "She's made it her mission to see that this day came, to make this day possible."

In a guest essay for the New York Times (6/18, 20.6M), Kate Masur, a history professor at Northwestern University, contends Juneteenth "should serve not only to remind us of the joy and relief that accompanied the end of slavery, but also of the unfinished work of confronting slavery's legacy." According to Masur, "Americans need to understand that the original Constitution, which protected slavery while providing few federal safeguards for individual rights, did not create a path toward abolition or racial equality. To the contrary, before and after Juneteenth, it was Black people and their white allies who fought to eradicate the racist legacies of slavery and who demanded that the federal government take action to protect the rights of all."

In her Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) column, Michele Norris says that while "a flood of Juneteenth trinkets, tchotchkes, doodads and gewgaws" will soon appear on store shelves, "let's remember this: The enslaved people at the core of this new holiday were merchandise themselves before slavery finally came to an end." She adds the new holiday "will mark the end of an abomination extended by deliberate and diabolical obfuscation." However, Norris warns as Juneteenth "becomes a holiday that offers another excuse for parties, parades and prodigious capitalism, I am betting that a lot of Americans will fail to see that irony." Norris also says "perhaps the biggest" irony is that Juneteenth has become a holiday "at the very moment" that conservatives are seeking to stop teachers from explaining "why our country is commemorating emancipation."

Meanwhile, Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) columnist Ishaan Tharoor asserts the "irony" of the Juneteenth designation as a federal holiday "is that, far from charting a radical path, the United States is late to the party. It sits in a hemisphere where many countries already place the memory of slave resistance and emancipation at the heart of their national stories." Tharoor labels the Juneteenth celebrations as comparable to "celebrations of Black liberation from the Caribbean, where the moment of emancipation is more closely tethered to histories of independence and freedom from Europe's colonial empires."

In a guest essay for the New York Times (6/18, 20.6M), Kevin Young, the Andrew W. Mellon director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, says that what

Juneteenth "and other Emancipation days commemorate is both the promise of freedom and its delay." According to Young, "It is a holiday ringed, like a good brisket, though not in smoke but irony. Out of such ironies Black people have made the blues, made lemonade, made good. The lesson of Juneteenth is both of celebration and expectation, of freedom deferred but still sought and of the freedoms to come."

***Mississippi City Donates Land From Former Slave Market To National Park Service.***

The AP (6/18, Pettus, Solis) reports the city of Natchez, Mississippi on Friday donated nearly three acres of "one of the largest slave markets in the United States" to the National Park Service, which "will develop exhibits that tell the history of Forks of the Road, where Black people were sold to work in slavery in Southern plantations from 1833 to 1863." Lance Hatten, Deputy Regional Director for the National Park Service, said, "As we commemorate the celebration of liberty, Juneteenth, and we gather to remember the system of enslavement and the oppression that proceeded this freedom, we acknowledge the tragic story of what happened here at Forks of the Road and within the city of Natchez." Hatten added, "We look forward to the day when people from all over the world will come to learn about the hard truths of Forks of the Road." Hatten continued, "When that truth is told and heard, the journey to healing and unity begins."

**House Democrats Remain In Talks With Trump To Resolve Dispute On Deutsche Bank Subpoenas.**

Reuters (6/18, Stempel) reports House Democrats and former President Donald Trump "remain in talks to resolve disputes concerning congressional subpoenas of the former U.S. president's financial records from Deutsche Bank AG, their lawyers said on Friday." According to Reuters, "Deutsche Bank, long Trump's main bank, has taken no position on the subpoenas and said it would comply with the law."

**NYTimes Analysis: Liberal Supreme Court Justices Having Better Run Despite Conservative Majority.**

A New York Times (6/18, A1, Liptak, 20.6M) analysis says, "The arrival of Justice Amy Coney Barrett in October seemed to create a 6-to-3 conservative juggernaut that would transform the Supreme Court." However, the Times argues that "judging by the 39 signed decisions in argued cases so far this term, including two major rulings on Thursday, the right side of the court is badly fractured and its liberal members are having a surprisingly good run." This "may change, as the court has yet to issue the term's last 15 decisions."

***Olsen: SCOTUS Proves Commitment To First Amendment In Fulton Ruling.*** Henry Olsen writes in his Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) column, "Many conservatives fear that woke progressivism's march through America's institutions will inevitably curtail religious liberty," but "Thursday's unanimous Supreme Court decision in" *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania* "regarding Catholic Social Services shows that the court remains committed to the First Amendment – for now." Olsen concludes that "one can hope that future decisions on similar cases will show the court will continue its historic role as the one institution inalterably devoted to the protection of individual freedom."

***Hewitt Praises Roberts' Opinion In Fulton V. City Of Philadelphia.*** Hugh Hewitt in his Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) column highlights "the Supreme Court's unanimous holding Thursday in *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia*," specifically pointing to Chief Justice John Roberts majority opinion. Hewitt adds this "case generated a total of four opinions that are, when read as a whole, a full-throated win for the free exercise clause of the First Amendment. And that victory is wrapped in a more general win, both for the idea of judicial restraint and a much-needed cease-fire in the long-running battle between many religious denominations and LGBTQ activists."

***Parker: "Just About Everybody" Unhappy With SCOTUS' Ruling In Fulton.*** In her Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) column, Kathleen Parker writes the Supreme Court's unanimous ruling in *Fulton* would seem like "a win for everyone" because Catholic Social Services "can go back to helping children find foster homes and will not (for now) be forced to abridge its religious beliefs or abandon the heroic work they've done for decades," while "same-sex couples can continue to foster children through 29 other Philadelphia agencies that have no religious

restrictions." However, Parker adds, "just about everybody" is unhappy with the ruling.

**Marcus Applauds Barrett's Opinions In ACA, Philadelphia Cases.** Ruth Marcus writes in her Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) column both the Fulton case and the Affordable Care Act case before the Supreme Court "were decided on narrow grounds and with solid majorities." Marcus adds, "At a moment when the court's conservative majority has been bolstered, this reticence – this judiciousness – is a welcome development," specifically touting opinions by Justice Amy Coney Barrett on both cases.

**Von Drehle: Debate Over Religious Freedom, Discrimination Is A "Slippery Slope."** David Von Drehle writes in his Washington Post (6/18, 10.52M) column, "The 2015 Supreme Court decision extending the right to marry to same-sex adult couples contained a ticking time bomb" regarding religious freedom. Von Drehle points to the Fulton case and the case of the Colorado baker who refused to "do wedding cakes to celebrate same-sex unions," and argues the debate over "religious freedom vs. discrimination" is "a slippery slope."

### **WPost Analyses: Biden Facing Crucial Months For Advancing Agenda.**

A Washington Post (6/19, Balz, 10.52M) analysis says President Biden has "returned to Washington from his European trip, facing what could be the defining weeks of his first year in office," with "three major issues...on the agenda in the weeks ahead: the pandemic, infrastructure and voting rights." The Post asserts the results "will reveal more about the president's leadership skills, the nation's seemingly intractable political divisions and whether bipartisanship is possible or even advisable."

Meanwhile, another Washington Post (6/19, 10.52M) analysis says Democratic leaders "are reluctant to say it out loud, but circumstances are about to dictate that they blow up the legislative calendar to build more time in Washington if they want to approve...Biden's ambitious agenda." The Post highlights that the Senate will only be "voting about 16 days" from late July through Labor Day, while "from July 2 through Sept. 19, the House is only in session for nine days," even though their looming legislative agenda "includes expectations of approving a \$4 trillion compilation of infrastructure and social welfare programs, possibly broken into a complicated two-track system; funding federal agencies before a Sept. 30 deadline to avoid a government shutdown; extending the Treasury's borrowing authority by late summer or early fall to avert a default on the federal debt; and potentially other major actions such as a Supreme Court vacancy if one of the justices announces a retirement."

### **Republicans Increasing Power Over State Elections Amid Voter Apathy.**

The New York Times (6/19, A1, Corasaniti, Epstein, 20.6M) reports Democrats of color are being removed from county election boards in "some of the earliest casualties as Republican-led legislatures mount an expansive takeover of election administration in a raft of new voting bills this year." The Times adds Republican lawmakers "have also stripped secretaries of state of their power, asserted more control over state election boards, made it easier to overturn election results, and pursued several partisan audits and inspections of 2020 results."

However, the AP (6/19, Riccardi) reports that "many voters" are "disconnected from the fight" over "the practical aspects of how to run elections – clashing over details such as polling booth hours and the number of ballot drop boxes per county." The AP adds, "A passionate base of voters and activists on both sides may be intensely dialed in on the issue, but a disengaged middle is baffled at the attention." According to the AP, "That disconnect is now the challenge before Democrats, who are trying to marshal public support for federal legislation that would thwart a series of new state laws tightening election procedures." The AP says Democrats are seeking to use "rallies, ads, White House events and a certain-to-fail vote in the Senate this coming week...to fire up their voters around the issue, hoping their passions hold through next year's midterms."

A Washington Post (6/19, 10.52M) analysis examining the status of efforts to pass voting rights legislation through Congress concludes that "the reality of Democrats' slim Senate majority [is] they just don't have the votes to get much done on their own."

### **Portman, Graham Defend Bipartisan Infrastructure Compromise As Sanders Has**

## Reservations.

The Hill (6/20, Choi, 5.69M) reports Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) on NBC's Meet The Press<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 2.84M) "said that the Republicans who helped craft the bipartisan infrastructure proposal unveiled earlier this month are still 'absolutely committed' to it despite pushback from both sides of the aisle." The Wall Street Journal (6/20, Hayashi, Duehren, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Portman suggested that the bipartisan deal could exclude plans to raise gas taxes because of the Administration's opposition, though he said officials "will need to come forward with some other ideas without raising taxes."

In addition, Bloomberg (6/20, Litvan, 3.57M) reports Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) on Fox News Sunday<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 836K) "said a \$579 billion bipartisan accord on infrastructure is on the table" and "challenged President Joe Biden to decide whether he wants to pursue it," but Politico (6/20, Carrasco, 6.73M) reports that he "said it could be jeopardized if Democrats signal that they intend to follow it up with their own second infrastructure package via reconciliation." The Hill (6/20, Vakil, 5.69M) reports Graham "made it clear that he wants a package to pass the Senate through normal channels with a bipartisan deal."

In a joint interview on CNN's State Of The Union<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 514K), Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ) also discussed infrastructure. Gottheimer said, "The Problem Solvers Caucus, which are 29 Democrats and 29 Republicans, put out our framework called Building Bridges. It's \$1.25 trillion over eight years. And it's focused on roads, bridges, rails, water infrastructure, resiliency, items like electric vehicles and carbon capture, so many things that are, I believe, really in line with friends in my party" Fitzpatrick said, "The House approach, our bipartisan caucus, in phase one identified the definition. ... Second was the scope. We came to \$1.25 trillion over eight years. And then third are the pay-fors. ... You now have 21 senators, bipartisan. And we have addressed the pay-fors. And we have done it without any tax increases. ... Nobody will be totally in love with the plan, but everybody will be OK with it. And that's the whole point of our caucus. That's what our country wants us to do."

However, Politico (6/20, Carrasco, 6.73M) reports Senate Budget Chair Bernie Sanders on NBC's Meet The Press<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 2.84M) "said he wouldn't support the bipartisan infrastructure bill if it included measures such as raising the gas tax or a fee on electric vehicles." Axios (6/20, Saric, 1.26M) states that Sanders' remarks "threw cold water on some of the funding avenues" for the bill, although Reuters (6/20, Cornwell) says Sanders "was unclear about whether he could support the bipartisan plan if those were removed."

Meanwhile, The Hill (6/20, Choi, 5.69M) reports Sanders on CNN's State Of The Union<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 514K) "said...he and President Biden are focused on working families amid infrastructure package negotiations." Sanders also "said he believes lawmakers are becoming 'bogged down in numbers' and that it is more important for them to look at the 'needs of the American people, what's going on right now.'" He continued, "All that the president is doing, all I am doing, is taking a look at reality for working families. Understand their needs have been ignored for decades. Now it is time to create good-paying jobs, millions of good-paying jobs, addressing health care, housing, infrastructure."

The New York Times (6/20, Weisman, 20.6M) reports a bipartisan infrastructure deal "is receiving a hostile reception from many Democrats who favor a package five times as large, to be paid for in part with at least \$2.5 trillion in new taxes. It is not just a much larger economic package they want; they also see a rare opportunity to harness the political popularity of infrastructure spending to achieve their long-held policy goal of raising taxes on the rich." The Times adds that for Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR), Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), and other liberals, "the tax side of the ledger is not a mere accounting exercise to pay for spending, but a critical policymaking tool unto itself."

Matt Bai writes in the Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) that while some Democrats complain that Biden "is too willing to compromise, that he's not moving boldly enough on progressive priorities," Biden "may be the only thing standing between his party's activists and a looming catastrophe." While Biden offers a "version of the American story – of a relentlessly self-improving country, despite painful setbacks and reckonings with our past – that most of us were taught to

believe," a different "story has taken hold among activists on social media and opinion writers – that of a country tumbling backward, mired in a myth of equality in which its founders never really believed." Bai argues, "Condemning the United States as a force for repression" will "almost certainly lead Democrats to ruin in next year's elections." While activists "may see in Biden's rhetoric a willful denial of history," Bai argues that "if Democrats hold their own next fall, it'll be because the president told his American story – and not theirs."

***Freight Railroads Pose Obstacle To Amtrak Expansion.*** The Wall Street Journal (6/20, Mann, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that while the Administration has a \$75 billion proposal to expand passenger train travel nationwide via Amtrak, the seven major US freight carriers pose an obstacle to the plan as they would have to approve the use of the passenger cars at the expense of commodities.

### **US Economy "Markedly Transformed" By Pandemic.**

The Washington Post (6/20, A1, Long, 10.52M) reports the US economy "is emerging from the coronavirus pandemic with considerable speed but markedly transformed, as businesses and consumers struggle to adapt to a new landscape with higher prices, fewer workers, new innovations and a range of inconveniences." The Post says Americans are encountering an economy "almost unrecognizable from just 16 months ago. Prices are up. Housing is scarce. It takes months longer than normal to get furniture, appliances and numerous parts delivered. And there is a great dislocation between millions of unemployed workers and millions of vacant jobs."

***Low-Wage Workers Find Themselves With Leverage In Tight Labor Market.*** The Wall Street Journal (6/20, A1, Morath, Ip, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports as the economy recovers from the COVID pandemic, low-wage workers find themselves with leverage as a flood of openings in fields like restaurants, transportation, warehousing and manufacturing along with a declining labor force are opening the door to perks such as bonuses, bigger raises and competing offers.

### **US Catholic Bishops Approve Steps To Deny Biden Communion Over Abortion.**

ABC World News Tonight<sup>8</sup> (6/20, story 5, 2:00, Davis, 4.13M) reported President Biden, who is "only the second Catholic commander in chief in history," and "arguably, the most religiously observant since Jimmy Carter," is "at the center of a debate among Catholic bishops over his stance on abortion rights. Some are questioning whether the openly devout President should be allowed to receive holy communion." ABC (Parks) added that during a virtual meeting last week, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops voted 3-1 "to take steps that could one day allow priests to deny public figures, like President Biden, the sacrament of communion over their support of abortion rights."

The New York Times (6/20, Dias, Graham, 20.6M) calls the vote "the most dramatic example of the conservative Catholic movement's reach since Mr. Biden was elected." The Times describes "an internal war" among American Catholics "over one of the church's most sacred rituals." While "leading U.S. allies of Pope Francis, including Cardinal Blase Cupich of Chicago, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark and Cardinal Wilton Gregory of Washington, sided with the Vatican's warning against proceeding with the eucharistic document," they "were ultimately drowned out. The measure passed with a vote of 73 percent who approved it. ... That 73 percent represents emerging conservative momentum, at odds with Pope Francis' broader range of priorities on issues like immigration, poverty and climate change, not only among bishops but in parishes across the country."

The Washington Post (6/18, A1, 10.52M) reports Catholic bishops in the US on Friday "voted to back a measure that could be an early step toward limiting Communion for President Biden and other Catholic politicians who support abortion rights." The Post adds that when asked about the measure that "could allow some bishops to deny him and others Communion over their support for abortion access," the President called it "a private matter" and said, "I don't think that's going to happen." In another article, the Washington Post (6/18, A1, 10.52M) portrays Biden as "arguably the most observant president in decades" and labels his faith as "a core part of his identity."

Meanwhile, the New York Times (6/18, A1, Dias, 20.6M) says the bishops are "flouting a

warning from the Vatican” by “advancing a political push by conservative bishops to deny President Biden communion because of his support of abortion rights.” According to the Times, “The fact that Mr. Biden’s views on abortion are even a matter of public discussion is already a victory for conservative Catholics.” The Times says Biden and Pope Francis “have been political allies for years, especially because of the partnership between the Vatican and the United States during President Obama’s tenure on issues like the normalization of relations with Cuba and the Paris Climate Agreement.” ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (6/18, story 8, 0:56, Johnson, 4.82M) and the CBS Evening News<sup>\*</sup> (6/18, story 5, 0:34, Dokoupil, 3.56M) provided similar coverage in brief broadcasts, as did the Wall Street Journal (6/18, Rocca, Subscription Publication, 8.41M).

In her Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) column, Karen Tumulty takes issue with Friday’s vote. Tumulty argues that Catholics “should be leery of those in the clergy who treat the Communion wafer as some kind of merit badge, rather than the spiritual sustenance that we were taught to believe it is.” In addition, they should be “suspicious of the political timing of this debate.” If the bishops vote “at their next meeting in November to declare that supporters of abortion rights should be denied Communion, their statement will no doubt become a cudgel against some Catholic politicians, mostly Democrats, in the elections of 2022 and beyond.”

In an op-ed for the New York Times (6/19, 20.6M), former Rep. Tom Perriello (D-VA), co-founder of FaithfulAmerica.org and executive director of the Open Society Foundation, writes, “Instead of asking whether they think President Biden is worthy of communion from them, I pray that” the Bishops “ask what they must do to rebuild the moral authority that would have them offering communion to any of us.”

***Pope Remains Silent On Controversial Communion Vote By US Bishops.*** The New York Times (6/19, 20.6M) reports, “Pope Francis on Saturday put a founder of the European Union on the track to sainthood, told Roman deacons to take care of the poor and met with a top prelate who once defended him against wild allegations by the Vatican’s former ambassador to the United States.” However, “the most telling thing he did was stay quiet about the extraordinary vote by America’s Roman Catholic bishops to move ahead – despite the warning of the pope’s top doctrinal official – with the drafting of new guidance that conservatives hope will eventually deny communion to President Biden for his support of abortion rights.” On this issue, “the pope said nothing, church officials and experts said, because there is nothing else to say.”

***House Democrats Urge Catholic Bishops To Stop Targeting Abortion Supporting Politicians In Communion Disagreement.*** On its website, Fox News (6/19, Schultz, 23.99M) reports, “Nearly 60 House Democrats are calling on Catholic bishops to cease the ‘weaponization’ of Holy Communion and urged them to stop targeting Democrats who support abortion as being unworthy of the sacred sacrament of the Eucharist.”

### **Graham, Portman Critical Of Manchin’s Compromise Voting Proposal.**

The Hill (6/20, Vakil, 5.69M) reports Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) on Fox News Sunday<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 836K) “said on Sunday that a sweeping Democratic-backed election reform bill was ‘the biggest power grab in the history of the country,’” and he “also said he would not support a compromise offered last week” from Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), while The Hill (6/20, Choi, 5.69M) reports Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) on NBC’s Meet The Press<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 2.84M) criticized Sen. Joe Manchin’s (D-WV) proposal a “federal takeover of the election system.”

However, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT), on CNN’s State Of The Union<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 514K), said, “We’re trying to...preserve democracy. What Republican legislatures and governors are doing, in the most disgraceful way imaginable, is to try to deny people of color, young people, poor people the right to vote, people with disabilities. That is outrageous. We can disagree on all kinds of issues, but taking away the right of people to participate in American democracy is unacceptable. The Congress must address that in any and every way. Also, in my view, we’ve got to deal with dark money in politics, the power of billionaires buying elections. We got to deal with gerrymandering. I will go as far as we possibly can to create a vibrant democracy in America and take on those Republicans who are trying to undermine democracy.”

On the CBS Weekend News<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, lead story, 2:20, Duncan, 3.59M), Christina Ruffini

reported the Juneteenth celebrations this weekend "were, as one activist put it, a good start, but pressure is growing on Congress to take action and get something done on voting rights, especially after those new restrictive measures were passed in states like Florida and Georgia, measures which critics say disproportionately impact communities of color."

The Washington Post (6/20, Linskey, DeBonis, 10.52M) reports that although Manchin over his "nearly four-decade political career...has positioned himself as a bridge-building dealmaker who can deliver for his home state, not a partisan warrior or an ideologue," he has been finding "few allies in his quest for bipartisanship." The Post says its "account of Manchin's rise to power – and how he is wielding it – is based on interviews with 28 people close to him, including members of his family, political advisers and state officials. They paint a portrait of a canny pol whose centrist instincts have helped him survive and even thrive as a Democrat while his home state has veered sharply to the right – instincts being put to the test in a hostile climate with few political incentives to deal across party lines."

**Illinois Governor Signs Voting Bill.** The AP (6/20) reports, "Illinois' primary election will be moved from March to June next year under a voter access expansion recently signed into law by Gov. J.B. Pritzker." The new law also "makes mail voting a permanent option, allows jail inmates awaiting trial to cast ballots and makes Election Day in November a state holiday, among other things." Because lawmakers chose not to create new post-Census district lines for members of Congress until official Census numbers, which have been delayed by the pandemic, come later this summer, the primary will be moved from March 15 to June 28 next year.

**Rubin: Republicans Have "All But Given Up" On Governing.** Jennifer Rubin writes in the Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) that "Republican states are failing to meet the basic needs of their residents." Rubin says this is not surprising "given that Republicans have all but given up on the notion of governance. At the national level, they consume themselves with race-baiting (e.g., scaring Americans about immigration and critical race theory), assailing private companies (e.g., corporations that defend voting rights, social media platforms, book publishers) and perpetrating the most ludicrous and dangerous lie in memory – that the 2020 election was stolen." Democrats, Rubin argues, "should say it often and simply: Republicans have little to offer anyone but the very rich. They rely on scaring and enraging their base both to distract from their lack of interest in governing and to goad supporters to turn out to defeat Democrats. And now, they want to make it harder for critics to vote them out of office. What a racket."

### **Sanders Declines To Reverse Criticism Of Justice Barrett After Latest SCOTUS Rulings.**

Fox News (6/20, Sorace, 23.99M) reports on its website that Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) on CNN's State Of The Union (6/20, 514K) "declined to walk back his past comments that Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett would vote to end the Affordable Care Act after the newest justice in the country's highest court voted in the majority to uphold the law." Asked if he was "wrong when he warned that Barrett would 'vote to destroy the Affordable Care Act and kick millions of Americans off their health care,'" Sanders responded, "She has a long career in front of us."

On NBC's Meet The Press (6/20, 2.84M), Sanders said, "Obamacare has done a lot of good for a lot of people. That's clearly a fact and I support that." He lamented the US is "the only major country on earth that doesn't guarantee healthcare to all people as a right. We are spending roughly twice as much per capita on healthcare as do the people in any other country and 90 million of us are uninsured or underinsured. We pay, by far, the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs. We don't have enough doctors and nurses and dentists, especially in underserved rural areas. It is not a system that is working." Sanders added, "My own view is we must move to a Medicare-for-all single payer program. By the way, there is growing support to at least right now expand Medicare to cover dental, to cover hearing, to cover eyeglasses. It's outrageous that millions of seniors have trouble eating because they can't afford dentures."

In addition, Sanders, on CNN's State Of The Union (6/20, 514K), was asked whether Associate Justice Stephen Breyer should retire. Sanders said, "I'll let Justice Breyer make that decision by himself." On NBC's Meet The Press (6/20, 2.84M), Sanders said, "I will let the judge make his own decision. I'm not going to tell him what to do."



***Graham: While "I'd Love To Get Rid Of Obamacare," Barrett And Kavanaugh Took A "Conservative Approach" To Obamacare.*** Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), on Fox News Sunday

(6/20, 836K), said, "I was a bit surprised but I accept the outcome. So much for Amy Coney Barrett being a religious zealot and all the demagoguery attached to her nomination. I think the justices did say: to zero out the individual mandate for zero tax, the states complaining about it really could show injury. From a conservative point of view, that decision made sense to me. I'd love to get rid of Obamacare, but the standing issue decided the case and Barrett and Kavanaugh took a very recent, conservative approach, so there you go."

Politico (6/20, Cohen, 6.73M) reports former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie on ABC's "This Week" characterized the ruling as "proof that justices often don't vote the way the presidents who appoint them expect to." He said, "No matter what you think when they appoint them, when they get on the court, they vote the way they believe they should vote."

***WSJournal Analysis: Supreme Court Increasingly Ruling On Behalf Of Religious Rights.*** A Wall Street Journal (6/20, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) analysis says that the Supreme Court's ruling in *Fulton v. Philadelphia* will likely bring additional protections for religious rights at the expense of some secular organizations. According to the Journal, Justices Neil Gorsuch, Clarence Thomas, and Samuel Alito are leading the charge.

### **Navy Fires At Aircraft Carrier In Explosives Test.**

ABC World News Tonight (6/20, story 11, 0:20, Davis, 4.13M) reported the Navy fired explosives at the USS Gerald R. Ford off the coast of Florida in a test "designed to determine whether the carrier can take a hit during battle." The blast was the equivalent of a 3.9 magnitude earthquake. The Navy called the test a success.

### **LGBTQ Civil Rights Legislation Stalls In The Senate.**

The Washington Post (6/20, 10.52M) reports, "The long march toward equal rights for gay, lesbian and transgender Americans — whose advocates have eyed major advances with complete Democratic control in Washington — has run into a wall of opposition in the U.S. Senate." Legislation that "would write protections for LGBTQ Americans into the nation's foundational civil rights law has stalled due to sharpening Republican rhetoric, one key Democrat's insistence on bipartisanship, and the Senate's 60-vote supermajority rule." While Senate Majority Leader Schumer "hinted at a potential action this month — the annual LGBTQ Pride Month — Senate aides and advocates say there are no immediate plans to vote on the Equality Act, which would add sexual orientation and gender identity to the protected classes of the 1964 Civil Rights Act alongside race, color, religion and national origin."

***Homeowners' Group Fines Couple For Displaying Pride Flag.*** The New York Times (6/20, Levenson, Vigdor, 20.6M) reports a homeowner's association in Florida fined a couple after they "hung a small rainbow flag from their mailbox to celebrate Pride Month." Bob Brosseau, president of the board of the Eastland Cove Homeowners Association, "said someone had complained to the board about the rainbow flag, leaving it no choice but to enforce its rules against flying flags other than those the association allows." Since receiving the violation notice, the couple has put more rainbow flags outside their home and given out rainbow flags to neighbors who had dropped by to offer their support.

### **At Least 12 People Dead As Tropical Depression Claudette Moves Across The South.**

The New York Times (6/20, Taylor, 20.6M) reports that Tropical Depression Claudette, "the third named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season," is "expected to weaken to a post-tropical cyclone by Tuesday night," but Rob Marciano reported on ABC World News Tonight (6/20, story 2, 1:20, Davis, 4.13M) that the storm is still "wreaking more havoc as it sweeps from the Gulf coast to the Carolinas."

On the CBS Weekend News (6/20, story 2, 0:50, Duncan, 3.59M), Jericka Duncan said Claudette "is being blamed for at least 12 deaths, including ten people, nine of them children." The New York Times (6/20, Lukpat, Vigdor, 20.6M) reports the children died when their van "and a



sport-utility vehicle collided, and the van burst into flames, the authorities said." The Washington Post (6/20, Thebault, 10.52M) reports officials "described the crash as one of the worst ever in Butler County, a rural area about 60 miles south of Montgomery with years of experience in battling inclement weather."

Reuters (6/20) reports the National Transportation Safety Board "said on Sunday it would investigate [the] highway crash." On ABC World News Tonight (6/20, lead story, 3:20, Davis, 4.13M), Elwyn Lopez reported the crash involved 18 vehicles, and "officials say two 18-wheelers likely setting off the chain reaction crash."

Meanwhile, the AP (6/20, Amy, Forliti) says a 24-year-old man and a 3-year-old boy were "killed Saturday when a tree fell on their house just outside the Tuscaloosa city limits, said Capt. Jack Kennedy of the Tuscaloosa Violent Crimes Unit. Makayla Ross, a 23-year-old Fort Payne woman, died Saturday after her car ran off the road into a swollen creek, DeKalb County Deputy Coroner Chris Thacker told WHNT-TV."

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### **Sullivan Warns China Could Be Isolated By International Community If It Refuses To Allow "Real" Investigation Into Pandemic's Origins.**

Bloomberg (6/20, Yang, Ballentine, 3.57M) reports NSA Sullivan on Fox News Sunday (6/20, 836K) warned China "will risk international isolation if it fails to allow a 'real' investigation on its territory into the origins of the virus that caused the Covid-19 pandemic." Sullivan said China faces "a stark choice: Either they will allow, in a responsible way, investigators in to do the real work of figuring out where this came from, or they will face isolation in the international community." However, The Hill (6/20, Choi, 5.69M) reports Sullivan on CNN's State Of The Union (6/20, 516K) "said...the U.S. would not be issuing 'threats or ultimatums' to China."

Meanwhile, Fox News (6/20, Fordham, 23.99M) reports online that Sullivan lauded President Biden "for inducing his fellow G-7 leaders to put pressure on China to allow a transparent investigation of the pandemic's origins." He said, "What Joe Biden did in Europe this week was rally the democratic world to speak with a common voice on this issue for the first time since Covid broke out. President Trump wasn't able to do it. President Biden was. He got the G-7 to endorse a statement saying in unison that China must allow an investigation to proceed within its territory."

*Efforts To Uncover Origins Of COVID Come At "Fraught Moment" For Science.* In a more than 2,600-word article, the Washington Post (6/20, Achenbach, 10.52M) reports the "consensus of many scientists" remains that COVID originated naturally, "but the 'lab leak' theory has never gone away and has become louder than ever." According to the Post, "It is not a theory so much as a constellation of scenarios that imagine how the virus may have emanated from a laboratory in China, ranging from the accidental to the sinister." However, the Post adds that the search for answers comes at "a fraught moment not only for virologists, but for scientists broadly. They have had to deal with some version of the 'Frankenstein' meme for generations. Now, they're faced with suspicion that somehow they are responsible for a plague that has killed millions of people."

In addition, the New York Times (6/20, Zimmer, Gorman, 20.6M) says the "uproar" has "drawn attention back to a decade-long debate among scientists over whether certain gain-of-function research is too risky to allow." According to the Times, "The stakes of the debate could not be higher. Too little research on emerging viruses will leave us unprepared for future pandemics. But too little attention to the safety risks will increase the chances that an experimental pathogen may escape a lab through an accident and cause an outbreak of its own." The Times adds such efforts had already "proved over the years to be immensely challenging. And now, the intensity of the politics and rhetoric over the lab leak theory threatens to push detailed science policy discussions to the sidelines."

Meanwhile, the New York Times (6/20, Troianovski, 20.6M) highlights how an anthrax lab leak in the Soviet Union in 1979 "shows how an authoritarian government can successfully shape

the narrative of a disease outbreak and how it can take years – and, perhaps, regime change – to get to the truth.” The Times adds that although “many scientists believe that the virus that caused the Covid-19 pandemic evolved in animals and jumped at some point to humans,” others are “calling for deeper investigation of the possibility of an accident at the Wuhan Institute of Virology” because of “widespread concern that the Chinese government – which, like the Soviet government decades before it, dismisses the possibility of a lab leak – is not providing international investigators with access and data that could shed light on the pandemic’s origins.”

**Gallagher: Evidence Is Showing Chinese Communist Party “Gave Birth And Fuel” To Pandemic.** In a Fox News (6/20, 23.99M) op-ed, Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI) argues that “from the earliest days of the pandemic when the virus emerged in Wuhan, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has engaged in a concerted campaign to pile lies on top of lies about the virus and its origins.” However, he argues evidence “continues to stack up in favor of the lab-leak hypothesis, particularly with recent revelations that lab workers at the WIV were hospitalized prior to the broader outbreak in Wuhan.” Gallagher concludes the US “and its allies must articulate a vision to counter that put forward by the CCP. This should start with Wuhan. The more evidence we see, it is becoming clear that the totalitarian impulses of the CCP gave birth and fuel to COVID-19.”

### **US Extends Travel Restrictions At Land Borders With Canada, Mexico Through July 21.**

Reuters (6/20, Shepardson) says the Department of Homeland Security on Sunday announced US land borders with Canada and Mexico “will remain closed to non-essential travel until at least July 21,” a 30-day extension that comes “after Canada announced its own extension on Friday of the requirements that were set to expire on Monday and have been in place since March 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic.”

### **India Records Lowest Daily Number Of New COVID Cases In Nearly Three Months, Data Show.**

Reuters (6/20, Jadhav) reports, “India reported 58,419 new COVID-19 infections over the past 24 hours on Sunday, the lowest daily number in nearly three months, data from the health ministry showed.” India’s COVID-19 tally has “risen to 29.9 million and so far 386,713 people have died.”

However, Reuters (6/19, Verma) reported the Indian government on Saturday “urged states to be careful in reopening from COVID-19 lockdowns to prevent a resurgence of infections in the hard-hit country.” Indian states “and territories ‘must ensure that the whole process is carefully calibrated,’ Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla wrote in a letter to top provincial bureaucrats.” In addition, the New York Times (6/20, Schmall, 20.6M) reports the “rare and often deadly fungal disease” mucormycosis “has exploded across India on the coattails of the coronavirus pandemic. Unprepared for this spring’s devastating Covid-19 second wave, many of India’s hospitals took desperate steps to save lives – steps that may have opened the door to yet another deadly disease.” The Times says that over the course of three weeks, “the number of cases of the disease – known by the misnomer ‘black fungus,’ because it is found on dead tissue – shot up to more than 30,000 from negligible levels. States have recorded more than 2,100 deaths, according to news reports.”

### **Israel Seeks To Salvage Vaccine Swap Deal With Palestinians.**

The Washington Post (6/20, Rubin, 10.52M) reports the Israeli government is “working to revive talks to deliver vaccine doses to the Palestinian Authority after a deal Friday was suddenly called off by authority officials, who said the doses were too close to their expiration date and did not meet their standards.” According to the Post, “The announcement and cancellation of the deal has given rise to conspiracy theories and further damaged the low standing of the Palestinian Authority among its people.”

### **Asian Countries Accelerate Vaccination Campaigns.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/20, Yoon, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that despite a slow start, a number of Asia-Pacific countries have increased their vaccination rollouts and some have

already overtaken the US and Israel in terms of daily doses, adjusted for population.

### **Australia Keeps Being Plagued By Small COVID Outbreaks.**

Reuters (6/20, Kelly) reports, "Australia's state of Queensland recorded one locally acquired coronavirus infection on Sunday, the latest streak of small outbreaks that have been plaguing the country in recent months." The single "case comes as a cluster of the highly infectious Delta variant has grown by two cases to nine in New South Wales, Australia's most populous state, prompting health officials to expand mask wearing rules."

### **UN Recognizes World Refugee Day.**

CBS Weekend News (6/20, story 6, 0:20, Duncan, 3.59M) reported that Sunday marked "World Refugee Day," which is when the UN "ask[s] us to remember the millions fleeing wars and persecution." Pope Francis mirrored the UN message, and he "called for people to open their hearts to refugees, singling out Myanmar, where thousands of refugees are homeless and starving."

### **Rothkopf: Biden Has Surpassed Every US President On The World Stage In Recent Memory.**

Rothkopf Group CEO David Rothkopf argues in a USA Today (6/20, 12.7M) column that President Biden, who "has had more foreign policy experience than any other president in U.S. history," is "better on the world stage than any president since George H.W. Bush." He writes that it is "probably unfair to compare him with any of his predecessors since the senior Bush," and he cites Biden's recent European tour, which "is among the most successful ever for a new president." Biden "launched a refresh of the Atlantic Charter with the United Kingdom, reengaged with the Group of Seven industrialized countries and played a leading role in an unprecedented commitment of vaccines to needy nations."

### **White House Rejects Venezuelan Call To Lift Sanctions.**

Bloomberg (6/20, Wadhams, 3.57M) reports that the Biden Administration has "rejected [Venezuelan President] Nicolas Maduro's call for relief from U.S. sanctions, saying the Venezuelan leader needs to do more toward restoring democracy before penalties would be lifted." Maduro had "reached out to Biden in an exclusive Bloomberg interview last week, calling on him to lift sanctions, normalize relations and end the 'demonization of Venezuela.'"

### **Militants Open Fire On Civilians At US-Mexico Border.**

The AP (6/20, Peña) reports that unidentified militants "opened fire in the Mexican city of Reynosa on the U.S. border, killing at least 14 people and causing widespread panic" on Saturday. Local criminal activity "has long been dominated by the Gulf Cartel," and Tamaulipas Gov. Francisco García Cabeza de Vaca "condemned the loss of 'innocent civilian' lives" on Sunday. He "said the motive for the attack will be investigated."

### **Biden To Meet With Afghan President On Friday.**

Reuters (6/20, Pamuk) reports President Biden on Friday "will meet at the White House with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and the chairman of Afghanistan's High Council for National Reconciliation Abdullah Abdullah...to discuss U.S. troop withdrawal amid a surge in fighting between Afghan forces and the Taliban across the country." Reuters adds Biden "will seek to reassure Ghani and Abdullah of U.S. support for the Afghan people including diplomatic, economic and humanitarian assistance, the White House said in a statement," and he "will also repeat his pledge to ensure that the country never becomes a safe haven for terrorist groups."

The Hill (6/20, Vakil, 5.69M) reports White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki "said in a statement that the visit would emphasize the 'enduring partnership' between the two countries as the U.S. prepares to withdraw the last remaining American troops in Afghanistan." Psaki added, "The United States will remain deeply engaged with the Government of Afghanistan to ensure the

country never again becomes a safe haven for terrorist groups who pose a threat to the U.S. homeland." According to Axios (6/20, Reyes, Johnson, 1.26M), its politics editor Glen Johnson "said inviting both Ghani and Abdullah to Washington shows the administration's respect for the delicate balance of power in the country."

Meanwhile, when asked on ABC's This Week<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 2.06M) about how the Administration plans to protect Afghans who cooperated with the US, NSA Sullivan said, "This is a paramount priority for President Biden and the entire team. We are processing these applications and getting people out at a record pace. We are working with Congress right now, including the two representatives mentioned, to streamline some of the requirements that slow the process down. We're doing the extensive planning for potential evacuation should it become necessary." He added, "We'll take all these steps to do right by the people who did right by us."

***Afghan President Replaces Defense And Interior Ministers As Well As Army Chief As Taliban Advance Continues.*** Reuters (6/20) reports Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Saturday "replaced his defence and interior ministers and the army chief of staff amid rising casualties among Afghanistan's security forces in sharply increased fighting with the Taliban." Reuters says the changes "come as Afghan security forces battle the Taliban in 28 of 34 provinces in the country, with the hardline Islamic group claiming more territory in recent weeks."

The New York Times (6/20, Gibbons-Neff, Rahim, 20.6M) reports that according to local officials, the Taliban on Sunday "entered two provincial capitals in northern Afghanistan [in] the culmination of an insurgent offensive that has overrun dozens of rural districts and forced the surrender and capture of hundreds of government forces and their military equipment in recent weeks." The Times says the Taliban seized the entrance of the city of Kunduz, the capital of Kunduz Province, "before dispersing throughout its neighborhoods," while in "Maimana, the capital of Faryab Province, Taliban fighters appeared at the city's entrance before moving into the city's periphery," and the Wall Street Journal (6/20, Trofimov, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says the Taliban advance is challenging the morale of the Afghan military.

However, Reuters (6/20) reports the Taliban "said on Sunday they were committed to peace talks, adding they wanted a 'genuine Islamic system' in Afghanistan that would make provisions for women's rights in line with cultural traditions and religious rules." In addition, Taliban spokesperson Suhail Shaheen, said on CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 686K) that the US withdrawal has both a foreign and domestic element. Shaheen said, "We signed an agreement based on the American troops and the allied troops were withdrawing from the country." Shaheen continued, "We are having a negotiation with all of Afghan sides. We want to reach a solution which is acceptable to all Afghans. That is our policy, not fighting. We want and we are insisting that we reach an acceptable solution with negotiation." Shaheen added, "We want to have a new government to replace this administration which is acceptable to all Afghan people, and that we want to reach through negotiation in peaceful talks."

***Karzai: US Withdrawal Marks Failure Of International Intervention In Afghanistan.*** In an interview with the AP (6/20, Gannon), former Afghan President Hamid Karzai "said Sunday the United States came to his country to fight extremism and bring stability to his war-tortured nation and is leaving nearly 20 years later having failed at both." Karzai asserted, "The international community came here 20 years ago with this clear objective of fighting extremism and bringing stability ... but extremism is at the highest point today. So they have failed."

### **Sullivan: US Is Waiting For North Korea To Reach Out Directly To Begin Denuclearization Talks.**

Reuters (6/20, Pamuk, Wolfe) reports NSA Sullivan on ABC's This Week<sup>\*</sup> (6/20, 2.06M) "said on Sunday [that the Administration] saw as an 'interesting signal' North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's comments that he is ready for 'dialogue and confrontation,' but added that Washington was still waiting for direct communication from Pyongyang to start any talks relating to denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula." According to Sullivan, "The clear signal they could send is to say 'yes, let's do it. Let's sit down and begin negotiations.'" The Hill (6/20, Oshin, 5.69M) reports Sullivan said, "We think that just in the case of the Iranian nuclear issue, with the North Korean nuclear issue, there's no substitute for diplomacy to begin to make progress towards that ultimate objective -

the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

### **Hong Kong Chief Executive Lam Calls For Closer Relations With China.**

Reuters (6/20) reports Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam called for closer relations with China in a speech on Sunday, arguing that Chinese efforts to "restore 'stability' in the city" demonstrates the utility of greater integration with China. She also "said Hong Kong can play key roles in promoting China's financial development, including facilitating yuan internationalisation, helping finance mainland companies, and providing an offshore safe haven for Chinese money."

***Taiwan To Close Hong Kong Office Over "One China" Policy.*** Reuters (6/20) reports Taiwan Democratic Progressive Party deputy secretary general Lin Fei-fan announced on Sunday the plan to close its country office in Hong Kong after local government officials "demanded its officials sign a document supporting Beijing's claim to Taiwan." Lin wrote on Facebook, "This is because the Chinese Communist Party and the Hong Kong government continue to force our personnel stationed in Hong Kong to sign a 'one China commitment letter' to recognise 'one China'." An additional source "told Reuters seven Taiwan officials will return on Sunday afternoon, with the last remaining official to come back after visa expiry next month." Bloomberg (6/20, Lin, 3.57M) reports China "has been ramping up diplomatic pressure on Taiwan since the democratically ruled island elected President Tsai Ing-wen in 2016, a vocal critic of the Communist Party in Beijing and a supporter of protesters in Hong Kong."

***Hong Kong's Apple Daily To Reportedly Shut Down Within Days.*** Reuters (6/21) reports that, according to Jimmy Lai adviser Mark Simon, the pro-democracy newspaper Apple Daily will "be forced to shut [down] 'in a matter of days' after authorities froze the company's assets under a new national security law." He "said the company has no more access to funds and it plans to hold a board meeting on Monday to discuss how to move forward."

***Hong Kong Bookstores Face New Pressures Over Free Expression.*** The New York Times (6/20, May, 20.6M) examines the growing legal pressures facing independent bookstore owners in Hong Kong, where the national security law has "broadly defined acts of subversion and secession against China, making much political speech potentially illegal, and it threatened severe punishment, including life imprisonment, for offenders." The law "has brought mass arrests, a rout of pro-democracy lawmakers, changes to school curriculums, a crackdown on the arts and rapidly growing limits on free expression," and it has "forced booksellers to confront questions about how long they will survive and how much they might have to compromise."

***Hong Kong Residents Escaped To Taiwan Using A Speedboat.*** The Wall Street Journal (6/20, Deng, Wang, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that five Hong Kong residents successfully escaped from Hong Kong to Taiwan in July 2020 after facing indictments over their participation in pro-democracy protests. The men reached Taiwan safely, and then applied for asylum in the US, which approved at least three asylum visas.

### **China Making Progress On Space Station.**

CBS Weekend News<sup>8</sup> (6/20, story 7, 1:35, Duncan, 3.59M) reported that China "is on track to be the only country in the world the have its very own space station." China's three astronauts "are now settled into their new home, a bus-sized cylinder for the next three months," and the country seeks to "build its own space station by the end of 2022."

### **Burmese Junta Leader In Moscow For Security Conference.**

Reuters (6/20) reports Burmese junta leader Senior General Min Aung Hlaing will "attend the Moscow Conference on International Security, scheduled to be held from June 22-24." The travel comes as former Burmese leader Aung San Suu Kyi's corruption trial resumes on Monday.

***Japan Refuses To Announce New Sanctions On Burma.*** Bloomberg (6/19, 3.57M) reported Japan "has resisted calls to impose sanctions or suspend ongoing infrastructure projects" in Burma, "saying only it would avoid carrying out any new non-humanitarian deals with the junta." The decision "shows the difficulties President Joe Biden faces in convincing U.S. allies in Asia to put real teeth behind calls to defend democracy, a key theme he expressed last week at the Group of Seven summit and other stops in Europe."

## **Armenian Elections Commission Data Shows Civil Contract Party In Lead.**

The AP (6/20, Demourian) reports that, according to the Armenian elections commission, acting Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's Civil Contract party "had nearly 62% of the vote with former president Robert Kocharyan's party in a distant second place with 18%." The report was based on a small sample of 8 percent of precincts. Reuters (6/20) reports that prior opinion polls "had put the two parties neck and neck in a snap election the government called to try to end a political crisis," which "erupted after ethnic Armenian forces lost a six-week war against Azerbaijan last year and ceded territory in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region." There "were 319 reports of voting irregularities," but the Central Election Commission "said elections were largely in line with legal norms."

## **Sullivan Says US Preparing More Sanctions Against Russia Over Navalny Poisoning.**

The New York Times (6/20, Karni, 20.6M) reports NSA Sullivan on CNN's State Of The Union (6/20, 516K) "said on Sunday that the United States was preparing more sanctions against Russia in response to the poisoning of Aleksei A. Navalny, the country's most prominent opposition leader, days after" President Biden's "first face-to-face summit meeting with President Vladimir V. Putin." The Times adds Sullivan "was vague when pressed on the timing of the sanctions or what they would include, saying only that additional action would come 'as soon as we develop the packages to ensure that we're getting the right targets,'" but White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki "said there was no significance to the timing of Mr. Sullivan's remarks. 'The law requires we keep looking at sanctions targets connected to chemical weapons use,' she said, noting that there had been 'no change from before the summit to after the summit.'"

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (6/20, Czuczka, 3.57M) reports Sullivan announced the US "also will maintain sanctions against Russian entities involved in building the almost-completed Nord Stream 2 pipeline for Russian natural-gas deliveries to Germany, which Biden needs to confirm every 90 days," and The Hill (6/20, Vakil, 5.69M) reports Sullivan "noted...Biden had already signed an executive order that would give him even more leeway to impose penalties against Russia if they continued to engage in similar activities."

In addition, Sullivan praised the President on ABC's This Week (6/20, 2.06M) for doing "three things" during his meeting with Putin that "he came to do," which were "to identify areas where US and Russia could work together in mutual interests. We launched strategic stability talks out of this to help lower the chance of intended or unintended nuclear conflict. That is progress. Second, he indicated to President Putin that the United States will respond if certain harmful activities continue. In this regard the summit offered the opportunity to place guardrails. Time will tell whether they hold. Third, he stood up for human rights and universal values. He spoke directly to President Putin about Alexei Navalny, about Radio Free Europe, about the fact that all people are created equal is stamped in the American DNA." Sullivan continued, "On top of that, we had meaningful engagements on the security and diplomatic side that we believe will put this relationship on a more stable footing."

On Fox News Sunday (6/20, 836K), Sullivan said, "It's pretty extraordinary to hear Donald Trump's Secretary of State talking about weakness in the face of Vladimir Putin when we all saw what happened in Helsinki and the summit in Geneva was a study in contrast to what happened in Helsinki. Privately in the room, President Biden communicated to President Putin that there would be costs and consequences if harmful activities against the United States continue. Publicly in his press conference he not only spoke out about that quite directly, mincing no words, but he also spoke about American values, something the last President never talked about." Sullivan added that Biden "pulled no punches, he did nothing but stand up for American interests and values in an emphatic and sound way and I would also add that he entered and exited this summit in Geneva as the leader of the free world, a mantle that Donald Trump had given away and that Joe Biden reclaimed on behalf of this country."

**Former Trump NSC Official Says "Serious Cyber Talks" Between US And Russia Are Necessary.** Politico (6/20, Carrasco, 6.73M) reports Fiona Hill, a former National Security Council official who served as "Russia adviser to President Donald Trump," on NBC News' "Meet the

Press" on Sunday "said...she is eager to see whether last week's meeting between [Biden and Putin] will lead to 'serious cyber talks.'" Meanwhile, The Hill (6/20, Choi, 5.69M) reports Hill said Putin achieved an "important win" thanks to "the symbolism of having a sit-down with the American president," but "it's not a win if nothing happens out of it."

**Christie: Biden Came Out Of Putin Meeting "Unscathed."** The Hill (6/20, Vakil, 5.69M) reports former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) on ABC's "This Week" "said on Sunday that "not much was accomplished, but no damage was done" during" Biden's meeting with Putin. However, Christie added, "I think that's probably all they were looking for...was to come out unscathed. No big mistakes. Come home, and he can say America's back. That's what his point was, and I don't think he did anything that made us believe that we weren't."

**Recalled Russian Ambassador Returns To US.** The AP (6/20) says that Russian Ambassador to the US Anatoly Antonov "returned to the United States three months after being recalled as tensions rose between Moscow and Washington, according to a tweet from the Russian Embassy on Sunday." The AP reports that Biden and Putin last week agreed to the return of Antonov and US Ambassador to Russia John Sullivan, "who left Moscow in April."

**Russian Court Arraigns Suspect In Killing Of American Student.** The AP (6/20) reports a Russian court on Sunday "arraigned a suspect on murder charges in the death of" 34-year-old Catherine Serou, "an American woman who was studying at a local university."

### **Sullivan: US Holding Additional \$100M In Military Aid For Ukraine "In Reserve."**

Bloomberg (6/20, Czuczka, 3.57M) reports NSA Sullivan told Fox News Sunday (6/20, 836K) that the US is "holding \$100 million in security assistance for Ukraine 'in reserve' for threats such as a renewed Russian military buildup on the border." He said the aid "is there and the Russians know it's there and the Ukrainians know it's there, but the idea that we have withheld any security assistance from Ukraine is simply nonsense." According to Bloomberg, Sullivan's remarks came after Politico "reported on Friday that National Security Council officials temporarily halted as much as \$100 million in military aid to Ukraine after Russia said it would draw down troops near Ukraine before President Vladimir Putin and Biden met last week."

### **Center-Right Party Gains At Expense Of Macron's Party, Far Right In French Regional Elections.**

The New York Times (6/20, Méheut, 20.6M) reports French voters on Sunday "inflicted a sharp setback on the far-right National Rally party in the first round of nationwide regional elections, dashing Marine Le Pen's hopes of turning the vote into a springboard for next year's presidential race," while the center-right Les Républicains party "appeared to cement its hold on the country, positioning itself as a strong challenger to President Emmanuel Macron, whose centrist party trailed in all regions." Reuters (6/20) says Macron's party "did as badly as expected, with party spokesperson Aurore Berge calling it a 'slap in the face.'"

Politico Europe (6/20, Caulcutt, 15K) reports that according to an exit poll from Elabe, "left-wing parties obtained 34 percent of the vote, compared to 29 percent of the vote for the right and 19 percent for the National Rally. La République en Marche obtained 10.9 percent of the vote, and in some regions Macron's candidates failed to make it across the threshold to run in the second round, the poll said." Politico says the result "indicates voters have largely chosen to support the outgoing presidents of regional councils, who are mostly from the mainstream left and the right."

The AP (6/20, Turnbull) reports that what had been "meant to be a vote centered on local concerns like transportation, schools and infrastructure turned into a dress rehearsal for next year's presidential vote, as would-be presidential hopefuls seized on the regional campaign to test ideas and win followers. Macron's rivals on left and right notably denounced his government's handling of the pandemic." The AP adds, "The wrangling appeared to turn off some voters, and less than 34% showed up, according to polling agencies," prompting "politicians across the spectrum" to call for "the stay-at-home voters to wake up for the decisive second round June 17." However, Bloomberg (6/20, Nussbaum, 3.57M) reports the results "might not translate into national politics when voters head to the polls again next April to choose a president. But they could help left-wing movements unite behind a candidate, something they've so far failed to do."



The Wall Street Journal (6/20, Bisscherbe, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

### **Swedish PM Stefan Lofven Facing Historic No-Confidence Vote.**

Reuters (6/20) reports Swedish PM Stefan Lofven "was on Sunday hours away from becoming the first Swedish Prime Minister to lose a no-confidence vote, after failing in a last-ditch effort to secure majority support in parliament for proposed rent reforms." The vote "was called last week for Monday by the anti-immigration Sweden Democrats, after the Left Party, which Lofven relies on to pass legislation, withdrew its support over his plan to liberalise Sweden's rigid rent control system." Bloomberg (6/20, Rolander, 3.57M) reports Lofven "would have a week to resign or announce snap elections if ousted in the Monday vote, the most serious threat yet for the minority coalition of Social Democrats and Greens that's ruled for 2 1/2 years."

### **German Opinion Poll Shows German Conservative Bloc Gaining Support.**

Bloomberg (6/19, Czuczka, 3.57M) reports that, according to an opinion poll commissioned by Bild am Sonntag newspaper, Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative bloc "opened up an 8 percentage-point lead in a weekly poll, pulling further ahead of the Green party and other contenders ahead of Germany's election on Sept. 26." The German Green candidates "have steadily faded in recent weeks after some polls put them ahead of the CDU-CSU in April, before Merkel's bloc settled on CDU chairman Armin Laschet as its candidate to succeed her as chancellor."

*Germany Announces Ban On Flying Hamas Flag.* Politico Europe (6/20, 15K) reports that the German government has "agreed to ban the flag of Hamas, as a mark of respect for Jewish citizens in the wake of anti-Semitic attacks linked to last month's Middle East violence." The ban "was first proposed by the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) of Chancellor Angela Merkel."

### **UK Conservative MP Bercow Announces Party Swap To Labour.**

The New York Times (6/20, 20.6M) reports former House of Commons Speaker John Bercow, who "gained international fame refereeing Britain's political drama over Brexit," announced on Sunday his decision to leave the UK Conservative Party for the UK Labour Party. He "was a Conservative lawmaker for 12 years until being elected in 2009 to the neutral role of speaker, responsible for running House of Commons business and interpreting Parliament's rules of procedure."

### **Belgium Announces Discovery Of Missing Far-Right Soldier.**

The New York Times (6/20, Pronczuk, Ryckewaert, 20.6M) reports that Belgium announced the end of a 35-day manhunt, which "involved helicopters, armored vehicles, 400 soldiers and police officers, as well as reinforcements from Germany and the Netherlands." The country had been searching for Jürgen Conings, who "disappeared more than a month ago after threatening the government and virologists responsible for the country's response to the coronavirus." Reuters (6/20) reports the Belgian Federal Prosecutors Office said, "The cause of death is probably, according to initial findings, attributable to suicide by firearm, but this cause will have to be established during a future forensic examination."

### **Jordan Opens Trial Against Alleged Traitors.**

The AP (6/20, Laub) reports Jordan will open the sedition trial against members of the royal court, who "are accused of conspiring with a senior royal — Prince Hamzah, a half-brother of the king — to foment unrest against the monarch while soliciting foreign help." The defendants "are the most senior establishment figures to appear before the security court, which typically goes after drug offenders or suspected militants."

### **Ethiopia Preparing For National Elections.**

Reuters (6/20) reports that Ethiopia "is preparing for national and regional parliamentary elections on Monday that Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has said will be the country's first free and fair polls



after decades of repressive rule." While Abiy had "won international plaudits and a Nobel Peace Prize for democratic reforms and for ending two decades of hostilities with neighbouring Eritrea when he was named head of Ethiopia's governing coalition in 2018," he "faces mounting international pressure over a war in the northern Tigray region and accusations from rights groups that his government is rolling back some new freedoms." The [Washington Post](#) (6/20, 10.52M) examines the array of international questions surrounding the upcoming elections. The Post adds Abiy "is widely expected to be reelected," but his standing both within and outside Ethiopia "has been greatly diminished since the war in Tigray began."

### **Nigeria Mourns Loss Of Three Students Following Kidnapping.**

[Reuters](#) (6/20) reports that three children "have died following a school kidnapping of 94 students and eight staff in northwest Nigeria this week." The army "said in a statement it had rescued three teachers and eight students so far, killing one of the kidnappers."

## **THE BIG PICTURE**

### **Headlines From Today's Front Pages.**

#### ***Wall Street Journal:***

[Facebook, Alphabet Keep Rising; Apple, Netflix Fade](#)  
[Iran's New Hard-Line President Poised For Pivotal Role In Nuclear Talks](#)  
[For Many Home Buyers, A 5% Down Payment Isn't Enough](#)  
[Tight Labor Market Returns The Upper Hand To American Workers](#)  
[The Hottest New Concert Venue: Your Local Movie Theater](#)  
[US Plans To Spend Big On Critical Minerals; Choosing Where Isn't Easy](#)

#### ***New York Times:***

[New York Faces Lasting Economic Toll Even As Pandemic Passes](#)  
[Who Do The Billionaires Want For Mayor? Follow Their Money.](#)  
[From Nobel Hero To Driver Of War, Ethiopia's Leader Faces Voters](#)  
[In Rift With Biden, A Dramatic Show Of Force By A Conservative Catholic Movement](#)  
[Liz Cheney's Unlikely Journey From GOP Royalty To Republican Outcast](#)  
[Scorching Hot In Phoenix: What It's Like To Work In 115 Degrees](#)

#### ***Washington Post:***

[Extremist Pays A Price After Unmasking By Left](#)  
[India's Covid Orphan Numbers Surge](#)  
[Scientists Still Battling Over Coronavirus's Origin Story](#)  
[For This Market, Models Are Few](#)  
[Manchin Struggles To Build Bridges](#)  
[Education's New Fault Line: Virtual Learning](#)

#### ***Financial Times:***

[Raisi Victory Secures Control For Iran's Hardliners](#)  
[China Steps Up Crackdown On Bitcoin Mining Industry](#)  
[Delta Variant Begins To Spread, Threatening EU's Covid Progress](#)  
[Santander Looks To Muscle Into European Investment Banking](#)

#### ***Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:***

**ABC:** Alabama-18 Car Crash; Tropical Storm Claudette; Florida-Fatal Crash At Pride Parade; COVID Update; Biden-Catholic Church; Gun Violence; Oregon-Murder Suspect Caught; North Carolina-Nine People Go Over Dam; Denver-Hot Air Balloon Crash; Teen Attacked By Bear; Navy-Explosives Test; Father's Day Gift.

**CBS:** Voting Rights; Tropical Storm Claudette; Florida-Fatal Crash At Pride Parade; COVID Update; India-Black Fungus; World Refugee Day; China-Space Race; Father's First Flight With Son As Captain.

**Network TV At A Glance:**

COVID Update – 4 minutes, 35 seconds

Florida-Fatal Crash At Pride Parade – 3 minutes, 20 seconds

Tropical Storm Claudette – 2 minutes, 10 seconds

**WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE**

**Today's Events In Washington.**

**White House:**

- President Biden — Receives the President's Daily Brief; meets with lead financial regulators for an update on the state of the country's financial system and institutions.
- Vice President Harris — Travels to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; delivers remarks marking Child Tax Credit Awareness Day and highlighting the importance of the Child Tax Credit, its expansion in the American Rescue Plan, and how parents can ensure they get the credit; Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh will also deliver remarks; and Secretary Walsh hold a roundtable as part of the Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment.

**US Senate:**

- Senate resumes consideration of DNI general counsel nominee – Senate convenes and resumes consideration of the nomination of Christopher Fonzzone to be General Counsel of the Office of Director of National Intelligence, and votes on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination; 3:00 PM

**US House:**

- House of Representatives meets in a pro forma session; 9:00 AM
- Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission hearing on economic and war crimes in Liberia – Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission virtual hearing on 'Establishing a War Crimes & Economic Crimes Court for Liberia', held via Cisco WebEx, with witnesses – Movement for Justice in Liberia Executive Director Ysyndi Martin-Kepyei, International Justice Group Executive Director Jerome Verdier, Global Initiative for Justice Chairman Michael Mueller, and former Special Court for Sierra Leone Chief of Investigations Dr Alan White

*Location: Virtual Event; 12:00 PM*

**Cabinet Officers:**

- ASTA Policy & Leadership Development Conference continues – American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) Policy & Leadership Development Conference (formerly ASTA Annual Convention) continues, with speakers today including Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Republican Sen. Joni Ernst

*Location: Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H St NW, Washington, DC; 9:00 AM*

- Vice President Kamala Harris visits Pittsburgh with Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh

*Location: Pittsburgh, PA*

**Visitors:**

- No visitors scheduled.

**General Events:**

- EU ambassador to the U.S. discusses U.S.-EU relations post-summit – 'U.S.-EU Relations After the Summit' Wilson Center online discussion, with European Union Ambassador to the U.S. Amb. Stavros Lambrinidis

*Location: Virtual Event; 11:00 AM*

- Israeli chief of general staff lays wreath at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier – Israel Defense Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Aviv Kochavi participates in an Armed Forces Full Honor Wreath

Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, hosted by Joint Force Headquarters – National Capital Region and U.S. Army Military District of Washington commanding general Maj. Gen. Allan Pepin

*Location: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA; 11:15 AM*

- Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jen Psaki; 12:00 PM
- Defense One Tech summit (virtual) – Defense One Tech Summit, convening military and technological minds for conversation on 'today's game-changing developments', including robotics, cloud computing, cybersecurity, electronic intelligence collection, and human performance enhancement. Day one speakers include Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks and Army Futures Command Commanding General Gen. John Murray

*Location: Virtual Event; 1:00 PM*

- National Muslim Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill – U.S. Council of Muslim Organizations hosts sixth annual National Muslim Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill, designed to connect national, regional and state Muslim organizations and community members with their elected representatives in Congress, this year held virtually \* Founding members of USCMO are American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA), Muslim Alliance in North America (MANA), Muslim American Society, Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA), Muslim Ummah of North America (MUNA), and The Mosque Cares

*Location: Virtual Event*

- ESOP Association National Conference – ESOP Association National Conference and Awards Ceremony, with speakers include Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, Republican Rep. Adrian Smith, and Small Business Administration Administrator Isabel Guzman \* Organization is the national trade association for companies with employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs)

*Location: Marriott Marquis Washington, DC, 901 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC*

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b7E -3

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Do you anticipate sending the draft BWC policy...  
**To:** Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 21, 2021 10:49 AM (UTC-04:00)

Got it.

Let me check in with [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

I will let you know what they say.

Stephen

-

On Jun 21, 2021 10:38 AM, "Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:

b7E -3

Stephen,

Thanks again for all of the work on this.

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

As far as edits [REDACTED]

Tim

---

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

b7E -3

**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 9:48 AM

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

**Subject:** Do you anticipate sending the draft BWC policy...

b5 -1,2

Thanks and will talk tomorrow.

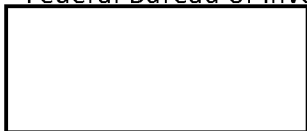
Stephen

PS - [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

Stephen D. Kelly

Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

**From:** McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] b6 -1  
[REDACTED] b7C -1  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 21, 2021 3:35 PM (UTC-04:00)

Thanks Stephen – Please see NSCLB’s comments:

[REDACTED] b5 -1,2  
b7E -27

Thanks! DLM

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] b6 -1  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM b7C -1  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, b7E -3  
Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -27

[REDACTED]

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

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

[REDACTED]

b7E -3

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 21, 2021 5:41 PM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** DOJBWCAAddendum#2.docx  
Stephen,

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Attached is a first draft [REDACTED] took a look and contributed as well. Let me know what else you need.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Assistant General Counsel  
Office of the General Counsel  
Investigative Law Unit  
Room 7919 JEH  
[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:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 10:04  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Thank you.

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

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 10:03 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Sure



-  
On Jun 21, 2021 9:34 AM, "Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:

Thanks, [REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

Let me know if you have questions.

Thank you.

Stephen

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

[REDACTED]

b7E -3

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 8:18 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Good morning Stephen,

I do not have any comments,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Assistant General Counsel  
Investigative Law Unit  
Room 7919 JFH

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (ER [REDACTED]) Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FB [REDACTED])  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

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

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

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

b7E -3

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Free for a call?  
**To:** [REDACTED] (RPO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 10:07 AM (UTC-04:00)

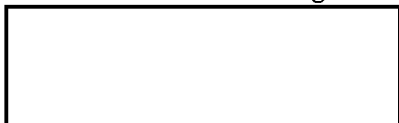
I wanted to check in on the BWC draft, as I have a few questions for you.

I'm free after 10:45.

Just let me know what works for you.

Stephen

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



b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] b6 -1  
[REDACTED] b7C -1  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 10:26 AM (UTC-04:00)

Thanks, Dawn.

Couple of quick questions/responses below in red. Also, my email did not include an attachment with edits. Did you intend to send an edited document?

Please let me know your thoughts.

Stephen

---

**From:** McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] b6 -1  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 3:35 PM b7C -1  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, b7E -3  
Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Thanks Stephen – Please see NSCLB’s comments:

[REDACTED] b5 -1,2  
[REDACTED] b7E -27

Thanks! DLM

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

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

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

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

b7E -3

**From:**  
**Subject:** RE: Body Worn Camera Questions for the Director  
**To:** Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 10:30 AM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Matt –

Is there specific language you would like me to review? I think [REDACTED] may be working on this document as we speak.

b5 -1,2  
b6 -1  
b7C -1

[REDACTED]

I have attached that response in case it's helpful, and just let me know how I can be of help.

Thanks.

Stephen

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**From:** Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:17 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Body Worn Camera Questions for the Director

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

Stephen,

Quick question on the last bullet. [REDACTED]

Matthew A. Feinberg  
Section Chief, Global Counterintelligence Section  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 9:30 AM

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**To:** [REDACTED] Dimos,  
Nicholas (FFD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Patterson, Ambrosia Marie (FFD) (FBI)

**Subject:** RE: Body Worn Camera Questions for the Director

Hi [REDACTED]

b5 -1  
b6 -1  
b7C -1

[REDACTED]

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

FBI (22-cv-00149)-5557

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 7:57 AM  
To: [REDACTED] Dimos,  
Nicholas (FFD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED] Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Body Worn Camera Questions for the Director

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Good morning [REDACTED] and all,

b5 -1  
b6 -1  
b7C -3

I began a shared document here to draft responses by noon today [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 6:34 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Dimos, Nicholas (FFD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Subject: Body Worn Camera Questions for the Director  
Importance: High

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Hi all,

The Director is testifying on Wednesday before the Senate Appropriations Committee. We received the questions below that Senator Shaheen will ask the Director on Body Worn Cameras. I apologize for the short notice but can you help me get responses for these by noon tomorrow?

Thanks!!

[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1

### **Body Worn Cameras**

**How many task force officers participating on FBI task forces currently wear body worn cameras? The FY 2022 budget request asks for \$6.2 million to equip the FBI's task force officers with body worn cameras—how many officers would this funding level cover?**

**What is the expected cost this year – FY 2021 – on the body worn camera program for both task force officers and FBI agents?**

**What is the plan for the FBI to fully roll out body worn cameras for all of its task forces? If all task forces require the use of body worn cameras, what is the estimated cost to the FBI? Does the Department of Justice plan to provide any assistance for this effort?**



**Given that the FBI is an investigatory agency, a different role than state and local officers who are out on patrol, how are issues encountered as part of task force operations like encountering juveniles or crime victims or the privacy of witnesses during interviews going to be handled as part of this body worn camera program?**



**From:** [REDACTED] (RPO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Free for a call?  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 11:25 AM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy.docx,  
Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft  
06.17\_Reorganized.docx

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Good morning Stephen,

Are you available at 1:30pm?

I've had a chance to review and reorganize the PG to make it more consistent with our policies. I also added a basic roles and responsibilities section to complete the policy guide format. [REDACTED]

b5 -1  
b6 -1  
b7C -1

I offer two versions -- the first version is a clean, reorganized version; the second version is the version sent last week with my comments/recommendations throughout.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Free for a call?

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

I wanted to check in on the BWC draft, as I have a few questions for you.

I'm free after 10:45.

Just let me know what works for you.

Stephen

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

[REDACTED]